

## Row grows over threat to tribes

**T**hree ministers in Peru have resigned in protest at plans to drill for oil in a reserve for indigenous tribes, who risk being exposed to diseases that could kill them (James Hider writes).

A Deputy Culture Minister has now quit over the project led by Argentina's Pluspetrol, Hunt Oil of the US and Spain's Repsol, which want to expand the huge Camisea project in the southeastern Amazon region, home to tribes including the Nanti, right, that have shunned contact with the outside world. Peru's Culture Ministry said the 1,000 oil workers, machinery and explosives could devastate the tiny Nahua tribe, half of which has been wiped out since the 1980s.

