

IMMEDIATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

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PAGE 01 OF 02 PORT A 04173 00 OF 02 201938Z 007516 S034642
ACTION: ARA (01)

PORT A 04173 00 OF 02 201938Z 007516 S034642
AIMED AT ASSASSINATING AND ROBBING THE PEOPLE, MOST OF WHOM ARE ARISTIDE SUPPORTERS.

INFO: HAFW (02) DCAR (01) DEP (01) OAS (01) AWP (01) PMO (01)
HWG (02) SSAH (01) PPC (01) PPA (01) RJ (01) PDAS (01) AV (01)
----- 20/1943Z A1 XXXX (TOTAL COPIES: 016)

ACTION ARA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	EB-00
	EUR-00	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	10-16
	JUSE-00	LAB-01	L-00	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-02	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10	RPCS-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01	SNIS-00	MISC-02	PMB-00	/057W

0 201937Z MAY 94
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 410Z
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
DEPTJUS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
GINGUSACOM NORFOLK VA IMMEDIATE
CJTF120 IMMEDIATE
HAITI COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 04173

STATE FOR ARA (ASSISTANT SECRETARY WATSON)
S/SAH (SPECIAL ADVISOR GRAY AND AMBASSADOR DOBBINS)
ARA/HWG (AMBASSADOR LEONARD) AND ARA/CAR

JUSTICE FOR ICITAP/KRISKOVITCH

JCS, USACOM, AND JTF FOR J-3 AND J-5

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, PREF, PREL, PGOV, UN, VE, FR, CA, HA
SUBJECT: INTERAMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
-- CONDEMNS WORSENING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION
-- IN HAITI, MAY 20

1. A DELEGATION FROM THE OAS'S INTERAMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION VISITED HAITI MAY 16-20 TO INVESTIGATE THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS. THE DELEGATION, HEADED BY PATRICK ROBINSON, JOHN DONALDSON AND CLAUDIO GROSSMAN, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AND ISSUED A PRESS COMMUNIQUE MAY 20. THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HEAVILY ATTENDED BY LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS, LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY.

2. THE DELEGATION FOUND THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN HAITI HAD "DETERIORATED SERIOUSLY" SINCE ITS LAST VISIT IN AUGUST 1993. THE DELEGATION IDENTIFIED 133 CASES OF EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS BETWEEN FEBRUARY AND MAY 1994, AS WELL AS 210 ACCUSATIONS OF THIS CRIME. THE DELEGATION ALSO CONDEMNED THE PRESENCE OF SEVERELY MUTILATED CORPSES LEFT ON THE STREETS OF PORT AU PRINCE TO TERRORIZE THE POPULATION.

3. THE DELEGATION ALSO IDENTIFIED MANY CASES OF ARBITRARY TENSION ACCOMPANIED BY TORTURE AND BEATINGS PERPETRATED BY MILITARY AND PARAMILITARY GROUPS, INCLUDING THE FRAPH POLITICAL MOVEMENT. THE DELEGATION IDENTIFIED 55 CASES OF ABDUCTION FOR POLITICAL REASONS

BETWEEN FEBRUARY AND MARCH OF WHICH 20 WERE RELEASED AND 11 FOUND DEAD, WITH NO INFORMATION REGARDING THE OTHER

24. THE DELEGATION DESCRIBED DEPREDATIONS BY PARAMILITARY GROUPS IN POPULAR QUARTERS OF THE CAPITAL

4. THE DELEGATION CONDEMNED RECENT OTHER INSTANCES OF MASS REPRESSION AND KILLING BY THE MILITARY AND ITS PARAMILITARY ALLIES IN GONAIVES (THE RABOTEAU INCIDENT), SANTI-EAU, AND BORGNE. THESE ATTACKS WERE AIMED AT INTIMIDATING AND TERRORIZING POTENTIAL ARISTIDE SUPPORTERS.

5. THE DELEGATION FOUND THAT "THE MAJORITY OF THE VIOLATIONS CHARGED FOLLOW A SYSTEMATIC MODEL OF REPRESSION REVEALING A POLITICAL PLAN OF INTIMIDATION AND TERROR AGAINST THE HAITIAN PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY THOSE SECTORS THAT SUPPORT PRESIDENT ARISTIDE OR THAT OPENLY FAVOR DEMOCRACY IN HAITI."

6. THE DELEGATION DENOUNCED INSTANCES OF "RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE COMMITTED AGAINST THE WIVES AND RELATIVES OF PARTISANS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REGIME." THE DELEGATION SAID THAT COMMONLY FEMALE RELATIVES OF POLITICAL ACTIVISTS ARE RAPED AND MINORS RELATED TO POLITICAL ACTIVISTS WERE ABDUCTED WHEN THOSE POLITICAL ACTIVISTS THEMSELVES COULD NOT BE FOUND. THE DELEGATION IDENTIFIED "FIRM PROOF" FOR 21 SUCH POLITICAL RAPES SINCE JANUARY 1994, BY INTERVIEWING 20 OF THE VICTIMS.

7. THE DELEGATION SAID IT WAS PREVENTED BY THE AUTHORITIES FROM VISITING PRISONS.

8. THE DELEGATION DENOUNCED INSTANCES WHERE THE MILITARY ABRIDGED FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND CONDEMNED THE REPRESSIVE CLIMATE FOR "SELF-CENSORSHIP" OF THE PRESS, WHICH RESULTED IN THE EFFECTIVE ABRIDGEMENT OF THE RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH. THE DELEGATION NOTED THE PROBLEM OF "INTERNAL REFUGEES," MANY OF THEM POLITICAL ACTIVISTS

UNABLE TO LIVE NORMALLY AT HOME BECAUSE OF THEIR BELIEFS AND ACTIVITIES.

9. THE DELEGATION NOTED THE "TOTAL ABSENCE" OF FUNCTIONING JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH RESULTED IN COMPLETE IMPUNITY FOR THOSE COMMITTING HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. THE DELEGATION ALSO CONDEMNED ATTEMPTS TO INTIMIDATE AND OBSTRUCT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVILIAN MISSION (ICM) FROM ITS HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES.

10. IN CONCLUSION, THE DELEGATION ATTRIBUTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DETERIORATING SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO THE "DE FACTO AUTHORITIES IN HAITI," WHO RISK BEING ACCUSED OF "INTERNATIONAL CRIMES." THE DELEGATION CALLED FOR INCREASED NUMBERS OF ICM OBSERVERS TO BE DEPLOYED TO COVER THE ENTIRE COUNTRY EFFECTIVELY.

11. THE DELEGATION FIELDDED QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE WHICH CENTERED ON THE SITUATION OF REPATRIATED BOAT PEOPLE AND THE "SYSTEMATIC" NATURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

ABUSES. REGARDING THE SITUATION OF REPATRIATED BOAT PEOPLE, THE DELEGATION SAID THAT IT HAD INVESTIGATED "A FEW CASES" RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES OF REPATRIATED BOAT PEOPLE, BUT THAT ITS INVESTIGATIONS WERE NOT YET COMPLETE. REGARDING THE "SYSTEMATIC" NATURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, THE DELEGATION SAID THAT REPRESSION DID NOT APPEAR TO BE DIRECTED FROM ABOVE ACCORDING TO A HIERARCHICAL PATTERN. HOWEVER, THE DELEGATION SAID THAT A PATTERN OF ABUSE -- EVERYWHERE THE SAME SOCIAL GROUP WERE THE TARGETS OF THE MILITARY AND PARAMILITARY

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ALLIES. THESE TARGETS WERE INVARIABLY SUPPORTERS OF
PRESIDENT ARISTIDE AND SUPPORTERS OF A RETURN TO
DEMOCRACY. THIS IS WHAT MAKES THE REPRESSION
"SYSTEMATIC."

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