

Half-Hour for Haiti, April 19, 2005

Thanks to everyone who responded to our previous action alerts. This week's action is educational: take a few minutes to look at the English News section of the Agence Haïtienne de Presse, at www.ahphaiti.org. AHP is a concise, reliable source of daily news on Haiti, with a focus on human rights and the pro-democracy movement. AHP's English news summaries are brief- a day's worth usually takes 5 minutes or less to read- and give you the news straight from Haitian reporters on the ground. You can have the summaries delivered to your computer each day for free by emailing a request to mlhaiti@cornernet.com.

AHP, founded in 1989, is Haiti's only local news agency. Its director, Georges Venel Remarais, was the Information Director of the Catholic radio station, *Radio Soleil*, a focal point for organizing against the Duvalier dictatorship. Remarais ran Haiti's only Creole newspaper, *Libete*, from 1990-1994. AHP was one of the few media outlets that kept reporting on the human rights violations of the 1991-1994 *de facto* dictatorship. Along with its affiliate, *Radio Solidarité*, one of Haiti's most popular stations, AHP provides the most accurate and most courageous reporting on the interim government's human rights record and on pro-democracy demonstrations.

AHP and *Solidarité* have paid a price for maintaining journalistic standards : their reporters have been threatened, attacked and even kidnapped, the interim government has tried to force *Solidarité* to change its frequency, and businesses that supported last year's *coup d'etat* pulled their advertising. For that reason, AHP and *Radio Solidarité* need financial support to enable them to continue to bring news about events in Haiti to the Haitian people and an international audience. Although AHP does not charge for its news summaries, it does request people who believe in its work to provide whatever support they can. Checks can be made out to AHP/ *Radio Solidarité*, and mailed to: Friends of AHP, P.O. Box 370, Osceola, WI 54020.

Thank you,

Brian Concannon Jr.

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Attacks Against the Press in Haiti