



EQUIPO ARGENTINO DE
ANTROPOLOGIA FORENSE

Fundado en 1984

DICTAMEN SOBRE EL BASURERO COCULA

FEBRERO 2016



regarding how the tires were used was in conflict. It was reported by one suspect that the victims were laid upon tires placed on the ground; another suspect reported that tires were laid upon the victims. One suspect indicated that 10-15 tires were used. Had the tires been laid on the ground with the victims laid upon them, the partial remains of the tire sidewalls would have remained along with the steel belts. As indicated above, there were at least 8 tires seized by the Mexican Prosecution Team and there were pieces of suspected rubber found in the exhibits seized by the EAAF. Had the tires been laid upon the victims, they would have likely been entirely consumed with only the steel belts remaining. As mentioned above, there were significant gaps in continuity along with evidence of subsequent fires having occurred, which makes it impossible to comment on how or if tires were used as well as how were they potentially used. What can be said is if tires were used, they would have been unaffected by the rain which was reported to have occurred during this fire event. Tire fires are virtually unaffected by water as a means of suppression.

With regards to the wood (logs) which was reportedly used; as previously mentioned on numerous occasions, there were significant gaps in continuity which prevents any further comment in regards to what extent wood was used as a fuel load or its specific dimensions.

Fire Spread

It has also been argued that the circumstances present during this process created an oven like condition that aided in the burning of the victims. It is also worth noting that information from the suspects also indicated that there were periods of rain during this fire event; the extent of rain is not known nor was there any information regarding any other environmental conditions present (wind conditions).¹

There are three modes of heat transfer, convection, radiation and conduction. According to Kirk's Fire Investigation², convection is defined as the distribution of heat by means of a circulating medium or the transfer of heat to or from a moving medium. It occurs when hot gases created during combustion expand, become buoyant and begin to rise.

Radiation is defined as the transfer of heat by electromagnetic waves, that is to say that heat energy can be transferred to another body without any contact or circulating medium. A commonly used comparison is the heat energy released by the sun; when the sun appears, the heat it radiates can be felt in the same manner a person feels heat while sitting next to a campfire. [Kirk's Fire Investigation]

¹ NOTA EAAF: Al momento de la escritura del presente dictamen, no se contaba con información al respecto, a fines del 2015 se tuvo acceso a reportes climáticos. Ver Informe general de sitio.

² John DeHaan & David. J. Icove. 2012. Kirk's Fire Investigation, Seventh Edition. Pearson- USA.



3. En opinión del EAAF no existen elementos científicos suficientes por el momento para vincular los restos hallados en el Basurero de Cocula con aquellos recuperados, según la PGR, en la bolsa del Río San Juan, de donde proviene la única identificación positiva hasta la fecha de uno de los normalistas desaparecidos, Alexander Mora Venancio.

El EAAF considera que su peritaje sobre el Basurero de Cocula arriba a conclusiones finales que son consistentes y complementarias con las vertidas en el informe emitido en septiembre del 2015 por el Dr. Torero, experto independiente del Grupo Interdisciplinario de Expertos Internacionales (GIEI).

Recomendaciones:

- 1.- Junta Multidisciplinaria de Peritos: El EAAF considera importante realizar una junta de peritos con los tres peritajes existentes hasta la fecha sobre el Basurero de Cocula, (el presentado por PGR, el presentado por el grupo GIEI y el presentado por el EAAF) con el fin de llegar a una opinión única sobre la investigación del Basurero de Cocula.
- 2.- Continuar y acelerar las búsquedas de los estudiantes normalistas desaparecidos más allá del Basurero de Cocula utilizando toda la tecnología disponible en esta área.
- 3.- Continuar con los esfuerzos por investigar la identidad de los restos de los individuos que se encuentran en el Basurero de Cocula.

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