

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Please bring this action to the attention of the person responsible for work on children/youth in your section.

UA 32/94 Fear for Safety//Extrajudicial Execution

1 February 1994

HAITI: Staff and children at the Centre d'Education Populaire
children's home and the orphanage "Lafanmi Selavi"

Killed:

Saurel GUERRIER, aged 17

Amnesty International is concerned about the killing of Saurel Guerrier, who was reportedly shot in the heart in Port-au-Prince on 15 January 1994. According to reports, his assailant, known by the name of Jodell, is a member of the new political group called *Front Révolutionnaire pour l'Avancement et le Progrès Haitien* (FRAPH), Revolutionary Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti. This group is widely reported as a front group for the *attachés* (armed auxiliaries to the security forces).

Saurel Guerrier was one of the 186 boys and girls living at the "Centre d'Education Populaire", one of the three children's homes in Port-au-Prince. Sources in Haiti suggest the boy may have been singled out because his assailant may have mistakenly believed that he was connected to a children's home in Port-au-Prince called "Lafanmi Selavi".

"Lafanmi Selavi" (*La famille c'est la vie*) was founded by president Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1986 and, since the *coup d'état* of September 1991 in which president Aristide was deposed, both staff and children there have been, and continue to be, the target of numerous violent attacks by the security forces or, on some occasions, by men in civilian clothes ostensibly linked to them.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Amnesty International knows of a series of previous attacks on staff and children associated with "Lafanmi Selavi". In April 1993, staff and children at the orphanage received threatening phone calls and suffered other acts of harassment, reportedly carried out by a group of approximately 10 *attachés* (see UA 118/93, AMR 36/13/93). On 16 August 1993, the security guard at "Lafanmi Selavi" was reportedly abducted by some unknown individuals and was found two days later, naked, with his head shaven and in deplorable physical condition. Most recently, on 24 October 1993, police severely beat Jean René, aged 18, who had grown up in the orphanage. That day he had been interviewed by foreign journalists about the repression which he and other young people associated with the orphanage had endured. Afterwards, police reportedly accused him of being "a spy for the foreigners".

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in French, English or in your own language:

- urging an investigation into the killing of Saurel Guerrier and that those found responsible be brought to justice;

- urging that immediate steps be taken to guarantee the safety of staff and children of the "Centre d'Education Populaire" and of the "Lafanmi Selavi"

children's homes.

APPEALS TO

1) 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

2) Chief of National Police:

Monsieur le Lt.Colonel Michel FRANÇOIS
 Chef de la Police Nationale
 Grand Quartier Général de la Police
 Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telegrams: Chef, Police Nationale, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Salutation: Monsieur le Lt. Colonel / Dear Lt. Colonel

3) Anti-gang investigation and research service:

Monsieur le Capitaine Joanis JACKSON
 Chef du Service d'investigation
 et de recherches anti-gang
 Port-au-Prince, Haiti

**Telegrams: Chef du Service d'investigation et de recherches
 anti-gang, Port-au-Prince, Haiti**

Salutation: Monsieur le Capitaine / Dear Captain

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Haiti Info (Newspaper)
 Haiti Information Bureau
 c/o LINKS AIR
 PO Box 407139
 Fort Lauderdale
 Florida 33340
 USA

Centre d'Education Populaire
 138 rue de l'Enterrement
 Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Centre "Lafanmi Selavi"
 27bis rue Camille Léon
 Port-au-Prince, 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 15 February 1994.