



PERU

República del Perú

Flag Description: three equal, vertical bands of red (hoist side), white, and red with the coat of arms centered in the white band; the coat of arms features a shield bearing a vicuna, cinchona tree (the source of quinine), and a yellow cornucopia spilling out gold coins, all framed by a green wreath.



Background: Ancient Peru was the seat of several prominent Andean civilizations, most notably that of the Incas whose empire was captured by the Spanish conquistadors in 1533. Peruvian independence was declared in 1821, and remaining Spanish forces defeated in 1824. In the twentieth century, after a dozen years of military rule, Peru returned to democratic leadership in 1980, but experienced economic problems and the growth of a violent insurgency. President Alberto Fujimori's election in 1990 ushered in a decade that saw a dramatic turnaround in the economy and significant progress in curtailing guerrilla activity. Nevertheless, the president's increasing reliance on authoritarian measures and an economic slump in the late 1990s generated mounting dissatisfaction, which led to his ouster in 2000. A caretaker government oversaw new

elections in the spring of 2001, which ushered in Alejandro Toledo as the new head of government - the first democratically elected president of Quechua ethnicity. The presidential election of 2006 saw the return of Alan Garcia who, after a disappointing presidential term from 1985 to 1990, returned to the presidency with promises to improve social conditions.

Geography: Location: Western South America, bordering the South Pacific Ocean, between Chile and Ecuador. Area: total: 1,285,220 sq km. Area - comparative: slightly smaller than Alaska. Land boundaries: total: 5,536 km. Border countries: Bolivia 900 km, Brazil 1,560 km, Chile 160 km, Colombia 1,496 km (est.), Ecuador 1,420 km. Coastline: 2,414 km. Climate: varies from tropical in east to dry desert in west; temperate to frigid in Andes. Terrain: western coastal plain (costa), high and rugged Andes in center (sierra), eastern lowland jungle of Amazon Basin (selva). Natural resources: copper, silver, gold, petroleum, timber, fish, iron ore, coal, phosphate, potash, hydropower, natural gas. Natural hazards: earthquakes, tsunamis, flooding, landslides, mild volcanic activity. Environment - current issues: deforestation (some the result of illegal logging); overgrazing of the slopes of the costa and sierra leading to soil erosion; desertification; air pollution in Lima; pollution of rivers and coastal waters from municipal and mining wastes. (CIA World Factbook 2006)

Military Notes:

1943 Veh, Recce. M3A1 Scout Car.

Remarks: Between 1943 and 1946 30 M3A1 Scout Cars were delivered to Peru as part of the Lend-Lease program (see US for vehicle details).

1950 Car, Armd, 4x4. T17E1 Staghound.

Remarks: Peru received 33 Staghounds from the US as part of Military Aid Program (see US for vehicle details).

1950 Car, Armd, 6x6. M8 Greyhound.

Remarks: Peru received 44 Greyhounds from the US as part of Military Aid program (see US for vehicle details).

1960 Truck, Utility, 1/4-Ton, 4x4, w/106mm RR, M38A1.

Remarks: (see US for vehicle details).

196x Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. MOWAG Roland.

Remarks: At least 100 vehicles were purchased

from West Germany for internal security duties (see Germany for vehicle details).

1970 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Rhestahl-Henschel UR-416.

Remarks: At least 130 vehicles were delivered to Peru from West Germany for internal security operations (see Germany for vehicle details).

1972 Veh, Attack, Light, LAV, 4x2. Dune Buggy.

1970 Carr, Pers, Armd, 8x8. BTR-60 PB.

Remarks: 12 vehicles were acquired from Russia (see Russia for vehicle details).

1970 Veh, Recce, 4x4. BRDM-2.

Remarks: 30 vehicles were acquired from Russia (see Russia for vehicle details).

1980 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Fiat 6614 CM.



Remarks: At least 15 vehicles were obtained from Italy (see Italy for vehicle details).

198x Car, Armd, 4x4. Fiat 6616A.



Remarks: At least 15 6616As were obtained from Italy (see Italy for vehicle details).

1980 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. BMR-600.

Remarks: 20 APCs were obtained from Spain (see Spain for vehicle details).

1990 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Reumech Casspir Mk 2.

Remarks: 20 refurbished vehicles were obtained from South Africa (see South Africa for vehicle details).

2000 Veh, Utility. AIL M-325 Commandcar.



Above: Peruvian Army M-325 with "B" body set up as a personnel carrier with seats facing out and mounts for light machine guns. (Photo: Peruvian Army).

Remarks: (see Israel for vehicle details).