First Demolition of Illegal houses in Cordoba

Bulldozers demolish five houses with pools erected outside the law in an Obejo urbanization Translated from original article by EFE, El Pais, Andalucia, 19 December 2007

The bulldozers have begun their work. Today began the demolition of five illegal houses with pool erected outside the law in the Pedrique urbanization, in the Cordoban municipality of Obejo (1,500 inhabitants). To date, there had been no demolitions in the province of Cordoba. This one was decreed by a judge in 2004 and has been upheld through various appeals.

The demolition has taken place after the Provincial Court of Cordoba confirm the judgment of Criminal Court number one which condemned the promoter of the five houses to one year and eight months in prison and demolition of the buildings. Only one of the five houses is the residence of the owner, whilst the other four are second homes.

To avoid incidents, the bulldozers worked guarded by some thirty agents of the National Police Corps, the Guardia Civil and the local Obejo police. One of the owners suffered an attack of anxiety, and was attended by the emergency services.



Legal Action against the promoter

The lawyer for the five owners, Rafael Aranda, has informed journalists that they intend to sue the developer who sold them the plots for fraud. In addition, they claim damages arising from the sale of these plots, which the lawyer estimated at between 60,000 and 90,000 euros.

The lawyer had referred to habeas corpus that the owners have submitted to the Constitutional Court. Aranda said that the damage "already is irreparable because the houses were demolished before the court to rule."

El Pais Article