

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 62/94 Fear of torture or ill-treatment

18 February 1994

HAITI Pierre André MORPEAU

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Pierre André Morpeau who was arrested on 4 February 1994 in the city of Les Cayes, South department.

According to reports, Pierre Morpeau, who was formerly a local representative of the *Conseil Electoral Provisoire (CEP)*, Provisional Electoral Council, is being held at a military barracks in Les Cayes. He had previously been detained in October 1991 and in January 1993. According to medical reports by the Director of the Quatre-Chemins Health Centre in Les Cayes, on both of the previous occasions Pierre Morpeau was ill-treated whilst in detention and suffered multiple wounds to the body and face.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

President Aristide was due to return to power on 30 October 1993, according to the 3 July 1993 agreement signed by him and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, General Raoul Cédras. However, this did not happen and there has been no indication of any other firm date being set for President Aristide's return. General Cédras and Police Chief Michel François are effectively ruling the country. As the date when President Aristide was to have returned drew nearer there was a marked upsurge in human rights violations, including the killings of Aristide supporter Antoine Izméry and Justice Minister Guy Malary. President Aristide's supporters continue to suffer widespread threats and attacks.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Pierre André Morpeau who is in detention at the military barracks in Les Cayes;
- expressing concern that he was reportedly subjected to ill-treatment while in detention on two previous occasions, in October 1991 and January 1993, and urging that steps are taken to guarantee that he is not subjected to any form of ill-treatment or torture while in detention on this occasion;
- urging that he be granted access to a lawyer, doctor and relatives;
- asking that he be brought promptly before a competent court or else released;
- urging an impartial investigation into the allegations of the previous ill-treatment of Pierre Morpeau, and 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 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

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

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:

Newspaper (weekly):

Haiti en Marche

173 N.W. 94 St

Miami

FL33150, USA

Haitian Consulate

Consulat de la République d'Haiti

545 Boylston Street, Room 501

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

United States of America

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 1 April 1994.