

A political prisoner's lawyer declares that he registered a complaint against the director general of the APENA for refusing to release a prisoner for whom an order of release had been given

Port-au-Prince, January 13, 2005 (AHP)- Lawyer of former police captain Anthony Nazaire, Me Coque Junior, announced Wednesday that he had registered a complaint against the director general of the National Penal Administration (APENA), Claude Junior Théodate for confining one his clients illegally, he said.

The APENA director still hasn't followed the order of release written for Mr. Nazaire and former mayor Harold Sévère despite the fact that an order of release has been written for them. Out of the 4 Lavalas prisoners concerned by this order of release written by the criminal court, only 2 have been released, Pétion Rospide and former CNE director Paul Keller.

Me Coque declared that political hands were behind the APENA director's decision. "I thought the reign of arbitrary was over, he declared.

For his part, leader of the *Alliance pour la libération et l'Avancement d'Haïti* (ALLAH), Rénold Georges, declared he was shocked by the decision not to release prisoners for whom an order of release has been written. Me Georges reminded APENA officials that they are representatives of the public prosecutor and that they are supposed to follow the justice's decisions by the book.

"If APENA officials refuse to comply, they must be put in isolation, dismissed and judged, in accordance with the penal code", Me Reynold Georges declared.

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A subordinate reportedly stopped the APENA director general from releasing Anthony Nazaire

Port-au-Prince, January 13, 2005 (AHP)- The director of the Arcahaie civil prison reportedly decided to keep political prisoner Anthony Nazaire in prison against the advice of APENA director general Claude Théodate, despite an order of release written by examining magistrate Brédy Fabien.

According to leader of the Group for the Defense of Political Prisoners' Rights (GDP) Ronald St-Jean, Claude Théodate reportedly went to Arcahaie himself to release the prisoner, but was reportedly kept from doing so by a subordinate, the director of this town' prison. This director reportedly declared that he had received a different order from a police higher official.

The GDP coordinator denounced this insubordination and this attempt from the Executive to muzzle the judicial apparatus, he said. Ronald St-Jean called the APENA director general who is known to be an honest man to assume his responsibilities and to allow the release of