

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 36/22/94
Distr: UA/SC

UA 177/94

"Disappearance"

4 May 1994

HAITI Edmond
 André
 Reynold Pierre (nickname "Tyblan")
 "Ty Gé" (nickname)
 Edner
 Francis Tessier

- all aged 16-17 years

Amnesty International is concerned about the "disappearance" of the above listed boys, all aged 16-17 years and all members of the *Centre d'Education Populaire*, one of the three children's homes in Port-au-Prince.

According to reports, on the night of 24 April 1994 a soldier came to the makeshift cardboard house in Port-au-Prince where they were sleeping and proceeded to beat them. The six boys were then forced at gun-point to get into a pick-up truck in which two other men were waiting outside. One other boy, who witnessed the events, apparently managed to escape. There are now serious fears for the safety of the "disappeared" boys.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On 15 January 1994 a boy named Saurel Guerrier was reportedly shot in the heart and killed in a downtown street in Port-au-Prince. According to reports, his assailant was a member of the *Front Révolutionnaire pour l'Avancement et le Progrès Haitien* (FRAPH), Revolutionary Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti, the political mouthpiece of the *attachés* (armed auxiliaries to the security forces). Saurel Guerrier was one of 186 boys and girls living at the "Centre d'Education Populaire" (see UA 32/94, AMR 36/06/94, 1 February 1994).

Because of the threats of repression, many human rights workers have had to cease programs on behalf of street education or interventions to assist arrested or imprisoned children.

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

- expressing concern at reports that six boys "disappeared" following their reported arrest by a member of the Haitian armed forces;
- urging that their whereabouts be clarified;
- urging that while in detention, their physical security be guaranteed and that they be granted access to a lawyer, a doctor and relatives;
- asking that they be charged with a recognisable criminal offence or else released;
- urging that immediate steps be taken to guarantee the safety of staff and children of the "Centre d'Education Populaire".

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) 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:**Newspaper

Haiti en Marche

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 15 June 1994.