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Demonstrators in Oaxaca Fired on by Paramilitaries.

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Yesterday August 10 a group of paramilitary shot at the rearguard of a demonstration of approximately 20 thousands people in support of the women groups that have occupied the state controled TV and radio station. As a consequence of this attack the mechanic and husband of a school teacher Jose Jimenez Colmenares. Two other demonstrators were wounded and are in critical condition.

Update -- August 11, 2006 The situation in Oaxaca is entering into a critical moment it was appears to me will also be the final and definitive stage of the struggle. In the last week the government of Ulises Ruiz have deployed a violent counterinsurgency campaign based on the action of paramilitary. It will be important if the PSC can mobilize other unions demanding the federal Mexican government to put an end to killings and dissapearences in Oaxaca. Yesterday August 10 a group of paramilitary shot at the rearguard of a demonstration of approximately 20 thousands people in support of the women groups that have occupied the state controled TV and radio station. As a consequence of this attack the mechanic and husband of a school teacher Jose Jimenez Colmenares. Two other demonstrators were wounded and are in critical condition. Wednesday August 9, two Indigenous leaders members of the Movimiento de Unificacion y Lucha Triqui Independiente (MULTI) and members of the Asamblea Popular del Pueblo de Oaxaca (APPO) and a 12-year old boy were assasinated during an ambush perpetrated against a group of Triquis on their way to the city of Oaxaca to reinforce the defense pickets in the TV-Radio Station. Two other Indian activist were wounded and remain hospitalized. The Tv-Radio station (known as Radio Cacerola -- Pot and Pan Radio for the pots and pans used as weapons by the women defense groups protecting the instllations) occupied by women groups almost two weeks ago have become an important tool in expanding the reach of the movement and in counteracting the antipopular stance of the media control or manipulated by the government. Unlike Radio Planton (te seccion 22 radio station) and Radio Universidad that only reached the city of Oaxaca and its surrounding area, Radio Cacerola covers the whole state. The defense of the repeating antennas located in different parts of the stae have become a rallying point for community groups, women organization and youth that kept vigilance round the clock. The same day at around 1 p.m. police in civilian clothing captured and dissapeared the teacher, human right activist and indian group organizer German Mendoza Nube together with two other persons unrelated to the struggle. A well known activist and organizer German Mendoza was founder of the Seccion 22 Human Rights Commision, he was the organizer of the Union de Campesinos Pobres, and leader of the Frente Popular Revolucionario. Shot by the police a few years ago he lost movement of his legs and since then was bounded to a wheel chair. At the moment of his capture he was descending from his vehicle in front of his home with the help of his assistant Eliel Vasquez Castro and his neighbor Leonardo Lopez Palacio. Both of this persons were also taken away by the police. Later in the day two teachers and a biologist involved in the patrols set up by APPO and the teachers union in a effort to locate the dissapea red were captured by policemen in unmarked cars. Radio Universidad, the radio station that in the hands of the students became an important tool in the organization of mobilization that followed the July 14 failed repression against the Planton of Seccion 22 was sabotaged by students infiltrated by the police in the student movement. As a consequence of this action Radio Universidad is out of the air. With this latest killings Gov. Ulises Ruiz is responsible for 36 political assasinations since he took office almost two years ago. The Teacher's Union and the APPO (Popular Assembly of the Oaxacan People) have vowed to continue the struggle. Later today will be held a funeral-march for the demonstrator killed yesterday and Saturday the APPO is calling for a march that starting in four different parts in the city will coalesced into a demonstration in Oaxaca's main square demanding the freedom of the dissapeared and the resignation of Governor Ulises Ruiz. On other front Oaxaca's association of businessmen and entrepreneurs will see President Fox to demand an end to the critical situation in the state. They seem to favor a political rather tha a repressive solution. There is tremendous anxiety among the local ruling classes regarding Ulises Ruiz failure. At the same time there are signs of exhaustion among the ranks of the teachers union. That's all for the moment and hope the PSC will put some pressure on the Mexican Consulate. Saludos Gerardo

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