

Rights Action
September 28, 2012

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2012 – DAY OF COMMEMORATION
FOR MAYAN QEQCHI VICTIMS
OF CANADIAN NIQUEL MINING IN GUATEMALA**

- Mynor Padilla, alleged killer of Adolfo Ich and shooter of German Chub and head of Hudbay Mineral's security forces at the time, is detained in Guatemala

On September 27, 2009, private security guards in the hire of Hudbay Minerals (via its Guatemalan subsidiary CGN) assassinated Adolfo Ich (a local teacher, father, husband and community leader), shot and left paralyzed German Choc (a young campesino man, father), and wounded numerous others.

BELOW:

- press release, from Klippensteins law firm, concerning detention (3 years later!) of Mynor Padilla, head of Hudbay's private security forces at that time, and alleged killer or co-killer of Adolfo Ich, and shooter of German Chub
- multi-media presentation, "In Memoriam: Adolfo Ich Chamán – Three years on"
- trailer, "Defensora" documentary film about the Mayan Qeqchi people's struggles for justice and remedy
- fund-raising appeal for the Mayan Qeqchi Territorial Defense Committee, seeking justice and remedy, in Guatemala and Canada, for the harms and violations they have suffered, over the course of 50 years of nickel mining by INCO, Skye Resources and Hudbay Minerals

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Comments/Questions:

Grahame Russell
info@rightsaction.org

KLIPPENSTEINS Barristers & Solicitors
Press release, September 28, 2012

**CHIEF OF SECURITY AT CANADIAN MINING COMPANY HUDBAY
MINERALS' GUATEMALAN MINE ARRESTED FOR MURDERING MAYAN
COMMUNITY LEADER**

Toronto, Canada: Almost three years to the day after the brutal slaying of community leader Adolfo Ich at Hudbay Minerals' mining project in Guatemala, Guatemalan authorities finally arrested the former chief of security of the mine, Mynor Padilla, on charges of murder and attempted murder.

While this is an important first step towards justice for Mayan communities harmed by Hudbay's mining project, Hudbay has not yet been held to account and Canadian human rights lawsuits against Hudbay over the same allegations continue in Ontario courts.

“Astonishingly, Hudbay continues to argue that mine personnel were not involved in the murder, despite the fact that the brutal attack happened in broad daylight in front of witnesses who say Mr. Padilla was at the centre of an attack committed by a dozen mine security personnel,” said Murray Klippenstein, Canadian lawyer for Mr. Ich’s widow.

“It is time for Hudbay to own up to what happened on its watch at its mining project. Now that the man that Hudbay allowed to be put in charge of security has been arrested for murder, we hope Hudbay changes its unsupportable position, makes amends, and takes real, concrete steps to ensure that similar severe human rights abuses never again are committed at one of its projects.”

It is alleged that Mr. Padilla was on duty as chief of security at the Canadian controlled mine when he, together with other security personnel, surrounded, beat, hacked and finally shot Mr. Ich in the head in an unprovoked attack. On the same day, Mr. Padilla is also alleged to have shot and paralyzed German Chub in a similar unprovoked attack. Shockingly, Hudbay has confirmed that its subsidiary continued to employ and pay Mr. Padilla for at least a year after the murder while he was a fugitive from justice.

Hudbay continues to face three related corporate accountability lawsuits in Ontario courts which allege that poor management and oversight by Hudbay and its predecessor corporation led to the killing of Mr. Ich, the shooting of Mr. Chub, and the gang rapes of 13 Mayan women committed by mine company personnel at the Canadian owned and controlled mine.

“We hope that Mr. Padilla is swiftly brought to justice,” said Mr. Klippenstein. *“But as a Canadian company, HudBay still needs to answer in Canadian courts the allegations of human rights abuse at its mines”.*

The first major hearing in the Canadian lawsuits is expected in March 2013.

For more information about the lawsuits: www.chocversushudbay.com

KLIPPENSTEINS Barristers & Solicitors
160 John St., Suite 300
Toronto ON M5V 2E5

Murray Klippenstein
1-416-598-0288 (Office)
1-416-937-8634 (Cell)

Cory Wanless
1-416-598-0288 ext. 105
cory.wanless@Klippensteins.ca

IN MEMORIAM: ADOLFO ICH CHAMÁN – THREE YEARS ON

Multimedia Presentation, by James Rodriguez

On this occasion I share a special multimedia in commemoration of the third anniversary of the murder of Adolfo Ich Chamán. Mr. Ich Chamán was brutally murdered by Mynor Padilla, head of security of the Guatemalan Nickel Company (CGN), then-owned by HudBay Minerals, a Canadian mining company. Prensa Libre reports that Civil National Police forces have captured Mynor Padilla on the eve of the third anniversary of Ich Chamán’s murder.

The following slideshow contains music played by Adolfo Ich himself. The Ich-Choc family provided the audio file to MiMundo.org: <http://www.mimundo.org/2012/09/27/2012-09-in-memori-am-adolfo-ich-chaman/>

To read MiMundo.org photo essays related to the case:
<http://www.mimundo.org/?s=el+estor+la+union>

Questions / Comments / to support www.mimundo.org, please contact me.

Thank you, James Rodriguez, james@mimundo.org

Forthcoming Film – DEFENSORA

Watch 5 minute trailer: <http://www.indiegogo.com/defensora>

“Defensora” documents the Mayan Qeqchi people's struggle, in eastern Guatemala, to reclaim their ancestral lands, to promote community development and environmental well-being, and to seek justice and remedy for the murder, shootings and rapes committed against them by Canadian mining companies in Guatemala.

DONATE (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE in Canada and the U.S.)

The roots of Rights Action’s work go back to 1983 in Guatemala. Since then, and particularly since 1995, Rights Action has been funding grassroots organizations working for community development and the environment, for truth, memory, justice and human rights, and for democracy and peaceful resolution of conflicts in Guatemala and Honduras, as well as in Chiapas (Mexico) and El Salvador. The Canadian Rights Action Foundation (CRAF), founded in 1999, is independent from Rights Action (USA). Since 1995, Grahame Russell and Annie Bird have been co-directors of Rights Action; Grahame is director of CRAF.

To support the **courageous and on-going** community development and environmental protection work, **and work for justice and remedy** of the **Mayan Qeqchi Territorial Defense Committee**, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887

CANADA: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

CREDIT-CARD DONATIONS can be made (in Canada and U.S.):

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