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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On 12 November 1991, students from the FENEH gathered at the Faculty of Science building of the State University of Haiti for a press conference and to demonstrate in support of the return of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, ousted in a military coup of September 1991. During the demonstration a large contingent of armed policemen stormed the building, beating students and chasing foreign journalists away. Many students were reportedly brutally beaten with batons and riffle butts. More than 100 students were subsequently arrested and many were ill-treated during detention. (See Haiti: The Human Rights Tragedy, AI Index: AMR 36/03/92 of 22 January 1992). Since late May 1992, a new wave of student protests was met with harsh repression.

On 19 June 1992 Marc Bazin was sworn in as Haiti's Prime Minister succeeding the *de facto* Prime Minister Jean-Jacques Honorat. Several days before he took office, Marc Bazin pledged before the Haitian Senate to stop repression and restore freedom of the press. However, human rights violations continue.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the reported indiscriminate shooting and beating of students by security forces (include those named);
- asking for a complete list of the students arrested, and inquiring about their legal situation;
- asking that the whereabouts of Jean-Marie Gabriel be made known;
- urging that all students held be treated humanely in custody, that they be given access to lawyers, families and to independent doctors;
- asking that an immediate investigation into the above incidents, and that those found responsible be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1. Prime Minister:

Marc BAZIN

Premier Ministre

Palais National

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

**Telegrams: Premier Ministre BAZIN,
Port-au-Prince, Haiti**

Faxes: + 509 34 1980, + 509 23 2121

**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier Minister /
Dear Prime Minister**

3. 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**

5. Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces:

Monsieur le Général Raoul CEDRAS

Commandant-en-Chef des Forces Armées d'Haiti

2. Minister of Justice

Maître Moïse SENATUS

Ministre de la Justice

Ministère de la Justice

Cité de l'Exposition

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

**Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice SENATUS,
Port-au-Prince, Haiti**

Telephone: +509 45 0474, +509 45 1626

Telexes: 20166 Justice

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre

4. 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**

Grand Quartier Général des Forces Armées d'Haïti

Rue Geffrard, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telegrams: Comandant-en-Chef des Armees 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

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1. President of Senate

Monsieur Déjean Bélizaire

Président du Sénat

Assemblée Nationale

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

3. Dean of Medicine and Pharmacy faculty

Monsieur le Doyen

Faculté de Médecine et de Pharmacie

Rue Oswald Durand

Port-au-Prince

2. President of Chamber of Deputies

Monsieur Alexandre MÉDARD

Monsieur le Président

Président de la Chambre Députés

Assemblée Nationale

Port-au-Prince

4. Haïti en Marche (News weekly)

173 N.W. 94 St

Miami

FL 33150, USA

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 28 August 1992.