



PEACE BRIGADES INTERNACIONAL – GUATEMALA PROJECT

Monthly Information package on Guatemala

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1. NOTES ON THE CURRENT SITUATION

Impunity:

There have been 26 cases of threats against human rights defenders.

The member organisations of the Coalition of Human Rights Against Clandestine Structures have reported that so far this year 26 human rights defenders have been victims of death threats and intimidation. According to the coalition, of the 26 activists attacked, 11 are involved in the struggle against impunity, in particular the pursuit of justice in cases of genocide. Meanwhile those responsible for these acts of intimidation are, according to the Coalition, the clandestine structures which are able to act with impunity in the country.

Dos Erres Case: Constitutional Court cancels proceedings

The judicial process that a jury was following against 16 members of the army for the 1982 massacre in Dos Erres, Petén, was cancelled by a resolution of the Constitutional Court (C.C), issued in December and announced in the first week of February. The C.C stated that the judge in charge of investigations should have suspended proceedings when the Congress of the Republic passed The National Reconciliation Law in 1996. This decree stipulates that such acts committed during the armed conflict should be “transferred immediately to the Court of Appeals that has responsibility over this”. Despite this the C.C declared on the 10th of February, by means of a resolution, that the main testimonies of the process were valid in the Dos Erres Massacre Case. The announcement of the decision was made due to a petition from the Relatives of the Detained-Disappeared of Guatemala (FAMDEGUA) which acted as the complainant in the judicial process.

The Government sends Congress the Accord about the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights

On the 21st of February Vice President Eduardo Stein sent the Congress of the Republic a certified copy of the signed accord between the Government and the United Nations regarding the opening of an Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Guatemala. According to Stein, the agreement is awaiting ratification by the Legislative Branch before it can proceed and is currently being studied by the Parliament’s Human Rights Commission.

Genocide will not be recognised for reparations.

The National Coordination of widows of Guatemala (CONVIGUA) has expressed its discontent at the Executive’s decision to exclude genocide from the human rights violations under its reparations plan. The organisation rejected the measure because it not only denies the existence of the victims of genocide but also denies the fact that genocide was committed in the country. Furthermore, the measure also entails that communities as a whole can not

receive compensation, only individual cases according to the type of abuse suffered by the victim. CONVIGUA also denounced the existence of a defamation campaign against them, the Indigenous leadership and the current coordinator of The National Reparation Program (PNR), Rosalina Tuyuc.

Constitutional Court says no to payment to ex paramilitaries.

Under threats, the Constitutional Court magistrates met on Tuesday the 8th of February in a hotel in the capital. The Magistrates rejected Decree 28-2004 of the Congress of the Republic which authorized payment to members of the ex PAC. The C.C argued that the decree did not include a source for the funding the payment to the ex PAC, which contravened Article 240 of the Constitution which states that all laws involving state investment and spending should indicate the source.

Threat to the life of Monsignor Ramazzini.

The ex EMP member who testified to being paid 50 thousand dollars to assassinate Monsignor Ramazzini lodged his declaration to the Human Rights Ombudsman (PDH), which immediately informed the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the plan. For the informer's security has currently been increased and hi family have left the country.

Land:

Land Claims

The peasants that were arrested for occupying the Chixoy Hydro Electric site in September 2004 have been released. After their release they insisted that the government pay them for the lands that they lost due to the construction of the Chixoy river dam. Twenty-three communities from Rabinal, Baja Verapaz, have lodged complaints against Guatemala and the United States to the Interamerican Commission of Human Rights for the displacement they suffered in the 1980's. The complaints include claims for the land and a demand that responsible for the murders of hundreds of peasants from the area be brought to justice.

Peasants occupy land on the Santa Clara Estate in Petén.

On the 22 of February more than a thousand families occupied land on the Santa Clara Estate. This is the second time that the land has been occupied – the last time they were removed by a court order processed due to the a complaint lodged by the land owner. According to the peasants, this land is public and not private.

Land Registry Law in Debate.

Carlos Gonzalez, of the Committee of United Peasantry (CUC) urged Congress representatives to pass the Land Registry Law which was put forward by the Peasant movement and which would "present an opportunity for equal land distribution." The members of Congress responsible for agricultural issues, Manuel Giordano and Alfredo de León, announced to different civil society organisations an initiative to create a Land Information Registry. The question of resources to fund it and the establishment of a regularisation law are still pending.

Globalisation:

The mayors of Sololá demand an end to mining

19 mayors of the municipalities of the department of Sololá have called on President Oscar Berger to cancel the contract with the company Montana Exploradora, S.A. On Monday February 7, they submitted to the Secretary of Peace a document containing 11 demands, including a rejection of mining exploration and exploitation in San Marcos and the whole country. They also called on Government to modify the mining law and to consult the communities in the effected areas before allowing any more explorations.

High level Commission set up to tackle mining issue

On Thursday the 17th of February, a High Level Commission to analyze and debate the controversial issue of mining exploration in the country was formally set up. The commission includes Government representatives, the Episcopal Conference of Guatemala (CEG) and delegates from the Universities of San Carlos and Del Valle. The first meeting took place in the Archbishop Palace. Raquel Zelaya, who attended as a CEG representative, announced that the first meeting discussed the Commission's methodology and agenda. This will eventually lead to a proposal on mining legislation which will incorporate environmental, economic and sociocultural issues.

Negotiations on Guatemala's Free Trade Agreement.

In the last week of February, Guatemala and Mexico began negotiations regarding future economic relations. President Berger met with President Fox in Mexico for the purpose of developing bilateral trade and security relations. The formation of an arbitrary commission to analyse some of the obstacles to the application of the Free Trade Agreement (TLC); the signing of agreements on cooperation in social development, the construction of motorways, the fight against drug trafficking, the speeding up of extraditions and border protection were among some of the issues discussed.

Sources: Prensa Libre, Siglo Veintiuno, El Periódico, Inforpress Central America, La Semana en Guatemala

2. ACTIONS OF PBI GUATEMALA – WITHIN GUATEMALA

Current Team: Tara Ward (Canada), James Rodríguez Casillas (México/USA), Mar Cabanes Morote (Spain), Vincent Castagnino (France), Melosa Aiyana Granda (USA), Fionuala Cregan (Ireland), Sander Otten (The Netherlands), Matthew Fawcett (Great Britain) and Helen Woodcock (Great Britain)

2.1 MEETINGS WITH GUATEMALAN AUTHORITIES AND MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS

Meetings with the authorities and members of the diplomatic corps in Guatemala are an essential component of PBI's work, strengthening the support for the project throughout the country. Throughout the month of January meetings were held with the following authorities:

Guatemalan Authorities:

- Mr. Carlos Quintana Saravia, Governor of the Department of Retalhuleu.
- Mrs. María Magdalena Hidalgo Marroquín, Mayoress of Retalhuleu, Department of Retalhuleu.
- Mr. Edwin Yanes, Head of the National Civil Police (PNC) of the Municipality of Retalhuleu.
- Mrs. Dominga Vázquez, Indigenous Mayoress of Sololá and Mr. Carlos Guarquez of the Indigenous Municipality of Sololá.
- Mr. Esteban Toc Tzay, Mayor of Sololá, Department of Sololá.
- Mrs. Marta Lidia Mendoza, Human Rights Ombudsman (PDH) of Sololá
- Mrs. María Nicolasa Procopio, Presidential Commission for Human Rights (COPREDEH) of Sololá.

International Authorities:

- ξ Mr. Tom Crowley and Mr. Frank Flood of Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI).

Diplomatic Corps:

- ξ Mr. Juan López-Dóriga, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain.

2.2 MEETINGS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

The PBI Guatemala Project team holds regular meetings with civil society organizations. This enables us to monitor the situation of human rights defenders and to exchange information on the work being carried out as well as to gather information which helps us to develop our analysis of the internal political situation.

Civil Society Organizations:

- Security in Democracy, SEDEM
- National Conference of Ministros de la Espiritualidad Maya de Guatemala, Oxlajuj Ajpop
- Communities of Populations in Resistance-Ixcán
- Sexual Diversity
- National Human Rights Movement, MNDH
- "Runujel Junam" Counsel of Ethnic Communities, CERJ

International Organisations:

- ξ Coordinating Body for International Accompaniment in Guatemala, CAIG:
 - Austria Accompaniment Project, ADA.
 - Québec-Guatemala Accompaniment Project, PAQG.
 - Accompaniment Project for the witnesses of the genocide cases, ACOGUATE.
 - Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala, NISGUA
 - Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation, SWEFOR
- ξ Rights Action
- ξ Trocaire

Courtesy visits were also made to the following organisations:

- ξ Alliance of Rural Women
- ξ Families of the Detained and Disappeared of Guatemala, FAMDEGUA.
- ξ Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala, FAFG
- ξ Centre for Human Rights Legal Action, CALDH
- ξ Union Federation of Food, Agro Industry Workers and Associates of Guatemala, FESTRAS

2.3 ACCOMPANIMENTS

Since 27 July 2004 we have been accompanying members of the **Trade Union of Workers in the NB Assembly Plant, SITRA NB** in Guatemala City. We maintain a presence outside the factory and also accompany members of the trade union to some of their various engagements. During the month of January the acts of intimidation against members of the Executive Committee of the Trade Union increased and on 20 January a member of the Committee was hit in the face by the general manager of the assembly plant, inside the factory and in the presence of her work colleagues. In view of this physical assault, the Guatemala Project decided to activate its Internal Support Network. During the month of February various meetings were held with authorities during which we expressed our concern for the physical integrity of members of the trade union. Meetings were held with the following authorities:

- ξ *Ms. Nineth Montenegro, Member of Congress for the New Nation Alliance (ANN)*
- ξ *Ms. Onelia Rocas, Section of Settlers at Risk, Municipality of Guatemala*
- ξ *Mr. Gerardo Alberto Hurtado Flores, Private Secretary of the General Public Prosecutor, Ministry of Justice*
- ξ *Mr. Mario Castañeda, First Attorney of the Office of Public Prosecution of Crimes against Journalists and Labour Union Members, Ministry of Justice of Guatemala City*
- ξ *Mr. Adrián Sandoval, Director of the Workers Defence, Human Rights Ombudsman (PDH)*
- ξ *Mr. Federico Segura, Assistant of the Attorney, Human Rights Ombudsman (PDH)*
- ξ *Mr. Kevin Garvey, Deputy Head of Mission & HM Consul, British Embassy*
- ξ *Mr. Troy Sitrell, Labour Attaché, U.S. Embassy*
- ξ *Mr. Fabien Moury, First Council, French Embassy.*
- ξ *Ms. Elin Widsteen, First Secretary, Norwegian Embassy*

Furthermore we had meetings with the following representatives of labour organisations:

- ξ *Mr. David Morales, General Secretary of the Union Federation of Food, Agro Industry Workers and Associates of Guatemala (FESTRAS)*
- ξ *Mr. Augusto Salazar, Member of the Executive Commission of the Union Federation of Food, Agro Industry Workers and Associates of Guatemala (FESTRAS)*
- ξ *Mr. Manuel Pablo Quino, Member of the Executive Coordination of the General Office of Guatemalan Workers (CGTG)*

The coming month we will closely monitor the situation of the women organised through SITRA NB, as well as hold further meetings with national and international authorities. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the national and international authorities for their positive responses during the month of January and February.

We have been accompanying **Members of the Indigenous Municipality of Sololá** during a demonstration against open air mining activities in the municipality of Sololá past Sunday 6th of February 2005. We uphold weekly contact with the Indigenous Mayoress.

Background: After the confrontations in the Department of Sololá on the 11th of January 2005 between the National Civil Police and the Guatemalan Army and the communities of Sololá, who were protesting against the transportation of a cylinder which was to be used for mining purposes through their villages, leaving one person dead and over 30 injured, the authorities issued an arrest warrant against five community leaders and representatives of the Indigenous Municipality of Sololá, including the Indigenous Mayoress, Dominga Vásquez. The Indigenous Mayoress is elected by the communities of Sololá and works to defend the rights of the Maya – including the right to speak their own language and to practice their traditional ceremonies and customs – as well as to ensure the development of the communities. Mrs. Vásquez has received threatening phone calls accusing her of having lead the movement against the granting of mining licenses. On 29 January, the human right's ombudsman requested precautionary measures from the Inter American Court for Human Rights on behalf of the Indigenous Mayoress and five other communities' leaders.

We continued to accompany the **Coordination of Widows of Guatemala, CONAVIGUA** carrying out regular visits to their offices in Guatemala City

Background: CONAVIGUA continues to facilitate the process of exhumations and inhumations in various departments throughout Guatemala although largely in Quiché, Chimaltenango, Guatemala and the Verpases. The organisation is planning new exhumations in these departments during the months of March, April and May of 2005.

We continued to carry out visits to the office of the **National Coordination of Residents of Marginal Areas in Guatemala, CONAPAMG**. Furthermore, we have accompanied the organisation during their activity in the community of "El Chico" in the Department of Retalhuleu.

Background: CONAMPAMG works on the question of access to housing and the legalization of illegally occupied land. On the 4th of July their office was broken into and inventories, bills, computer discs and money were stolen. In December 2004, members of the Community "Nuestras Realidad" which belongs to CONAPAMG, received an anonymous threatening letter stating that if the community leaders continued to pressure the Government for the legalisation of their land, they would be evicted and arrested. The community of "El Chico" in Retalhuleu has existed for over 40 years, but is currently in danger of eviction because of the construction of a large harbour in nearby Champerico.

We accompanied **Eloyda Mejia**, Legal Representative of the **Association of Friends of Lake Izabal** in her activities in Guatemala City and in the village of El Estor in the Department of Izabal.

Background: Eloyda Mejia has suffered a number of threats as a result of her work to protect Lake Izabal, in the province of El Estor, East Guatemala, as well as to inform local residents of the possible damaging effects of the re-opening of the mining company EXMIBAL in the area. The threats against her became particularly serious during a forum on the future of the lake which took place in El Estor on 21 February following which she lodged an official complaint with the Ministry of Justice and the Human Rights Ombudsman (PDH). EXMIBAL is reportedly due to begin carrying out mining exploration in the region in March 2005.

We carried out weekly visits to the offices of the **Madre Selva Collective** and had frequent contact with their members.

Background: Madre Selva is an environmental organization which holds regular workshops on the negative impact of megaprojects and in particular those involving open air mining and the installation of hydroelectric power plants. Members of the organization regularly receive threats because of their work. Most recently they received threats during an assignment in which they presented information on the destructive effect on the environment of mining in the department of San Marcos. In September of 2004, a member of the collective Jose Manuel Chacon (Filochofo), received a death threat in an anonymous telephone call. In December Madre Selva conducted a forum in the capital to oppose mining during the same week as a pro-mining forum held by international mining companies and entities of the state.

Since 19 July we have carried out regular visits to the head office of the **Communities of Popular Resistance, CPR Sierra**.

Background: the organization is under vigilance; several of its members have been followed and have received several intimidating phone calls at the head office as well as at home.

Throughout February we carried out several visits to the **El Maguey** plantation.

Background: The plantation used to belong to a company for whom relatives of the current residents of El Maguey worked for under extremely exploitative conditions. The signing of the Peace Accords in 1996 opened up the possibility of reclaiming land based on historic rights. The residents of El Maguey formed the Associative Peasant Company of San Antonio (ECA) and in 2002 attempted to register the land legally in their name with FONTIERRA. However during this process it emerged that the land belonged to the Ministry of Defence. Towards the end of 2002 the FRG Government, under pressure from a number of members of parliament granted the community access to the land. Nonetheless in April 2003 the army violently evicted the community, burning their homes and their school and forcing them to set up camp on the roadside outside the plantation with the few belongings they had salvaged. The eviction was publicly denounced by the Human Rights Ombudsman who also sent advisors to the site who denounced the behaviour of the army towards the community, including acts of harassment and intimidation and denial of access to water and firewood. Shortly afterwards a Governmental Decree withdrawing the community's right to the land was issued. This Decree was appealed before the Constitutional Court which, in May 2004, decided in favour of the community. Reconstruction of the community has begun and they are currently awaiting the finalization of their title to the land.

We have maintained regular contact with the **Centre for Human Rights Legal Action, CALDH**.

Background: From July to November this year members of CALDH have suffered various threats and acts of harassment. In July the house of CALDH Director, Edda Gaviola was raided several times and the organization received a number of threatening phone calls and faxes. Throughout August we accompanied Andrea Barrios who had received a number of threats and from September to December we accompanied Edwin Galicia, who was kidnapped in March 2004 and who has since identified one of the kidnappers who has been arrested. On 11 January 2005, one day after the organisation had returned to work, they received an anonymous phone calls warning them of a bomb threat in their offices.

We maintained regular contact with **Angélica Macario** of the **Council of Ethnic Communities "Ranujel Junam", CERJ**.

Background: Eusebio Macario, father of Angélica Macario who has been accompanied by PBI on various occasions, was murdered on 27 September 2003. According to CERJ the individuals most likely responsible for the assassination are former Civil Defence Patrol (PAC) members and persons linked to the FRG (Guatemala Republican Front). Following the killing and in view of the serious threat it represented to other CERJ leaders working on compensation for victims of the armed conflict, the PBI-Guatemala Project activated its Support Network.

2.4 INTERNAL MEETINGS

The coordinating committee of the Guatemala Project were in Guatemala City between the 10th and 16th of February where they met with the PBI team in order to supervise and evaluate their work, as well as plan the upcoming six months.

3. ACTIVITIES OF PBI-GUATEMALA OUTSIDE OF GUATEMALA

The European representative Kerstin Reemstma participated in a visit of organisations and agencies of the United Nations in Geneva from 3 to 9 of February. The aim of the visit, which was organised jointly by PBI Colombia, Indonesia and Guatemala, was to strengthen the relation between these agencies and PBI. The visit included a workshop on the 4 and 5 of February organised by the PBI European Office (BEO) and the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General for Human Rights Defenders.

Kerstin Reemstma met :

- ξ Assistant to Denis Mc Namara, the UN Special Representative to the Secretary General for Internally Displaced People
- ξ Assistants to Hina Jiliani, the UN Special Representative to the Secretary General for Human Rights Defenders, Hina Jiliani
- ξ Desk Officer for Guatemala, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, (OHCHR)
- ξ Assistants to the Special Rapporteur on Summary Executions and Extrajudicial Killings and to the Special Rapporteur on Torture
- ξ Representatives of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
- ξ Representatives of the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)
- ξ Representatives of Franciscans International
- ξ Representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- ξ Representative of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)
- ξ German Mission to the United Nations in Geneva

Montse García, Co-ordinator of the Project and ex President of PBI Spain, participated on the 23rd of February on behalf of PBI Spain in a meeting with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and for Iberoamerica, Bernardino León Gross, organised by the Office of Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The aim of the meeting was to establish regular communication between eight Spanish human rights organisations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other participants were Amnesty International, Community of Sant' Egidio, School of Culture of Peace, Federation of Human Rights, Intermon-Oxfam, Observatory DESC y la "Taula Catalana" for Colombia. Participants on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs included the Director General of International Affairs of Terrorism, United Nations and Multilateral Organisations, Arturo Laclaustra Beltrán and the Director of the Office of Human Rights, José Antonio de Ory.

Montse García and Mayte Quesada, from the co-ordinating office of the Project, took part in the Assembly of the PBI Spain national group, on the 26th of February, in Madrid.

4. PUBLICATIONS BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (IN SPANISH)

In this section we publish several communiqués written by human rights organisations in which they express their preoccupations regarding the recent state of affairs in Guatemala.

Movimiento Indígena, Campesino, Sindical y Popular MICSP

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INSTAMOS AL PUEBLO DE GUATEMALA A RECHAZAR EL “TLC” CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y AL CONGRESO DE LA REPÚBLICA A NO RATIFICARLO

Con un país pobre, con un Estado excluyente, con estructura agraria arcaica, feudal y con un sistema agrícola atrasado que genera hambre, destrucción y muerte, enfrentaremos el Tratado de Libre Comercio con Estados Unidos de América, que constituye una concesión de la soberanía nacional a las empresas transnacionales y un mecanismo de destrucción de la pequeña y mediana empresa, que tendrá efectos negativos en la agricultura y economía campesina, medio ambiente, la biodiversidad y otros, lo que implicaría mas miseria, pérdida masiva de empleos, aumento de la migración, incremento de la violencia y del crimen organizado.

El TLC impondrá la liberación o privatización de los servicios esenciales, como la educación, la salud, la previsión y seguridad social, y se limitará la soberanía legislativa en protección de la sociedad como se hizo evidente en el caso de los medicamentos genéricos, aún sin ser ratificado el tratado comercial.

POR LO TANTO

EL Movimiento Indígena , Campesino, Sindical y Popular MICSP, en nombre del pueblo de Guatemala exige al Congreso de la Republica la no ratificación del Tratado de Libre Comercio con Estados Unidos.

Los efectos negativos del TLC son:

- A). Crecimiento desmedido de trabajos sin ninguna protección laboral.
- B). Alta tasa de desempleo
- C). Desregularización laboral
- D). Disminución del salario.
- E). Ausencia del Estado de Derecho.
- F). Escasas garantías para la libertad de organización sindical y ausencia de Negociación Colectiva.
- G). La importación de productos alimenticios sin garantía de inocuidad.
- H). La expansión en el mercado local de productos transgénicos y
- I). Trabajo por productividad que afectará entre otras cosas las jornadas de trabajo.

Guatemala atraviesa un momento histórico, puesto que las decisiones que tomemos determinarán no solamente nuestro futuro sino que también el de nuestros hijos e hijas. Por ello, el Movimiento Indígena, Campesino, Sindical y Popular MICSP, en defensa de la población planteamos un NO a la ratificación de Tratado de Libre Comercio entre Centro América y Estados Unidos y demandamos a los diputados del Congreso de la República tomar conciencia antes de emitir su voto respecto al Tratado, ya que dicho convenio comercial traerá consecuencias negativas en el ámbito cultural, social, económico y político.

El Movimiento demanda a los partidos políticos asumir una actitud responsable y digna con los intereses de las grandes mayorías, a la población en general les exhortamos a luchar por todos los medios posibles para rechazar los tratados comerciales. No podemos permitir que un pequeño grupo que siempre nos ha explotado y reprimido, una vez mas intente quedarse con nuestras riquezas naturales como los bosques, los ríos, el aire y nuestra biodiversidad cultural.

¡NO AL TLC

¡Guatemala, 14 de Febrero de 2005.

GAM

Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo
8a Calle 3-11 Zona 1
Ciudad de Guatemala

CRIMEN DE 8 MIEMBROS DEL GAM NO PUEDE QUEDAR IMPUNE, EL FINQUERO JORGE FERNANDEZ DEBE SER ENJUICIADO Y CASTIGADO

En una actitud que caracteriza la prepotencia y el abuso de finqueros de la costa sur y el apoyo y aquiescencia de las autoridades, el lunes 24 de enero se produjo el asesinato masivo de 6 miembros del GRUPO DE APOYO MUTUO, el responsable material es el finquero Jorge Fernández Alejos, quien a mansalva disparó en contra del grupo de campesinos que demandaba el apareamiento con vida de Pedro Macario Tambríz que había desaparecido en el interior de la finca El Corozo propiedad de Fernández Alejos.

Por su parte Pedro Macario Tambríz había sido capturado ilegalmente por miembros de la seguridad de la finca El Corozo, cuando este fue encontrado cortando frutas en el interior de la finca el viernes 21 de enero. Posteriormente a los hechos del 24 de enero en el que perdieron la vida:

1. Manuel Ixquiactap Ixtos,
2. Diego Gurchaj Zacarías,
3. Mateo Mejía Carillo,
4. Juan Tahay Chox,
5. Pedro Coj y Coj
6. Manuel Cotí (quién falleció al día siguiente producto de las heridas y los golpes)

En el incidente fue capturado el finquero Jorge Fernández Alejos (autor material de los asesinatos), pero también dos de los campesinos que demandaban el apareamiento con vida de Pedro Tambríz, entre los detenidos se encuentra el padre de la víctima, los detenidos son Vicente Alfonso Macario Mejía y Tomás Tzep Tambríz.

Para el Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo, esta acción es producto de la prepotencia con que los finqueros actúan en contra de campesinos y pobladores de las áreas rurales, causando daños irreparables por actitudes como el robo de unas frutas. Si lo que pretenden es hacer que se cumpla la ley debieran de entregar a los capturados a las autoridades legalmente competentes, pero recurrir a la captura ilegal, la tortura y la muerte, es algo que no puede quedar en impunidad.

Por lo mismo es que el GAM no descansará hasta que haya juicio y castigo para Jorge Fernández y sus guardias de seguridad, asimismo se investigará la forma en que las autoridades judiciales y policiales favorecieron la acción represiva.

Guatemala 2de Febrero de 2005



**COORDINADORA NACIONAL DE ORGANIZACIONES
CAMPELINAS
-CNOC-**

AL CONMEMORARSE HOY, EL DIA DE LA DIGNIDAD DE LAS VICTIMAS DEL CONFLICTO ARMADO INTERNO, LA COORDINADORA NACIONAL DE ORGANIZACIONES CAMPESINAS -CNOC- DENUNCIA EL INCUMPLIMIENTO DE LOS ACUERDOS DE PAZ POR LOS ULTIMOS TRES GOBIERNOS NEOLIBERALES.

Es lamentable el contenido incongruente de los discursos populistas de las personas que han gobernado el país durante los últimos ocho años, quienes aducen cumplir los Acuerdos de Paz a favor de la población necesitada, cuando en realidad se incrementó la pobreza y la inseguridad, por aparte se ha evidenciado la ingobernabilidad que ha dado lugar a la corrupción estatal, y se han tomado decisiones gubernamentales sin la participación de los sectores organizados del país.

–CNOC- como instancia referente del movimiento campesino en Guatemala hemos y seguiremos siendo partícipe del proceso de paz, denunciando las acciones incompatibles de los gobiernos y a la vez presentando propuestas sociales en el tema agrario, laboral, seguridad alimentaria y Desarrollo Rural para dignificar a miles de personas que fueron víctimas de la guerra, asimismo preservar la memoria de nuestros mártires que fueron asesinados, secuestrados y torturados durante los 36 años de guerra interna, en especial a los desaparecidos durante la década de los ochenta.

**En conmemoración del Día de las Víctimas, la Coordinadora Nacional de Organizaciones Campesinas,
MANIFIESTA:**

Al solemnizar el **Día Nacional de la Dignidad de las Víctimas del Conflicto Armado Interno**, recordamos los momentos difíciles ante la matanza, genocidio y la ola de represión contra dirigentes campesinos, quienes perdieron sus vidas por la búsqueda del respeto a los Derechos Humanos del pueblo Indígena y Campesino, por ello, hoy 25 de febrero conmemoramos y honramos la MEMORIA de todas las víctimas.

Esperamos que los responsables de tanta masacre, tortura y matanza extrajudicial que se vieron involucradas en este conflicto, puedan responder a las interrogantes de miles de víctimas sobrevivientes, quienes necesitan saber el paradero de sus seres queridos.

Lamentamos que los últimos tres gobiernos no hayan buscado mecanismos urgentes para agilizar el resarcimiento a las víctimas, como lo recomendó la Comisión de Esclarecimiento Histórico CEH, por ello, recriminamos las decisiones políticas del actual presidente de los empresarios Oscar Berger de recompensar a los ex patrulleros de autodefensa civil antes que las víctimas, cuando en realidad algunos EX PAC fueron violadores, secuestradores y torturadores. Creemos legítimo que los ex patrulleros de autodefensa civil sean honrados por los finqueros, ya que fueron sus propiedades las que cuidaron durante el conflicto armado.

Repudiamos la decisión del Estado de no incluir dentro del Reglamento del Programa Nacional de Resarcimiento el tema de GENOCIDIO, que al parecer se debe a intereses políticos para no señalar directamente a varios dirigentes de la cúpula empresarial y del Frente Republicano Guatemalteco, incluyendo al general retirado José Efraín Ríos Montt, quién durante su gobierno militar implementó el programa de Tierra Arrasada para mandar a matar a guatemaltecos inocentes.

“POR LA DIGNIDAD Y EL RESPETO A LAS VÍCTIMAS DE LA GUERRA, CNOC PRESENTE”.

Guatemala, 25 de Febrero de 2005.

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