

El Cortamortaja



THE WHIP OF THE CORRUPT

Year: 12 Number: 85 Director: César Martínez Rosales La Nueva Jalapa del Marqués, Oaxaca. December 2009

- Rural leader murdered in Chiapas; Canadian mining company behind the crime.
- Lenin Ortiz Betancourt: JUSTICE!
- No evil lasts a hundred years, as no fool would tolerate it.

CHICOMUSELO, CHIAPAS, MEXICO
Friday, 27-Nov-09,

On the night of Friday, November 27 of 2009, Mariano Abarca Roblero, a vocal opponent of the mining operations of Black Fire, a Canadian company operating in the highlands of Chiapas, was cowardly gunned down by a contract killer in the county seat of Chicomuselo, Chiapas, Mexico.

According to Gustavo Castro, the most likely hypothesis is that this homicide is connected to Mariano Abarca Roblero's strong opposition to the company's exploitation of gold, antimony and barium.



Mariano Abarca Roblero participating in a forum against commercial mining.



The Mexican Office of the United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) condemns the November 27th murder of Mariano Abarca Roblero in Chicomuselo, Chiapas, calls upon the authorities to clarify the facts in a swift and effective manner, and expects the investigation initiated by the Attorney General of Chiapas to bring forth results in kind.



Political Crime

HUACHINANGO, PUEBLA. MEX.
Friday, 11-Nov-09,

We have received the outrageous news of the death of the young student Lenin Ortiz Betancourt, murdered with 14 gunshots, one of them a *coup de grace* in the head. Perhaps this crime could go unnoticed among the 15,000 that have come to pass thus far under Felipa Calderón's Panista government, but it did not. This young person, a member of the Other Campaign, and also a political activist in support of the national strike—is the son of two professors involved in the struggle for the democratization of Section 23 of the Department of Education of the State of Puebla, who had received constant threats. His father had been unjustifiably fired from educational service. On the day of the crime the young man went out to meet friends in the square of Nautla, county of Huauchinango, Puebla. The democratic teachers' movement of the State of Puebla has denounced the slowness of the Attorney General of Puebla, and like many sectors, the teachers believe that everything points to a crime related to the political activities of the victim's parents, and not to other affairs, as some would like us to believe. We send our condolences and solidarity to his parents, Prof. Rigoberto Ortiz Martínez and Profa. Mónica Betancourt Rodríguez in these bitter hours.



EL AZOTE DE LOS CORRUPTOS

Year: 12 Number: 85

Director: César Martínez Rosales

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Faith of Facts

By César Martínez.

I'M BACK again to tell of naiveties, inanities, and other shamefulness both from the past and yet to come...

With the novelty that there are two calendars that move this 2010.

The first belongs to those people up there who, with their ilk, call us to celebrate on high not a hundred years, but *two hundred* years of independence, of revolution such as Porfirio Díaz planned in his time.

And the second calendar moves here in the Mexico of the oppressed who shout: "No evil lasts a hundred years, as no fool would tolerate it!"



The Mexicans await not the song of sirens, nor the mouth that says "This mouth is mine", but the hand that stirs up the wasp's nest.

Way up there, 2010 rings in not only the rehearsal for the big party, but also fear and a worsening of the dirty war: twisting the laws and reinforcing the prisons.

Up there the Chupacabras, the H1N1 pandemic, the pretend war on drugs.

Up there, murders are dressed in Mexican Army uniforms to instill fear.

Down here, history accompanies us. Down here our blood boils. Down here in the darkest part of our Mexico, people are saying that 2010 is calling us to shake off this bad government.

It is not the ghost of Communism that runs through Mexico; it's hunger and stinging misery.

Up there, them.

Down here, us.

Up there they're afraid because we're not afraid of them.

Down here, "To the death if necessary!" says the Zapatista Army of National Liberation.

Down here, "Show us our disappeared!" says the People's Revolutionary Army.

Up there with the United States of America.

Down here with Latin America.

Armed Confrontation Between the UBISORT and MULTI/ Roger Valle

SAN JUAN COPALA OAXACA, MEXICO
Saturday, 28-Nov.09

An armed confrontation between militants of the **Union of Social Wellbeing of the Triqui Region (UBISORT)** and the **Independent Triqui Movement of Unification and Struggle (MULTI)** took place this Saturday. The altercation began when the latter organization aboard three trucks tried to break the blockade that UBISORT militants had maintained since the early hours of the morning along the highway at the community of Sabana Cópala.



PHOTO: ROGER VALLE

Heavily armed militants of the UBISORT pre-empted a gathering that the autonomous municipality planned to hold November 28.



PHOTO: ROGER VALLE

With rocks and guns, UBISORT militants prevented sister organizations from passing through the municipality of Cópala.

With stones and firearms, militants of the UBISORT prevented militants of the Front for the Defense of Lands of San Salvador Atenco from making an appearance in the community of San Juan Cópala, where they planned to hold a political event, provoking the discontent of the autonomous municipality and the MULTI, who had to explore other options for receiving the organizations.



In an interview, Macario García Merino, the Municipal Secretary of the Autonomous Municipality of San Juan Cópala stated that the municipality rejects the UBISORT's aggressive actions in blockading the road to San Juan Cópala in order to prevent friendly organizations from reaching the community on a day when a political event was scheduled.

He explained: "We hold the leaders of the UBISORT, Rufino Juárez Hernández and Antonio Cruz García, responsible. With their people and weapons, they are blocking the road to Cópala, and we demand that the government of Oaxaca put an end to this paramilitary group that only pursues its own interests of power to continue exploiting the Triqui indigenous people." The Triqui leader made known that due to this confrontational situation, the organizations that had planned to go to San Juan Cópala instead opted to hold the event in the city of Tlaxiaco, where they publicized to the indigenous people of that area the details of the actions that the Priista paramilitary group UBISORT took to prevent their arrival in Cópala. García Merino concluded by saying that the current situation in that community is very tense, and demonstrates very clearly the government's protection of the UBISORT paramilitary group—for in spite of the fact that they enforce their actions with high-caliber weapons, nobody from the Priista government says anything, and nobody attempts to stop them. They merely deny that this group is heavily armed, an assertion which is clearly a lie.

On the other hand, *El Cortamortaja* attempted to speak to representatives of the UBISORT to find out their position on the matter, but nobody wished to comment. They did ask us to vacate

the area, which we decided to do, since the situation was very tense between both groups. As of the closing for this edition, the road to San Juan Cópala continues to be blocked.

SAN JUAN COPALA, OAX

Wednesday, 9-Dec,09

By Roger Valle



Priista militants of the UBISORT take the Cópala Autonomous Municipal Hall.

Dozens of heavily armed militants of the Union of Social Wellbeing of the Triqui Region (UBISORT) took the Municipal Hall of San Juan Cópala to remove the Autonomous President, José Ramírez Flores, and impose as the new Municipal President Anastasio Juárez Hernández, an event that has provoked significant tension between both factions in the community.

The Triqui Indigenous People, headed by Rufino Juárez Hernández and Antonio Cruz García (also known as “The Bird”), both militants of the UBISORT, forced open the doors of the Municipal Hall, and called upon their organization’s supporters to converge upon the spot, thereby establishing tight vigilance so that the supporters of the Triqui Movement of Unification and Struggle (MULTI) could not enter to take possession of the building.

It is worth mentioning that as they took possession of the Municipal Presidency, the militants of the UBISORT carried with them the cadaver of Pablo Bautista Ramírez, who, according to the UBISORT, was murdered by MULTI bullets. The body was placed over the desk of José Ramírez Flores, Autonomous Municipal President and supporter of the MULTI, as a symbol of protest.

In a communiqué, Ramírez Flores and Autonomous Municipal Secretary Macario Merino García made known that previous to these events, eyewitnesses stated that the later deceased, Mr. Pablo Bautista Ramírez, supporter of the UBISORT, entered the dwelling of the family of Mr. Jordán González Ramírez, shooting several times. The latter defended himself, dealing fatal injuries to the aggressor, who later died on the road to Juxtlahuaca.



Deceased paramilitary

The communiqué states: “Yesterday, Wednesday December 9, at approximately 5:00, the wife and children of Mr. Jordán González Ramírez were kidnapped by Antonio García Cruz, Rufino Juárez Hernández, Faustino Vázquez and Anastasio Juárez Hernández, who demanded a sum of 50,000 pesos for their freedom, to be delivered within 24 hours. Should they not receive it, they affirmed that they would take one of the children’s lives.” The communiqué ended by saying that the autonomous authorities declare that they are in the best disposition to follow through with the investigation requested by the Bautista Ramírez family, and that in no moment will they suppress facts of this type, as the work carried out during three years of autonomy have demonstrated success in resolving cases by way of dialogue between the parties, and when necessary, turning them over to the proper judicial authorities. It mentioned that in any case, the government of Oaxaca and its political operative, the UBISORT, are responsible for aggressions against the life and physical integrity of Mr. Jordán González’s wife and children, and of the municipality’s Triqui population in general.

SAN JUAN COPALA, OAX

Friday-1-Jan-10

The first minutes of 2010 were unpleasant ones for the community of San Juan Cópala, as 18-year-old Isaías Bautista Merino of the UBISORT was ambushed and killed, and the Municipal Agent’s seizure of power was suspended. Both events added to mounting tensions in the area.

MEXICO CITY

Saturday, 5 Dec-09

Thousands of trade unionists and supporters of the Mexican Electricians' Union (SME) took to the streets in Mexico City from the early hours of the morning on Friday, December 4, against President Felipe Calderón's unilateral decision to shut down the para-state Central Light and Power Company last October 10th.

*We are not one,
We are not 100,
Damned government,
Count us correctly.*

Thousands of throats sang in unison. The veteran wives of the fired workers were there.

*No somos uno,
No somos cien,
Pinche gobierno,
Cuéntennos bien.*



" JUNTOS "

Juntos debemos estar todos los damnificados, todos los perjudicados por el gobierno fascista formado por pripanistas de la manita agarrados.

Juntos debemos quitar al que atropellos comete, al que en apuros nos mete al quitarnos el trabajo importandole un carajo si de hambre el pueblo fallece.

Debemos luchar unidos de eso hay que estar convencidos den por buena mi opinión, yo sé bien que venceremos si todos juntos hacemos ¡LA CUARTA REVOLUCION!

VERSOS:
Raúl Barba Arciniega
25-10-09
DISEÑO:
José Antonio Loyola R.

Another ten female workers of the SME entered their eleventh day of hunger strike outside Central Light and Power's administrative headquarters, demanding their jobs back.

The newspaper *Narco News* spoke with Mónica Jiménez Acosta, coordinator for the Women Electricians in Resistance, on day eleven of the hunger strike, and this is what she said: "They through us out into the street like criminals. Felipe Calderón Hinojosa used the Federal Police and the military to expel us from our workplace. I wasn't the only one left without work; that night 43,999 other workers also lost their jobs." She explains that the Women Electricians in Resistance sought to meet with political parties, federal departments and the Calderón administration. The government's response?: "They kicked us and hit us with billy clubs. And with disrespect and cynicism they told us: 'Why don't you go sell junk food at intersections? Why don't you set up a little stand to sell cell phones or quesadillas? If your husband is in Light and Power, why doesn't he take construction courses? Why don't you cut hair? If you like night life, why don't you learn to mix drinks and get a job in a bar?' And I asked them angrily, why don't their mothers take those jobs?" Their leader Martín Esparza already said it, and he said it well: We're sick of it! Onward to a national strike to demand the revocation of Felipe Calderón's term.

With information from the digital newspaper NARCO NEWS.

BERKELEY, CA, US

California-20-Nov-09

Students occupied Wheeler Hall on the University of California campus in Berkeley,



protesting a decision by university regents to raise fees (the equivalent of tuition) by 32%, bringing them to \$10,302 per year for undergraduates. At the beginning of the occupation the students made several demands, including the rehire 38 laid off custodial workers, and amnesty for protesting students. The hall was surrounded by hundreds of supporting students, faculty, campus workers and community members. The day before the occupation, two university unions - the University Professional and Technical Employees and the Coalition of University Employees - together with students and members of campus faculty mounted a campus-wide strike. After a day of occupation, students voluntarily left the building, and were cited for misdemeanor trespass. On other campuses, including at Los Angeles, Santa Cruz and Davis, students also occupied buildings and in some cases were arrested. Puck Lo, a student at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, and one of those occupying Wheeler Hall, told the LA Times that the protests were taking place during a period in which students also had to study for coming final exams. "This strike is really inconvenient," she said. "But this seems the honorable thing to do for future students."

University of California students end occupations in Berkeley and Santa Cruz

23 Nov-09

In the University of California-Santa Cruz, students ended a four-day occupation of the main administration building, Kerr Hall.

INTERVIEW WITH Cristovão 'Chico' Buarque (ex-governor of the Federal District and current Education Minister of Brasil)

A US citizen in the UN introduced a question, specifying that they sought his response as a humanist and not as a Brazilian.

What do you think about the internationalization of the Amazon? This was Mr. Cristóvão Buarque's response:

Really, as a Brazilian, I would only speak against the internationalization of the Amazon. Even though our governments don't care for that patrimony as they should, it is ours.

As a humanist, regretting the environmental degradation suffered by the Amazon, I can imagine its internationalization, and also that of everything else that is of extreme importance for humanity.

If the Amazon, from a humanistic perspective, should be internationalized, let us also internationalize the entire world's petroleum reserves.

Petroleum is as important for humanity's wellbeing as the Amazon is for our future. In spite of this, the reserves' owners believe that they have the right to increase or decrease oil extraction, and raise or lower its price. In the same way, rich countries' financial capital should be internationalized. If the Amazon is a reserve for all human beings, it should not be burned simply by the will of one owner or one country.

Burning the Amazon is as serious as the unemployment caused by the arbitrary decisions of global speculators.

We cannot permit the financial reserves to be used to burn entire countries in the voluptuousness of speculation.

Also, before the Amazon, I would like to see the internationalization of the world's great museums.

The Louvre should not belong only to France.

Every museum in the world is the guardian of the most beautiful pieces produced by human genius.

We cannot allow for this cultural patrimony, similar to the Amazon's natural patrimony, be manipulated and destroyed at the pleasure of one lone owner or country.

Not so long ago, a Japanese millionaire decided to be buried with the painting of a great master.

That painting would have to have been internationalized.

In this meeting, the United Nations is holding the Millennium Forum, although some countries' presidents had difficulties in participating, due to disagreeable situations at the US border. For that reason, I think that New York, as the headquarters for the United Nations, should be internationalized. Or at least belong to all of humanity. In the same way that Paris, Venice, Rome, London, Río de Janeiro, Brasilia... each city, with its

specific beauty, its world history, should belong to the whole world.

Brasilia...cada ciudad, con su If the US wants to internationalize the Amazon, in order to not run the risk of leaving it in Brazilian hands, let's internationalize all the nuclear arsenals. One only need to ponder that they already demonstrated that they are capable and willing to use these weapons, unleashing destruction thousands of times greater than the disastrous burns carried out in the forests of Brazil.

In their speeches, the current candidates for the presidency of the United States have defended the idea of internationalizing the forest reserves of the world in exchange for debt. Let us instead begin to use that debt to guarantee that every child in the world has the possibility to eat well and go to school. For that matter, let's internationalize the children, treating all of them equally. When leaders treat poor children like the Patrimony of Humanity, they will not allow them to work when they should be studying, and will not allow them to die when they should live.

As a humanist, I accept the proposal to internationalize the world; but so long as the world treats me as a Brazilian, I will fight for the Amazon to remain ours.

Only ours!