

7-20-1990

Guatemala: Notes On Human Rights Violations

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen>

Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Guatemala: Notes On Human Rights Violations." (1990). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/4187>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Guatemala: Notes On Human Rights Violations

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Friday, July 20, 1990

Beginning April 29, soldiers stationed in Xaxboj, Xeputul (Chajul, El Quiche department) commenced an 11-day operation against local Communities in Resistance (CPR). Residents' crops were burned, and many homes were damaged. Between April 16 and May 23, soldiers stationed in Chajul and Amacchel (El Quiche), launched 50 rockets against a CPR in northern Chajul. Soldiers burned 42,875 square meters of crops, 124 homes and 12,500 lbs. of stored corn. Four schools, and seven places of worship were destroyed. In addition, the soldiers robbed livestock, and tools. On April 24, soldiers stationed in Amacchel attacked a CPR in the northern Amacchel area, and set fire to all homes in the Vi San Antonio community. The same troops on May 9 attacked several elderly persons working in the fields near the Tzicutzala community. On May 13, soldiers stationed in Amacchel shot to death Andres Cedillo, 43, a resident of Vi San Antonio, and seriously injured Juan Lopez Reynoso, 34, a resident of Santa Clara, also located in northern Amacchel. Soldiers abducted a man and three youths on May 22 in the village of Xecol (El Quiche). At 3 a.m. on July 12, Samuel de la Cruz Gomez, member of the Council of Ethnic Communities Runujel Junam (CERJ), was abducted by 17 heavily armed men in civilian dress. De la Cruz was taken from his home in Chimatzatz, Zacualpa, El Quiche department. He was the second CERJ member abducted this month. CERJ was established in July 1988 to protect the rights of indigenous Guatemalans, especially the right to refuse recruitment into the ostensibly voluntary civil defense patrols. Organization members have been victims of harassment, death threats, abduction and murder. Since March four CERJ members have been killed in circumstances suggesting military involvement. [Basic data from 07/12/90 reports by Guatemala Human Rights Commission-USA (Washington, DC), Guatemala Human Rights Commission (Mexico City)]

-- End --