

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 417/93 (AMR 36/35/93, 26 November 1993) - Fear for Safety

HAITI: Arrests: Sergot METAYER, aged 17)
Djobit CIUS, aged 17)
Bertrand DORISMON)
Anvi CHARITABLE) all released
Rosny (surname not known))
Aloud METAYER (pregnant female))
"Pinikrit" (nickname))

Jean-Claude THIOFFIN ("Jean-Clou", nickname)) still in
Balaguer METAYER ("Chatte", nickname)) detention

Fear of Amio METAYER
Arrest: Mr. DIEUJUSTE
William CHARLES
Dodo METAYER
William JOSEPH
Romane TOUSSAINT
Marc-Antoine NICOLÁS

Amnesty International has learned that on 17 December 1993 the first seven people named above were released. All are inhabitants of Gonaïves, principally from the shanty town of Raboteau, Artibonite department, and were arrested in late November 1993.

Jean-Claude Thioffin (previously referred to by his nickname "Jean-Clou") and Balaguer Metayer (previously referred to by his nickname "Chatte") remain in detention.

According to reports, Jean-Claude Thioffin, who is from the shanty town of Sans Raison, Gonaïves, was arrested on 22 November in Port-au-Prince. He was taken to the prison in Gonaïves where he was severely beaten. As yet, he has not been brought to trial. On the same day, Balaguer Metayer was arrested by soldiers in Raboteau after being beaten and threatened. He was apparently brought before a court but no ruling was made and he remains in detention.

Fears that the other seven people named above could be arrested and tortured or ill-treated continue.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters either in French, English or your own language, or call by telephone:
- expressing concern at reports of the arrest without warrant of Jean-Claude Thioffin and Balaguer Metayer and that while in detention both were beaten;

- urging that while in detention, their physical security be guaranteed, that they be promptly brought before a competent court and their legal situation be clarified;
- asking that while in detention, they be granted access to a lawyer, a doctor and relatives;
- urging that the physical security of the other people listed above be guaranteed;
- urging prompt and impartial investigations into these allegations of illegal arrest and ill-treatment, that the findings be made public and that those found responsible be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces:

Monsieur le Générale Raoul CEDRAS
 Commandant-en-Chef des Forces Armées d'Haiti
 Grand Quartier Général des Forces Armées d'Haiti
 Rue Geffrard
 Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telegrams: Commandant-en-Chef des Armées d'Haiti Cedras, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telephone: + 509 22 3935

Telexes: 20391 gqfadh

Faxes: + 509 23 9007, + 509 23 9407

Salutation: Monsieur le Général / Dear General

Gonaïves Military Barracks:

Colonel Bellony Groshomme
 Caserne Toussaint Louverture
 Gonaïves, HAITI

Telegrams: Colonel Groshomme, Toussaint Louverture, Gonaïves, Haiti

Salutation: Monsieur le Colonel / Dear Colonel

Commander of the Military district of Gonaïves:

Capitaine Castera Senafils
 Commandant du Sous-District Militaire
 Caserne Toussaint Louverture
 Gonaïves, HAITI

Telegrams: Capitaine Senafils, Caserne Toussaint Louverture, Gonaïves, Haiti

Salutation: Monsieur le Capitaine / Dear Captain

Judicial Authority in Gonaïves:

Maître Roland Paphius
 Commissaire du Gouvernement
 Parquet du Tribunal Civil
 Rue Louverture
 Gonaïves, HAITI

Telegrams: Commissaire Paphius, Parquet du Tribunal Civil, Gonaïves, Haiti

Salutation: Monsieur le Commissaire / Dear Sir

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Human Rights Organizations:

Commission Justice et Paix, 56 Ruelle Piquant, BP 1572, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Newspaper:

Artibonite Journal, Gonaïves, Département de l'Artibonite, HAITI

and to diplomatic representatives of Haiti accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 March 1994.