

## **Justice (??) for Hudbay Minerals linked repression in Guatemala: Statement by communities in resistance and struggle for land, El Estor, Izabal**

August 22, 2016

<https://us9.admin.mailchimp.com/campaigns/show?id=1210305>

The never-ending criminal trial continues against Mynor Padilla, former head of security for Hudbay Minerals (CGN-Guatemalan Nickel Company), for murder of Adolfo Ich, shooting-paralyzing of German Chub, and wounding of other campesinos in El Estor, Izabal.

It is rumoured that the judge will give her sentence some time this fall, ... but there remains also a fear that the trial will just drag on and on, which is in part a tactic to keep on wearing down Angelica Choc and the other victims, witnesses of the mining-related repression who are spear-heading the efforts for justice, along with lawyers from the Attorney General and CICIG.

\*\*\*

### **How Can Angelica Choc and German Chub Get Justice?**



(Mynor Padilla, former Hudbay Minerals head of security, on trial for mining-related murder and other attacks.)

In May 2016, the judge in the Adolfo Ich murder trial ordered a “security protection detail” for Mynor Padilla (!), former head of security for Hudbay Minerals, already in jail while on trial for the mining related murder of Adolfo Ich and shooting-paralyzing of German Chub in September 2009.

- Watch 3 minute report by Steven Schnoor:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rllt5geTlJc&feature=youtu.be>

\*\*\*

## Hearing: August 23-24, Sentencing Court, in Puerto Barrios

- The “reconstruction of the crime scene” began July 6 and ended July 28
- It has been one year and three months since the trial began!
- It has been almost 7 years since the September 27, 2009, mining related repression occurred

We insist that the search for justice in Guatemala is not only lagging and incomplete, but highly onerous because of the high economic cost for the victims and injured parties who demand justice. The justice system is unreachable for the great majority of Guatemalans, especially for the Mayan people who have been affected by these crimes and other human rights violations committed by transnational mining companies, with the sole purpose of dispossessing people from their land.

This long waiting period has resulted in frustration, dispersion, confusion, and distraction with respect to the crimes being tried, of which many people in the community of El Estor were victims; yet despite this, strong statements made by the witnesses and the steadfastness in which they have related the events from September 27, 2009, have generated certainty about what occurred and who is responsible.

There is clear evidence to obtain a guilty verdict, so that the crimes committed by Hudbay Minerals / CGN in El Estor on September 27, 2009 against Professor Adolfo Ich, German Chub and other campesinos from the community of Las Nubes do not remain in impunity.

The conclusion of the trial and issuing of the sentence by the judge of the Sentencing Court of Puerto Barrios draws near.

We call on the Human Rights Ombudsman, CODIRSA, the United Nations’ High Commission in Guatemala, and international solidarity organizations who defend human rights and promote justice, to pronounce before the judicial system, the Supreme Court of Justice, and other judicial bodies that the trial be considered a high-impact case and no longer be held behind closed doors.

To social and campesino organizations, to civil society, and communities of El Estor, Izabal, we ask for your continued solidarity and accompaniment of the struggle for justice being carried out by the Ich Choc family, German Chub, and the campesinos from the community of Las Nubes.

For the right to live, the right to our land, we demand justice.  
Communities in resistance and struggle for the land, El Estor, Izabal  
August 22, 2016

(Translated from original by Breaking the Silence, <http://www.breakingthesilenceblog.com/>)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & United States)**

Since 2004, Rights Action has funded community development, human rights and environmental protection work in the El Estor region. Since 2010, Rights Action has funded and been involved with the Mayan Q'eqchi' peoples' struggles for truth and justice in the "Hudbay Lawsuits" in Canada and the criminal trial in Guatemala. Make check payable 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

- Canada: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/rights-action/>
- U.S.: <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations> (click on NetworkForGood)

\*\*\*\*\*

- **Matching Donor:** Until August 29, 2016, an anonymous Rights Action supporter will match (up to \$30,000) tax-deductible donations in the U.S. and Canada.
- **"This Will Not Stop ..."** (Rights Action Newsletter, July-August 2016), <http://www.rightsaction.org/action-content/will-not-stop-rights-action-newsletter-july-august-2016>
- **Funding Summary:** Rights Action grants made in 2016 to partner groups and individuals, <http://www.rightsaction.org/action-content/rights-action-grants-made-date-2016-partner-groups-and-individuals>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Defensora**

By Rachel Schmidt, this film documents the Mayan Qeqchi people's struggle in Guatemala to reclaim their ancestral lands, and seek justice in Canadian and Guatemalan courts for the murder, shootings and rapes committed against them by Hudbay Minerals / CGN personnel: [www.defensorathefilm.com](http://www.defensorathefilm.com). Spanish version: <https://vimeo.com/83654243>

### **Hudbay Minerals documentary film**

By John Dougherty, this film documents Hudbay's harmful, repressive and widely resisted mining operations in Uchucarco (Peru), Manitoba (Canada), El Estor (Guatemala) & Arizona (United States). **View:** <https://youtu.be/j7aacPtEI8s>

### **New York Times / Toronto Star Reports**

- New York Times, April 3, 2016, ***Guatemalan Women's Claims Put Focus on Canadian Firms' Conduct Abroad***, [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/03/world/americas/guatemalan-womens-claims-put-focus-on-canadian-firms-conduct-abroad.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/03/world/americas/guatemalan-womens-claims-put-focus-on-canadian-firms-conduct-abroad.html?_r=2)

- Toronto Star, June 19, 2016, **Mayan Families' Quest For Justice Against Canadian Mining Company Hudbay**, <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2016/06/20/the-mayans-vs-the-mine.html>
- Toronto Star, June 20, 2016, **How A Guatemalan Murder Trial Could Forever Change Canadian Overseas Mining**, <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2016/06/20/how-a-guatemalan-murder-trial-could-forever-change-canadian-overseas-mining.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

More Info: [info@rightsaction.org](mailto:info@rightsaction.org)

Join Rights Action Listserv: [www.rightsaction.org](http://www.rightsaction.org)

Follow on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org](http://www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RightsAction>, @RightsAction

\*\*\*\*\*