

Rights Action  
December 18, 2013

## **Honduran Military Colonel Makes Threatening Accusations Against Annie Bird, of Rights Action**

Below:

1. School of Americas Watch communiqué, establishing also that Colonel German Alfaro received training at the U.S. government funded and operated "School of the Americas" military training institution
2. What To Do:
  - Write your member of Congress and Senator to denounce this threatening and false accusation, and ask your member of Congress and Senator to contact the State Department and U.S. Embassy to denounce this.
  - Make tax-deductible donations in the U.S. (and Canada) to support Rights Action's work in Honduras and Guatemala in favour of community development and environment and human rights protection.

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[www.soawatch.org](http://www.soawatch.org)

December 18, 2013

### **Urge Your Members of Congress and Senator to Denounce this Intimidation of Human Rights Defenders**

Last week, School of the Americas (SOA) graduate and Honduran military Colonel German Alfaro made outrageous accusations against a leading U.S. human rights defender, Annie Bird, Co-Director of Rights Action (USA), which is based in Washington, DC. Colonel Alfaro declared that the military is investigating Annie for alleged subversive activities with campesinos, including filing false reports about military abuses of human rights.

One of the Honduran newspapers, La Tribuna, picked up the story and even ran a picture of Annie, putting her at further risk.\* The allegations are completely trumped-up and dangerous given the pattern of violence in Honduras, of which Alfaro himself is a propagator.

Please email your Members of Congress and the State Department to demand that they forcefully denounce this attack on Annie Bird and other human rights defenders.

- To email:

[http://org.salsalabs.com/o/727/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=14777](http://org.salsalabs.com/o/727/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=14777)

Honduras is in crisis right now, as rampant fraud in their recent elections has allowed the current regime to continue the violence and intimidation against Honduran and U.S. human rights defenders. The Aguan Valley is an area where well over 100 campesino activists have been murdered by the military, police, paramilitary, and private security guards.

These attacks on Annie are part of a growing strategy of intimidating and trying to silence international human rights advocates whom report on the state sanctioned violence.

It is especially vital that the State Department speak out given that this attack on a U.S. citizen was carried out by a leading member of the US-funded and trained Honduran military, who himself received training at the School of the Americas.

Ask your Congressperson and Senator to contact the State Department and U.S. Embassy now.

\*La Tribuna newspaper article - "Estamos investigando denuncia que una norteamericana desestabiliza en el Aguán":

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2013/12/12/estamos-investigando-denuncia-que-una-norteamericana-desestabiliza-en-el-aguan/>

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**More Information:** Annie Bird, [annie@rightsaction.org](mailto:annie@rightsaction.org)

**Contact:**

- Congress: <http://www.house.gov/> to get info for your member of Congress, and call: 202-224-3121
- Senate: <http://www.senate.gov/> to get contact for your Senator, and call: 202-224-3121

### **Rights Action**

Since 1983, Rights Action has been directly funding grassroots organizations in Guatemala and (since 1998) Honduras struggling for community development and environmental protection, for disaster and repression relief, for truth, memory, justice and human rights, and for democracy and the rule of law. Rights Action does extensive education and activism work concerning how the United States and Canada sometimes contribute to and benefit from endemic harms and violations in Guatemala and Honduras. Rights Action (Canada), founded in 1999, is independent from and works in conjunction with Rights Action (USA).

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

To support community-based pro-democracy, environmental, development and human rights work in Honduras and Guatemala, 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 (Canada & U.S.):

<http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

- be a monthly donor (Canada & U.S.)
- to donate stock, contact: [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)

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*Comments / Questions:* [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)

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*Follow Rights Action on facebook:* [www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org](http://www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org)

*Please re-post and re-publish this information*

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