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CVRD granted court order; Indians asked to leave Carajas Mine

Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD) clarifies:

1) On Wednesday (Oct 18th), the Federal Police visited Carajás in Pará state and gave to the Xicrin Indian community leaders a federal court order authorizing CVRD to retake possession of its installations and determining that the Indians should leave the area they invaded yesterday;

2) Indian leaders received the court order but they did not leave the area.

Background

3) On October 17th, about 200 Xicrin Indians, from the Catete and Djudjêkô tribes, invaded violently CVRD's installations in Carajás, in Pará state, armed with bows, arrows and sticks;

4) Divided in groups, they occupied the rail loop, locomotives, the stockyard control room, among other installations;

5) At the moment of the invasion, there were approximately 3,000 employees in Carajás. The Indians took the keys of the buses which would transport 600 people back to their homes in Carajas' Urban area. They were taken hostages for about two hours;

6) In the morning of October 18th, more than 5,000 employees were prevented from entering the industrial area at the start of their shift. The operational activities were suspended.

7) Carajás daily production totals 250,000 tonnes of iron ore;

 CVRD is unaware of the reason for the invasion. There are rumors that the intention is to put pressure on the company and raise the financial resources earmarked for the indigenous community and agreed with the Xicrin Indians. The financial aid is rigorously being released on time;

9) CVRD does not accept such illegal methods and won't give in to blackmail of any kind - repeatedly used by the Xicrin community. It also emphasizes its mining operations are not located in Indian land.

More information -



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