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Violent scenes as police break up Ibiza freeway protest

Transport (inc Motoring) (22/02/2006) . Author: ThinkSpain

There were angry scenes yesterday as 80 Guardia Civil used violent force to dispel a group of around 200 people protesting against the controversial Ibiza airport freeway project.

The officers were brought in to protect an 800 square metre plot of agricultural land on the Can Malalt estate as heavy machinery was installed.

Toni Malalt, one of the partners in the affected farm insists that the land has been expropriated illegally.

The regional government, which plans to build a total of 18km of new freeway to improve airport access, denies the allegation.



The police operation took the protesters by surprise. While they had congregated at the Ca Na Palleva entrance, the equipment was moved in through the one at Can Malalt itself.

Nevertheless, some protesters laid down in front of the lorries, two were arrested, while another suffered a panic attack.

TV cameras captured one of the officers kicking a protester twice as he was lying on the ground.

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