

A SHAMEFUL RECENT CASE OF AMERINDIAN EXPLOITATION IN GUYANA

Dear Editor,

please permit me the space in your respected publication to briefly highlight a shocking case of exploitation of an Amerindian interior worker by the name of Wilfred Scott who was born on 18th June 1953 at Mathew's Ridge from parents born at Kabakaburi in the North West District; region 1.

Mr Scott is now a resident of St. Cuthberts Mission in Region 4 where he has a large family - and where he is presently recuperating at the home of one of his daughters.

From what was reported to me during my on-camera interview of Mr. Scott taken on Saturday evening - which I have already sent by e-mail attachment to various International Human Rights entities - here are the essential facts:

On Wednesday morning around 6am on February 27th 2008 Mr Scott was attacked and badly hurt whilst en-route on foot to the Pit Latrine at the Makowro Timber Grant on the Essequibo River owned by a coastlander boss known to his workers only as 'Mohan'- a resident of Kuru-Kuru on the Soesdyke-Linden Highway. Who/what exactly attacked Mr. Scott and left him unconscious in a pool of his own blood until his discovery at 10am of the same day is irrelevant, what IS relevant is that Mr.'Mohan' transported his injured employee Mr. Scott to Wismar in his company truck - then put Mr. Scott in a taxi which took him to Diamond Hospital on the East Bank of Demerara the same day - AND DEDUCTED THE COST OF THE TAXI FROM MR. SCOTT'S PAY! It gets worse, as Mr. Mohan says Mr. Scott only worked for 14 days as a general worker & 3 days as a tractor driver to begin with - despite the fact that Mr. Scott was at work from January 16th – February 26th 2008 - a full 41 days (being injured and transported off site on the 27th) and Mr. Scott maintains that he worked 14 days as a general worker and 14 days as a tractor driver (which pays higher than general worker) during those 41 days he was on the worksite. Mr. Scott says Mr. Mohan has a bad reputation for cheating his Amerindian workers out of their hard earned wages...a fact he only learned from other workers after he himself was cheated in this case. At this very moment Mr. Scott cannot even afford to pay for an X-ray to determine if he has any lingering internal damage.

A cellular telephone number of Mr. Scotts daughter Juliette (in who's home he is recuperating) is included in this e-mail - not for publication – but for you to conduct your own investigation into this matter.

The Ministry of Amerindian Affairs and certain other malcontents in high office do not like to hear my name - even when I am simply a concerned person (of mixed Amerindian descent myself)highlighting the victimization of this countries Amerindians - so I put my faith and trust in the media to investigate these matters (since few seem to report these matters directly to the Ministry as they really should do) and in turn action (I hope) will be taken by those in positions to assist these victims. To those in positions of power - this is not about whether I am liked or disliked by you, the important thing is that these people receive the justice they deserve; I am merely bringing to light a small percentage of that which remains in the dark.

Yours faithfully,

Damon Gerard Corrie