

It should be Rule #1 when Texaco published an article it gets responded to. Could anything be more clear? It has taken a week to get the VF article translated and ready to send out, and it still has not happened.

The meeting with Correa had one good point – it happened – and many bad points. First, three people have tried to take credit for setting it up—Lupita, MEY, and Juan Aulestia of all things (Juan is so full of shit sometimes). This is a perfect illustration of the utter immaturity and lack of cohesion on our team. The entire thing was chaotic and unprofessional – multiple people from our office dealing with different contacts; the fact that Lupita and MEY were there, and Pablo was not invited; and the idiotic comments made after by Minister Alban, that the government is committed to helping us with the proof. Texaco has not filed a motion before Sand asking to supplement the record with this information, and this has breathed new life into their position in the NY litigation.

Met with judge in Lago on April 10 – flew down on VIP, back by mid-day. Met in empty warehouse near his house, across from the TAME office in Lago Agrio. He seemed very agitated. Said we were not helping him. Richard needed to be inscrito, but not really. Pablo explained it to me – new law passed, required peritos to be inscribed in the court, but nobody had done it yet, and to hold firm to this new rule would be ridiculous, as it would mean there could be no peritos at all in Ecuador and all of those who had served in our trial would be nullified. Yet the judge is still concerned. Texaco called him and said, “Esta entregado a los indios.” Who knows how much they are harassing him. He seemed really nervous and freaked. Inspection happened on April 11 – lasted about 30 minutes, at station not operated by Texaco.

Plan for PG: consult memo. Looking for experts in different areas. Need more time in Ecuador, this is killing me. Talked to San Sebastian and to my surprise he is interested in helping. Need to see Stratus in Denver to get help, but worried about the money. Laura and John are helping with data base, which is critical. Maest was down. Unclear if we can pull it all together in the time frame allotted. Kelly McBride could be key I think. Lovely woman. So much need.

Beach trip to Landaluz was so much fun. Pablo and I really bonded. Scene about him sitting up in bed on Sunday morning, when we had to stay an extra day because of flights, saying he couldn't go to beach with Juan Diego because he felt guilty about not being in the human rights office in Shushufindi, where people were depending on him. We worked half-days, working through various issues, trying to catch up. Luis revealed he had told the dirigentes that we were meeting with Chevron, but he had never told me he told them. I think he thought I would be mad or something, but I trust his judgment on things like that.

I am feeling completely swamped. So much to do to deal with the two tracks.

April 4, 2007