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AR-HR ALERT

Continuing Harrassment by landowners guards in Sicogon Island, Iloilo city Philippines

Monday 26 January 2009, by Progreso, RIGHTS Network (Date first published: 26 January 2009).

Region: VI

Province: Iloilo, Philippines

Incident Rep. No.: 01-009

AR-HR ALERT:

Title: Destruction of houses and cattle rustling

Victim: Edmundo Villasis, Ryan Bulaqueno and Bobby Jun Villegas

Perpetrator: Ian Sarrosa with blackguards and Patricio Mahinay

Date of Incident: January 2 and January 4, 2009

Place of Incident: Brgy. San Fernando, Carles, Iloilo

Motive: Drive away occupants from their areas in position

Account of the Incident:

PJV Security Agencies hired Blackguards by SIDECO: Also detailed to become thieves and act as demolition team on holiday season

Around 11:00 A.M. on January 2, 2009, Elsa Bulaqueno while gathering some ube, a rotted crop, in their farm located at SIDECO's private property across the airstrip, when four blackguards together with Patricio Mahinay Jr. arrived in her son's house. She immediately hid herself to prevent any untoward confrontation but to her surprise, the guards started to destroy her son's house until it was totally demolished. Then they also destroyed the piled 28 sacks of chopped "malunggay" tree (muringa indica) that is supposed to be sold by her son and scattered it all over the place. After doing so, they proceed to Edmundo Villases (elder brother of Elsa Bulaqueno) house which is about 100 meters away wherein they did the same thing to Edmundos house, whom during that time was in Estancia.

The Blackguards also confiscated the rice and charcoals made from

uprooted trees after the typhoon Frank. After the incident, Elsa Bulaqueno immediately went to Brgy. Captain Bernal but due to his inavailability, the incident was blottered only on the following day.

On January 4, the two also asked again Brgy. Captain Bernal if he could help them recover some of his remaining belongings such as clothes, kitchen utensils and some others with the aid of the Brgy. Civilian Volunteer Officers (CVO) but according to Brgy. Capt. Bernal, Ian Sarrosa, the Chief Security Guard told him they can only proceed to the area on the following day since he still need to asked permission from Mr. Sarrosa if Edmundo Villases can recover their belongings. Afterwards, he further said that Edmundo can recover his belongings if he would sign a paper with an unknown content.

During the same day, January 4, 2009, at around 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, Ian Sarrosa together with other blackguards went to Bobby Jun Villegas pasture area where he kept his three cattles. They dismantled the barbed wire that serves as fence and told them to capture their cattles on the following day. Afraid to disobey the guards, they leave their cattles to the security guards and went back the following morning as per instruction. But as they tried to recover it the following morning, they were told to wait until Mr. Sarrosa arrived in Brgy. Captain Bernal asked for help but he answered that we cannot do anything and we better wait for "Toto Edgar". Until now, the said cattles is still in their possession.

RIGHTS Network, Inc.

PROGRESO Inc.

January 26, 2009