

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 417/93 (AMR 36/35/93, 26 November 1993) and follow-up (AMR 36/03/94, 21 January 1994) - Fear for Safety

HAITI: Jean-Claude THIOFFIN ("Jean-Clou", nickname)
 Balaguer METAYER ("Chatte", nickname)

Amnesty International has learned that Jean-Claude Thioffin was released on 24 January 1994. Balaguer Metayer (known as "Chatte") remains in prison.

Jean-Claude Thioffin, who is from the shanty town of Sans Raison, Gonaïves, was arrested on 22 November 1993 in Port-au-Prince. He was taken to the prison in Gonaïves where he was severely beaten. He was released following an "interim ruling" (*appel "en référé"*).

Also on 22 November, 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 prison in Gonaïves. He reportedly has been subjected to further beatings while in custody.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters in French, English or your own language, or call by telephone:

- expressing concern at reports that Balaguer Metayer has been beaten while in detention;
- urging that while in custody, his physical security be guaranteed and that he be granted access to a lawyer, a doctor and relatives;
- asking that he be charged with a recognisable criminal offence or else released;
- urging prompt and impartial investigations into the allegations of ill-treatment, that the findings be made public and that those found responsible be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1) Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces:

Monsieur le Général 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) Gonaïves Military Barracks:

Colonel Bellony Groshomme

Caserne Toussaint Louverture

Gonaïves, HAITI

Telegrams: Colonel Groshomme, Caserne Toussaint Louverture, Gonaives, Haiti

Salutation: Monsieur le Colonel / Dear Colonel

3) 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

4) Judicial Authority in Gonaïves:

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

Telegrams: Commissaire Paphius, Parquet de 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 19 April 1994.