EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

UA 455/91 Fear for physical safety

HAITI

Antoine IZMERY* Father Antoine ADRIEN* Father SAMEDI* Father MASSACRE* Dr. Rudy MALLEBRANCHE Dr. Margareth DEGAND*
Dr. Rudy PRUDENT and wife Yanick GUITEAU
Jean DOMINIQUE* Marvel DANDIN Jacques SAMPEUR Jean Elie PIERRE LOUIS Marcus GARCIA Gladys LAUTURE Clotilde CHARLOT Joachim Idly CAMEAU* Gina MANDAT Elisabeth TOUSSAINT Sandra SAMBALE Serge SARAZIN Mariette NOEL Marie-Lourde RENE Casséus HEBERT Joel HECTOR Paulette JEAN E. JEUDI

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Joseph PIERRE-LOUIS Samuel VOLTAIRE A. MENTOR Father William Smarth* Father Eddy* Dr. Maryse GARDÈRE Liliane PIERRE-PAUL* Dominique CONSTANT Pierre CLITANDRE* Patrick ELIE Bertrand VIEUX Auguste MESYEUX* Marie Françoise SENE Dismy CESAR Tony Calixte Eddy MOISE Eugène MICHEL Félician ANTOINE Rival MARC Henri DEDUIT Charlot MESIDHOR Compère FRITZNER Florentin RIVAL Tony CALIXTE Evens DEMERVILLE Joseph GANILUS Samuel DUCLAIRON Edly CIVIL Martine DUOYON CESAR Pierre JEAN-BAPTISTE André JUDE _____Fils-Aimé PIERRE

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Amnesty International is extremely concerned for the safety of the above mentioned persons, whose names form a list reportedly broadcasted by a clandestine Haitian radio station calling for their assassination.

In the evening of Sunday 22 December, a spokesman for a group which identified itself as Volontaires de la Sécurité Nationale (VSN), National Security Volunteers, commonly known as "tonton macoutes", went on the air on a clandestine frequency. In the broadcast, the speaker called the "tonton macoutes" for mobilisation against supporters of ousted President Jean Bertrand Aristide. The appeal reportedly stressed: "We need to neutralize [...] all those who organize the chaos in this country. For this reason we have to find them [...]

and crush them." "When you find them, [...] you should know what to do [...]. Go and do your job [...] crush them, eat them, drink their blood (sic)." (Il faut neutraliser [...] tous ceux qui organisent ce désordre dans le pays. Pour céla, il faut les trouver [...] afin de les écrasser." "Quand vous les trouverez [...] vous saurez quoi faire avec eux [...]. Allez, faites votre travail [...] écrasez-les, mangez-les, buvez leur sang..."). The speaker subsequently read out the list of names plus the names of other two hundred popular organizations. He identified Antoine Izméry, a wealthy businessman detained for two weeks in October and a well-known supporter of President Aristide, as the main target.

Amnesty International is very concerned for the safety of all the people mentioned in the radio appeal. Among them, some have already been targeted by the Haitian authorities, and have suffered intimidation and illegal detention.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Troops overthrew the democratically elected government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who took office in Haiti on 7 February 1991, in a coup d'Etat on Monday 30 September. Since then Amnesty International has learned of widespread human rights violations committed by the security forces, including a large number of extrajudicial executions, beatings and mass arrests without warrant. These abuses have been carried out by uniformed security force agents accompanied, in some occasions, by men in civilian clothes.

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The Volontaires de la Sécurité Nationale (VSN), National Security Volunteers, known as the "tonton macoute", were set up in the late 1950s by President François Duvalier and are responsible for numerous human rights violations throughout his administration and that of his son, Jean-Claude Duvalier. They were to be disbanded in 1986 after the Conseil National de Gouvernement (CNG), headed by General Henri Namphy, came to power. However, although no longer an official organization, they have never been incorporated into the army. Since the coup d'Etat of September 1991, they appear to be reorganizing and to act in connivance with the new authorities. In recent days, Amnesty International has learned of a renewed wave of human right violations, including extrajudicial executions and arrests without warrant, being carried out by the armed forces following the first anniversary of the election of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the death threats broadcasted against the above mentioned persons please mention at least five of those names marked with an asterisk in your appeals;
 - asking for their safety to be guaranteed;
- asking that the incident of the clandestine appeal be investigated and that those responsible be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1) Prime Minister:

Maître Jean-Jacques HONORAT Monsieur le Premier Ministre / Dear Prime Minister

Premier Ministre, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères

Présidence de la République de Haïti Palais National, Port-au-Prince, Haïti

Telegrams: Premier Ministre Honorat, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Faxes: + 509 22 1147

2) Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces:

Monsieur le Général Monsieur le Général / Dear General

Raoul CEDRAS

Commandant-en-Chef des Forces Forces Armées d'Haïti Grand Quartier Général des Forces Armées d'Haïti

Rue Geffrard, Port-au-Prince, Haïti

Telegrams: Comandant-en-Chef des Forces Armees Cedras, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telephone: + 509 22 3935 Telexes: 20391 gqfadh Faxes: + 509 23 9007

3) <u>Head of the Police</u>:

Monsieur le Majeur

Monsieur le Majeur / Dear Major

Michel FRANÇOIS Chef de la Police Nationale Grand Quartier Général de la Police Port-au-Prince, Haïti

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

COPIES TO:

President of the Chamber of Deputies:

Deputies:

Maître Eudrice RAYMOND

Président du Sénat

Miami

Président du Sénat

Miami

Deputies: Maître Eudrice RAYMOND
Maître Duly BRUTUS Président du Sénat
Président de la Chambre des Assemblée Nationale Miami Fl 33150, USA

Députés Port-au-Prince, Haïti Assemblée Nationale Port-au-Prince, Haïti and to diplomatic representatives of Haïti in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 January 1992.