

May 27, 2008

GUATEMALA: THREATS AGAINST PEOPLE DEALING WITH CRIMES OF THE PAST

Contact: Grahame Russell, info@rightsaction.org, 1-860-352-2448 (Connecticut)

Hello everyone ...

Rights Action just completed a busy month of work related to Goldcorp Inc. mining affected c Honduras and Guatemala. Soon, we will report on educational delegations we took to visit th regions and on education and activism work in Toronto, Canada, at Goldcorp Inc's annual sh meeting.

The Impunity with which global mining companies operate in Guatemala and Honduras is dire on-going impunity with which the powerful political-economic-military sectors act in Guatemc unfortunately, repression continues in Guatemala related to the genocide and political crime

BELOW:

* death threats against members of the Guatemalan exhumation team [FAFG - Guatemalan Forensic Anthropology]

* death threats against a judge in the "Spanish" genocide case

WHAT TO DO: see below. To get on-off this elist: info@rightsaction.org

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1- THREATS AGAINST MEMBERS OF GUATEMALA (FAFG) EXHUMATION TEAM

(Source: the FAFG)

[Since the 1990s, Rights Action has funded and supported the exhumation process in c Indigenous communities throughout Guatemala and the work of the FAFG. In May, Rights Ac educational delegations to meet with the FAFG in Guatemala City, including Fredy Peccerelli Girón.]

Dear friends, please find attached details of the most recent threat received by the FAFG yest 22nd May 2008. The FAFG is demanding that the State increase the security measures assigne Peccerelli, Executive Director of the FAFG, his family and all the members of the FAFG. Further ask for the case to be referred to the CICIG (the International Commission against Impunity in the investigations performed by the Public Prosecutor's Office (Ministerio Público) of the threat has been receiving since 2002 have not given any results. Please distribute this information as among your contacts. Regards,

Silke Gatermann, Technical Assistant to the Executive Director, FAFG
Cel [in Guatemala]: (502) 5917 5772; silke.gatermann@fafg.org

The FAFG writes:

Further death threats to Fredy Peccerelli, his family and the members of the Guatemalan Four Anthropology (FAFG). Following the death threat received on Monday, 19th May 2008, Fredy Executive Director of the Guatemalan Foundation of Forensic Anthropology (FAFG), and Omc Director of the FAFG's Laboratory of Forensic Anthropology and married to Bianka Peccerelli, sister, received an email on the afternoon of Thursday, 22nd May 2008, with the following text:

visto a tu familia el proximo es Yani. Se ahuevaron malditos esta ves nos respeteran. Mueran retiren las denuncias. FAFG DE LUTO hasta que acabemos con todos."').

That same afternoon, Bianka Peccerelli was driving a Jeep Cherokee and wearing a pink blot threat had stated that she would be raped, killed and sent to the FAFG in pieces. Gianni Pec Peccerelli's brother. The e-mail was sent from the same e-mail address as the previous threat, yax.pedro@yahoo.com, registered under the name of Pedro Yax.

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2- THREATS AGAINST JUDGE IN SPANISH Genocide Case

(Source: NISGUA, Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala, www.nisgua.org)

[Since the 1990s, and in conjunction with support for the exhumation process, Rights Action supported genocide survivors and massacre witnesses from throughout Guatemala who legal trials against the guilty "intellectual authors" of the State repression and genocide. In May 2008, Rights Action visited Mayan communities devastated by the genocide and spoke with massacre survivors who in the various legal trials.]

JUDGE WHO HEARD TESTIMONY IN SPANISH GENOCIDE CASE DENOUNCES DEATH THREATS!

(Guatemala City, Guatemala - Tuesday, May 20, 2008)

Today Judge Jose Eduardo Cojulum denounced death threats after presiding over the hearing witnesses of massacres committed by the army during the armed conflict. After receiving the testimony of twenty people at the request of the Spanish Courts, where the genocide case is in process, he recommended the Guatemalan Public Prosecutor's Office to investigate the facts.

Cojulum decided that sufficient evidence exists to try in Guatemala the acts described by the slaughters of Plan of Sanchez and Río Negro, as well as the occupation and fire in the Spanish capital happened in 1981 in the capital.

The jurist sent a detailed report on the declarations received in the Criminal Court to the office prosecutor and assured that if the authorities do not act they would be guilty of the crime of cover-up.

Nevertheless, as a result of these measures he began to receive telephone calls that warned he would be assassinated if he continues with the proceedings, said Cojulum.

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WHAT TO DO: info@rightsaction.org, www.rightsaction.org

WHAT IS RIGHTS ACTION?

Based in Guatemala, Rights Action (with tax-deductible legal status in Canada and USA) functions as a community-based development, environment and human rights organization in Guatemala, Salvador and southern Mexico (Oaxaca, Chiapas); and educates about and is involved in local and global development, environmental and human rights struggles.

TO MAKE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS for indigenous and community-based organizations that promote justice and to end impunity, and to implement their own development, human rights and environmental programs, please make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to: UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC 20002; CANADA: 422 Parliament St, Box 82552, Toronto ON, M5A 4N8. CREDIT-CARD DONATIONS: [www](http://www.rightsaction.org)

* **EDUCATIONAL DELEGATION** - From July 7-10, Rights Action is leading an educational delega-

Thousands of people from across the Americas are expected at this gathering to debate and awesome music, art and theater) how Another World Is Possible ... And Necessary. For more i info@rightsaction.org.

JOIN: Rights Action's listserv and newsletter lists.

CREATE YOUR OWN E-MAIL LIST: and re-distribute this and other information.

LISTEN: to the www.democracynow.org news program every day.

READ: Eduardo Galeano's "Open Veins of Latin America"; Naomi Klein's "The Shock Doctrine" "Pedagogy of the Oppressed".

SMILE: And live to make another world is possible, everyday.