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Deborah Tyroler

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Human Rights Abuses In Guatemala & Government's Failures To Investigate Focus Of International Tribunal Hearings

by Deborah Tyroler

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On July 19-22, a consortium of international human rights organizations known as the Permanent Tribunal, held hearings in San Jose, Costa Rica, on abuses in Guatemala and Honduras, and respective government failure to investigate them. In the previous week, Guatemalan Defense Minister Leonel Bolanos asserted that the organizations involved in the hearings support or have links to the Guatemalan guerrillas. Italian Giani Tognini, a physician and secretary general of the Tribunal, said the minister's comment marked the first time in the 12 years of the tribunal's history that it has been accused of affiliation with a group which promotes violence. (Basic data from Cerigua Weekly Briefs, 07/16-22/90)

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