

# El Mozote Massacre

## **SHOWS THE URGENCY FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION**

EL SALVADOR—For many years in El Salvador the government maintained the massacre of El Mozote, in Arambala, Morazán as a state secret.

It was the year 1981 and the bosses' daily newspaper, *La Prensa Grafica*, printed the notice:

Decisive military defeat suffered by the subversives!

“At least 600 casualties suffered by the terrorists, our glorious armed forces after bloodless battles defeated the communist battalions in a place known as El Mozote, the injured were numerous, abandoned by the demoralized guerrilleros.” But the reality was completely different...

Part of the narrative of Rufina Amaya, survivor of this massacre: “‘Come out of your houses! Out! No one stays inside! Everyone to the plaza!’ The indignant farm worker without a shirt comes out shouting inwardly ‘rotten police, another house search.’ The women worried, with their aprons they press two small crying hands. They are joining together in the street, and the tension is becoming a small ceremony to death. The older and feeble clench their teeth and invoke god. The starving dog hides his tail; he runs to hide in a sign of submission. ‘All of you are guerrilleros?’ accuses a sergeant with nervous movement. His hand grips a rifle, better to say the finger on the

trigger is anxious to finish quickly, ‘My lieutenant says that you are guerrillas... That’s why you’re going to die!’

The sentence had been passed. A rough whisper opens the veil of silence. Juan with stunning strength, agitated and without fear, responds, ‘We were born here, we work here, and the rigging is our life.’

‘You’ll also die here!’ interrupted the Sergeant.”

Children, pregnant women, old people and men were taken by trickery to a church where they were locked in and burned alive. Those who were able to leave were bayoneted. Children in their arms were thrown into the air and cut through with bayonets. Women were raped and then killed. More than a thousand farmworkers were massacred by the Atlacatl Battalion, trained in the US and led by the murderer col. Monterrosa. Generals and colonels from the Salvadoran Army for decades have made this genocide into an act of heroism by the armed forces.

Later... Monterrosa explodes together with his helicopter, due to a military maneuver of the guerilla. The majority of the Atlacatl battalion was killed in direct confrontations, since there was so much anger against these professional killers.

It’s also known that days before the massacre, the guerrilla advised the population of El Mozote

that the army was coming with a policy of scorched earth (like Vietnam), but the pastors of some churches told the people to stay, that god would save them.

The members of the International Communist Workers’ Party have been working for years in this area so that the comrades of these areas continue doing the work of organizing for our communist line. It hasn’t been easy but it’s been understood that our struggle is full of sacrifices like that of these farmworkers.

The working class has survived hundreds of massacres and we’ve continued forward. The deaths of thousands of youth, men and women in any part of the capitalist world is painful, but the time of the wronged has come. Hundreds of thousands of workers around the world are day by day looking for the organization to put an end to this repressive system of the bosses.

In this area where the massacre was carried out, there is broad acceptance of the ideas and struggle for a communist world. Our task is not only the destruction of the murderers of the working class, but also the complete destruction of the capitalist system that, in order to survive, generates these kinds of massacres.

And plans for May Day are being made in this area of the country.