



**EL SALVADOR
WILL WIN!**

1980

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EL PUEBLO VENCERA!**



interview with MARCIAL

COMMANDER SALVADOR CAYETANO CARPIO "MARCIAL"



All of the maneuvers and lies by the Reagan administration to hide its ever increasing interventionism and interference in Central America, with the complicity of the most reactionary sectors of the "Christian Democratic" party and some of the barbaric regimes of the continent, have been exposed. The genocide grows daily amidst the indignation of all the peoples and democratic governments of the world.

In the offices of the Pentagon, the CIA and the White House they have not yet found a way to hide the deeds of the heroic people of the Farabundo Marti. Every day their revolutionary strength grows, in spite of the resolutions of the XIV conference of army commanders which took place in Fort MacNair, where, at the suggestion of General Edward Meyer, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, the so-called "Cooperative Action" was approved. This would confront "subversion" on the continent, which they interpret as a menace to the "security" of the region, but which is actually the determination of a people -- in this case the Salvadorans -- to break the chains of exploitation, hunger, misery, corruption, oppression and genocide; people that

have suffered greatly for decades at the hands of bloody and antipopular regimens with the approval of the U.S.A.

Salvador Cayetano Carpio, a modest and humble worker, coming from the midst of the people (like many other leaders of the armed forces who are now fighting their common enemies) has agreed to give an interview to the "Soberania" magazine, in which he will synthesize the thoughts of the vanguard of the heroic and advancing struggle which has only one goal: true happiness and democracy for the workers, professionals, women and children, that is, for all the people. Here is the text of the interview:

The False Information from Washington

Can the message that will be sent to the president of the U.S., Ronald Reagan, be of importance to the revolutionary struggle of the Salvadoran people?

This is a just Popular War of Liberation that is being heroically and successfully advanced by the Salvadoran people.

This popular war strikes a blow against the U.S. Government strategy of extermination, modelled after the so-called "special war." This Yankee strategy is moving closer and closer to a direct military intervention on a grand scale; in other words a "local" and regional war of the Pentagon.

The false information from Washington, without success, tries to cover the fact that the genocidal junta, in its death throes, can barely sustain itself from the attacks of the people. The Reagan administration props up a regime that attacks the people by sending weapons, directing and advising the extermination campaigns against the population, trying to momentarily alleviate a great economic crisis, etc.

The Christian-Democratic-Military Junta is a puppet, a traitorous regime, totally opposed to the popular and national interests.

The letter sent to Reagan by the General Command of the FMLN is an open letter that shows the sincere aspiration and disposition of our people to build its

own path to democracy, social justice and independent development, with its own sovereignty and self-determination to which it has full rights. The letter also shows that what Reagan said in his New Year's message does not accord with the brutal acts which his administration directs in El Salvador, acts comparable to the Nazi murders during WWII.

The generous North American people have the right to know how their government is soaked in the blood of a humble and courageous people, a people confronting genocide and extermination. The Reagan administration rejects any sincere aspiration for a just and appropriate political solution.

Unfortunately, the North American people involuntarily contribute to military aid which is used to extinguish the lives of our children.

The letter is open to the North American people in order to expose the great gulf between words and actions.

For our people such a letter is one of many efforts to achieve by any means a just peace which is a deserved response to our legitimate right to sovereignty and self-determination.

The Growing Capability of the FMLN

International political observers assert that the last military action of the FMLN -- the partial destruction of the Christian-Democratic-Military Junta's air force -- shows the great capacity and strength of the revolutionary movement. What else can you say about it?

The operation "Heroes and Martyrs of Morazan" that on January 27 destroyed a large part of the air force of the genocidal regime, shows the growing capacity of the armed forces of the people, united in the FMLN, to hit a strategic vital force of the puppets and to destroy their military hardware, sent by Washington.

The operations carried out by the popular forces are becoming more complex and reaching higher technological levels of preparation and execution.

The operations also follow the intensification of FMLN strategy -- Popular War. The offensive conti-

nues, in the whole country, each time better coordinated on various levels: in the city, on the plain, and in the mountains. The combination of different types of the armed forces — special, mobile, and local forces — is growing also.

In this strategy, the more we fight, the stronger we are, and with small forces we are able to cause great casualties against the antipatriotic enemy.

The operation on January 27 is a good example of this level. The blowing up of the "Puente de Oro" was a demonstration of this.

In politics, the operation against the air force and other military operations that were done almost simultaneously in distinct zones around the country (Chalatenango, Morazan, Occidente, San Vicente, Cabanas, Cerro de Guazapa, Usulután, Oriente, etc.), have lifted morale and stimulated the historic struggle of our people, just as it has caused confusion and demoralization in the rank and file of the puppet army.

The Reactionary Sector of the Christian Democratic Party

Some leaders of the reactionary Christian-Democratic party affirm that at the next meeting of the Social Democrats in Caracas they will attempt to modify the positive line that the organization has towards the people's war, and, in particular, about the search for a political solution. That is, they are totally convinced that they will impose the electoral farce in March. What do you think of that?

The reactionary sector of the Christian Democratic current has already irreversibly compromised itself in the eyes of the world, especially Latin America, as the unconditional instrument of the most abominable politics: the politics of genocide, extermination, and regional and worldwide war. The North American government is the driving force behind these.

4 What the reactionary leaders of the Christian

Democrats, headed by the lackey Duarte, are doing in our country is almost unbelievable. By unconditionally accepting the commands from Washington, they have collaborated with the puppet army in the massacre of more than 30,000 civilians, especially women, children and the elderly, during the last year. They call themselves Christians and do this in a country where the population is traditionally Christian.



Upon demonstrating to the world its criminal, antipatriotic, antidemocratic nature, this deeply discredited sector of the Christian Democratic party finds itself isolated from its base just as on the international scene.

The electoral farce that propitiated the assembly into a global political-military strategy holds as its principal tenet the extermination of the population by military means. The electoral farce is a screen meant to distract the world's attention from the ever increasing crimes, while at the same time it also serves as a recourse to earn room to 5

maneuver politically, both internally and internationally, by lessening its suffocating isolation. The pretense of elections, at the height of the war, is a desperate attempt that will not result in any kind of constructive solution and will be overcome by the growing political-military action of the people who are moving towards higher levels in their War of Popular Liberation.

The reactionary Christian-Democratic leaders are the least qualified to judge the active support of the people, the democratic and progressive sectors of the world, and the manner in which the International Social Democrats express the right to self-determination for the Salvadoran people.

The desire of this sector of the Christian Democrats is that this international support be weakened, but these are delirious, desperate desires of men who have already sunken into the depths of their own crimes.

Costa Rica's Serious Error

Following in this same line of ideas, I would like to know your opinion about the compliance with U.S. policy in the "Democratic Central American Community" that has just been formed in Tegucigalpa by the chancellors of Colombia and Venezuela. Does this demonstrate, perhaps, that North American imperialism is uncompromising, and does not want a political solution to the war in El Salvador?

The government of Costa Rica has committed one of the most serious errors against the interests of its people, the Central American people, and the world.

The alliance between the governments and the military of El Salvador and Honduras, which is a so-called part of the "Central American Democratic Community," is the realization of one of the most dangerous steps in the warlike strategy of President Reagan to interfere militarily in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and to ignite the whole region, which will endanger the peace of the entire world.

This step is a firm foundation for Reagan to invoke the Interamerican Treaty for Reciprocal Military Aid and intervene directly with surrogate



troops via other governments against the revolutionary movement in El Salvador and also against the free and sovereign state of Nicaragua.

It is no accident that this was immediately manifested by the support of this war pact by the governments of Colombia and Venezuela.

In this same manner the United States army joined with the puppet governments and armies of Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Venezuela, Colombia, Guatemala, and Honduras in order to prepare for direct military intervention.

The government of Costa Rica, for a small sum of economic aid for its stricken economy, facilitates this course of regional aggression and war.

We take advantage of this opportunity to alert the peoples of the world of the imminent and very real danger of military intervention regulated by the Pentagon and their puppet regimes against the Salvadoran people.

A Revolutionary Wedding Amongst Bombings

Knowing beforehand the high revolutionary morals of the FMLN combatants, could you tell us a war anecdote which would demonstrate El Salvador liberated?

It is difficult to choose one event, amongst so many acts of heroism, discipline, combativity, and revolutionary spirit which the combatants and the organized masses in their Popular Forces face daily in the most natural manner, with high revolutionary spirit, as pioneers in the conquest and construction of a peaceful future for the great majority.

The faith in the future demonstrated by both the combatants and the people in the liberated sections, in the zones under dispute and those occupied by the enemy is overwhelming.

One small example: the 29th of September, 1981, in a camp in the area of Chalatenango, we celebrated a political function commemorating the heroic death of our companero, Apolinario Serrano (whose name is used by the same front) and our companeros Felix Jose and Ticha who were leaders of the Revolutionary Popular Front.

The enemy bombings by air and artillery had begun in that zone as well as the disembarkment of helicopter troops in the valley. Units of the Popular Armed Forces of Liberation (FAPL) — members of the FMLN — were attacking the enemy on the sides and from the rear; however, we did not wish to interrupt the commemoration. At the end, the wedding ceremony of two combatants, Douglas del Mando Zonal and Lucia, had been carried out. I had been present at a ceremony which would form a new type of revolutionary family.

I went over the significance of this act: amongst the clamor of the battle, two combatants united their lives in order to better serve the revolution and the interests of the people, founded on a great future which is inevitable. This type of function frequently is repeated in the liberated zones.

While the bloodthirsty enemy is determined to continue genocide, the land is demolished, and the population is being exterminated, the revolutionary combatants and the areas of support are a part of a daily, difficult and bloody fight, and at the same time are sowing the seeds to construct a new future.

A revolution of this type is one which already is affirming itself today, in order that it shall be irreversible and that it should advance.

The Difficult Moments

What is the most difficult and painful moment which you have had to confront in the revolution?

The popular war which since 1970 has liberated the Salvadoran people from the lower to the higher levels is so bloody and bitter against so cruel an enemy, that the difficult and painful moments in each phase become the daily occurrence which we the leaders must face.

However, I can say that for me an exceptionally difficult and painful period was when the original combatant leaders fell in battle during the initial period of the war (the initial planning years of the FPL Farabundo Marti, 1970-72): the deaths of Antonio, Ferrum, Sergio and the great union leader Jose Dimas Alas y Omar, for several reasons:

a. The loss of our companeros was one of the first actual demonstrations that the chosen route, that of the armed struggle, is bloody and requires sincere dedication, forging of new areas, and the willingness to give one's life for the interests of the people. The slogan "Revolution or Death" is not just a simple phrase.

b. The war was just beginning and as of yet not consolidated.

Every time that a military unit or any of the groups which are a part of the FMLN, CRM, or FDR falls, or one of the daily massacres against our people occurs, the feeling of pain, indignation, resolution and willingness to bring down the inhumane lackeys of the U.S. government increases.

The Motives of Happiness and Enthusiasm

Which are the reasons of greatest happiness and satisfaction?

There are three elements which give motive to greater happiness and enthusiasm for a revolution:

a. The increasing participation of our people in different levels of our political and military fight in three zones of struggle: in zones under revolutionary control, in zones under dispute, and in the cities.

b. The growing successes of the popular armed forces.

c. The immense international solidarity for the just cause of the El Salvadoran people.

The Immense Support From the North American People

How do you assess the international solidarity expressed in favor of the armed people of El Salvador?

The solidarity expressed by many of the citizens for the just cause of the people of El Salvador is a determining factor for the definitive victory of the revolution. It is truly moving to experience the ever growing signs of combative, active and fraternal solidarity from many corners of the planet. This support has been for these simple people of El Salvador. The immense support from North American citizens as well as their repudiation of the escalating intervention of their country is revealing.

World opinion has protested against the genocide, the imperialist intervention in El Salvador, and the war monger politics of the White House as the foundation of the Pentagon trembles. The unrepressible will of the peoples of the world and the iron will of the Salvadoran people to attain liberty and self-determination will be able to destroy the bloody hand of intervention, the genocide and the extermination of a nation.

In the name of the people of El Salvador, I give you through this means a greatly felt acknowledgment of the fraternal solidarity received from the governments, religious, political, and social institutions, trade unions and progressive persons. All of them make up one invincible fist in support of the Salvadoran and Central American people.

Victory Approaches

What information about the grave economic, social, and political situation in El Salvador leads you to affirm that victory is near?

10 The economic crisis is profound and irreversible,

the worst in the entire history of the country. The growing contradictions in the center of the reactionary forces in recent months appear to have intensified. These contradictions have emerged between the Christian Democratic party and the reactionary parties and also among the business leaders and the Christian Democrats.

There are also deep contradictions in the midst of the counterrevolutionary army. These contradictions are not only found between the officers and those in the top of the military hierarchy, but also within the rank and file of the army itself.

The crisis faces the relentless advancement of the revolutionary forces. The Christian-Democratic-Military junta has maintained itself in power mainly because of the support from its imperialist masters.

The revolutionary blows each time are ever more impressive. They deepen the multiple and irreversible crises and do not let them rest. In the space of a few months more than 40 bridges have been destroyed; among them is the enormous Puente de Oro. Also, more than half of the air force has been destroyed. They would need 30 million colones only to repair the destroyed electric plants and towers. In addition, a great portion of roads and highways have been blocked.

Revolutionary military action, coupled with the growing insurrection of the masses, proceeds.

The present lackeys no longer have any perspective, and because of this, imperialism hurries its measures of intervention.



If there is further intervention, once again each new phase will be destroyed with the support of the people of the world. The people armed will not be defeated.

A Work for the Titans of Letters

Your article, written from the combat field and published in the magazine "Por Esto," permitted the people of the world to recognize not only your courage but also your talents as a writer. Are you thinking of writing more on the same topic?

Though I must work within my limitations in the difficult art of the expression of written ideas and within severe time limitations, I still feel that it would be possible for me to write passages of the experiences of the just war of liberation of our people.

Our experience in the struggle for liberation has been combative, audacious, heroic, and selfless. The spirit of sacrifice in the combative masses has been such that it would be impossible to express fully all of its greatness.

The telling of the story of the popular struggle for liberation will be the work for the great writers in the liberated future.

