

## **The Masses' Struggle is the Beginning of the People's Armed Struggle!**

The following are quotes from an interview with Fanny Zulema, resistance fighter, freed recently from Chilean prison.

**Q:** Tell us a little bit about your role in the People's Front and as an active participant in the Resistance.

**Zulema:** I have been a member of the People's Front since its founding in 1974 and have seen how our ranks have swelled day by day in struggle.

As a professional, I actively participated in the building of Resistance Committees. There are many tasks of the Resistance Committees, from discussion and study to secret propaganda work among the masses.

In May of 1975, I participated in a flash action in downtown Santiago where we passed out thousands of leaflets in the heart of the city. In other neighborhoods, the commandos went to the top of the most central buildings and stuck leaflets wetted with alcohol on the patios and windows so that when the alcohol evaporated the wind would carry the leaflets down to the streets below, giving the comrades time to leave the buildings with ease. This is just a small example of the masses' ingenuity. They have learned to use every means at their disposal to fight the most modern weapons and techniques of the fascist dictatorship.

During my imprisonment in the concentration camps, where the fascists thought they could extinguish my revolutionary convictions, my militancy in the People's Front never slacked for a moment. On the contrary, since this is one of the fronts where the Resistance is organizing and fighting.

The tortures that I was subjected to were aimed at lowering my morale and forcing me to inform on our organization. After my first interrogations I realized the desperation of the fascists, who didn't know a thing about the Front although we are carrying out daily actions across the country.

**Q:** What is the level of unity of the Chilean people in the struggle to overthrow the dictatorship and what are the difficulties which you still face for the completion of your objective?

Zulema: We in the Resistance see a great unity of action in our base among the people which is developing hundreds of organizations born in the flames of anti-fascist struggle. This unity of the people is the foundation which the entire activity of the People's Front supports and develops. Our Front represents the most advanced of the victorious political lines of the Chilean Resistance.

This line's principal objective is the overthrow of the fascist military junta by means of active struggle. That concretely means the use of all measures and in the unity of all sectors of the people who can be united. This political line is not the only among sectors who are opposed to the dictatorship. There is also the view that has no confidence in the masses and sees the salvation with one or another fraction of the bourgeoisie or among the U.S. imperialists.

These years of Resistance have been the best school for the Chilean people and have shown them in the course of struggle the best road to follow. There is only one road today: **STRUGGLE IS THE BEGINNING OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMED STRUGGLE!**

Q: What about the maneuvers of the Carter government concerning a supposed "democratization" of Chile ? What is the view of the People's Front and what alternative do the Chilean people propose?

Zulema: Inside Chile, imperialism's followers are preparing to make a substitution for Pinochet. These changes are aimed at washing the hands and the face of the armed forces, to guarantee that U.S. imperialism's power doesn't become endangered by the masses in that part of the continent.

Today there are two alternatives that face the masses: first, that the U.S. government succeeds in substituting Pinochet and gives life to a pseudo-democratic government; or second, that the masses through the mobilization of a broad front go onto the offensive in all areas, making life difficult for imperialism and its scabs.

This offensive implies the beginning of higher forms of struggle. At the beginning, the armed struggle might have characteristics of bringing spies, torturers and fascists to justice and actions which would disorient the dictatorship. This would sharpen the contradictions and would polarize the reactionary forces on one hand and the people on the other.

The mass struggle which is developing has the broadening of the People's Front into a broad anti-fascist front as its principal task.

We have always said that the People's Front is the seed of a unified mass front which would only exclude those who support the junta or who negate the struggle against the dictatorship. In other words, we promote the unity of the broad masses of the people.

Today it is necessary to reinforce the solidarity with the People's Front. It is also necessary today to economically support the Resistance. Another important task is the campaign for the freedom for the political prisoners and in particular, solidarity with the "disappeared" comrades. Whatever is done in this sense is a very important contribution to the struggle which our people are carrying on with great sacrifices against fascism. End.