

## **U.S. company Aura Minerals threatening members of Azacualpa Environmental Committee in Honduras**

### **More charges of environmental harms and human rights violations filed against company**

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/us-company-aura-minerals-threatening-members-of-azacualpa-environmental-committee-in-honduras>

On August 25, 2020, an Aura Minerals (and its Honduran subsidiary MINOSA) truck parked outside the home of Hector Antonio Trigueros, a member of the Azacualpa Environmental Committee that is at the forefront of denouncing Aura/MINOSA environmental harms and human rights violations, including the imminent destruction of the 200 year-old Azacualpa cemetery and entire village of Azacualapa.



This latest incident of Aura/MINOSA harassment occurred the same day that the Azacualpa Environment Committee met with their lawyers to denounce the most recent destruction caused by the use of dynamite under the Azacualpa cemetery.

### **Blowing up Azacualpa Cemetery hill**

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/aura-minerals-blowing-up-azacualpa-cemetery-hill>

Watch, as Aura Minerals (U.S. company, trading on Toronto stock exchange) “gets on with normal” in times of Covid19, blowing up this mountain, on top of which is the 200 year old Azacualpa Cemetery, in behind of which lies the community itself of Azacualpa.

- View: <https://www.facebook.com/noticiashondurashn/videos/697480547648444/>

### **Criminal denunciation against Aura/MINOSA and its manager**

Lawyers with the Bufete Estudios para la Dignidad (BED) filed criminal denunciations against Aura/MINOSA and its manager – Luis De Lima – for destruction to the cemetery, graves, roads and homes nearby caused by the recent dynamiting of Azacualpa Cemetery Hill. This criminal denunciation is added to previous ones against Aura/MINOSA for environmental harms, the illegal digging up of graves and the desecration of bodies.

### **Aura/MINOSA ties to drug-trafficking**

It was reported July 7, 2020, that the owners of INCOBE, a Honduran heavy machinery company partnered with Aura Minerals (until 2016, a Canadian company), must remain in pre-trial detention. They are accused of involvement with drug-trafficking organized crime.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/seguiran-en-prision-preventiva-capturados-en-operacion-arcano-ligados-al-crimen-organizado.html>

### **Mining impunity & corruption, enabled by U.S. & Canadian governments, military-backed Honduran regime**

There appears to be no end in sight to the harms and destruction committed by Aura/MINOSA, supported for years by the Canadian government (until recently, Aura was primarily a Canadian company), the U.S. government (Aura is based in Florida) and the corrupt, repressive regime of Honduras itself.

### **Background**

To learn more about the Azacualpa Environmental Community and their long standing defense of their lands, rights and 200 year-old cemetery:

- Archives: <https://rightsaction.org/aura-minerals-archives>
- Photo Gallery: <https://rightsaction.org/aura-minerals-photos>

### **Films**

- “Story Behind the Story: What Aura Minerals didn't want us to see in Azacualpa” (2017), 4 minute film by Maggie Padlewska, View: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1uY6E6zs7Q>
- “Where even the Dead can't rest” (2019), 6 minute film by Trocaire, View: <https://vimeo.com/365482741>
- “La Fiera de Azacualpa: Resistiendo la avaricia y destrucción de Aura Minerals” (2019), Ver: <https://youtu.be/o42NDTIgAFM>

### **More information**

- Hector Antonio Trigueros, Comité Ambientalista de Azacualpa (<https://www.facebook.com/azacualparesiste/>)
- Lisbeth Jimenez, ASONOG (<https://asonog.hn/>)
- Grahame Russell, Rights Action, [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)
- Karen Spring, Honduras Solidarity Network, [spring.kj@gmail.com](mailto:spring.kj@gmail.com)

### **Regular updates, Honduran issues**

[https://lists.riseup.net/www/info/honduras\\_daily](https://lists.riseup.net/www/info/honduras_daily)

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## **Rights Action's Covid19 & Community defense fund Supporting indigenous & campesino communities, Honduras & Guatemala**

### **Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)**

Make check to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

Credit-Card Donations: <http://rightsaction.org/donate/>

Donations of securities in Canada and the U.S.? Write to: [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)

Bank-to-bank transfers? Write to: [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)

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