

Father Jean-Juste affirms that most of the countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean continue to recognize Jean-Bertrand Aristide as the constitutional president of Haiti

Port-au-Prince, February 15, 2005 (AHP) - The parish priest of St. Claire, Father Gerard Jean-Juste, declared on Tuesday that almost all of those responsible for countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America continue to recognize Jean-Bertrand Aristide to be the constitutional president of Haiti.

Father Jean-Juste who came back from a tour in several countries reported that those responsible for those countries said that President Aristide must return to his post in Haiti in order to respect the democracy that was gained and the popular vote.

President Aristide was forced to leave the country on February 29, 2004 under the pressure of several foreign countries who maintained that they wanted to avoid bloodshed.

Father Jean-Juste who was incarcerated recently for political reasons announced that he is going to convince those who are stubborn to the necessity of returning to that reality, he said, adding that it is only a few countries such as the United States, Canada and France that are left to convince.

Moreover, Father Gerard Jean-Juste supported the idea of a national dialogue that is being talked up lately by different sectors.

He also estimated that certain conditions are essential for the full success of this dialogue.

He cited also the liberation of all the political prisoners of Fanmi Lavalas, the end to repression practiced in the popular neighborhoods against the militants of the party and the ending of the massive dismissals in the public administration.

The priest recalled that Fanmi Lavalas always preached national dialogue, as the only road to take to save the Haitian people.

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Heavy gunfire put an end to discussions being held Monday night in Petit-Goave between a delegation of the interim government and demobilized soldiers

Petit-Goave, February 15, 2005 - (AHP) - Heavy gunshots rang out Monday night in Petit-Goave in the direction of government officials' vehicles who came to negotiate with the demobilized soldiers who have taken control of the police station in that city since August 27, 2004.

The governmental delegation was in a public park in order to gather the revendications of the demobilized soldiers contrary to the announcement made the day before over the telephone by the former colonel on Thursday stating that the delegation was coming to bring them their checks.

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