

**From Judy Dacruz**  
**Haiti: Human Rights Situation**  
**At least 15 persons killed in Port-au-Prince in less than 24 hours**

**February 25, 2005**  
**Massacre at Rue Saint Martin in Bel Air/Delmas 2**  
**Alleged Perpetrators: Police**

At least 5 persons were confirmed killed this morning after police raided Rue St Martin located in the neighborhoods of Bel Air and Delmas 2, despite the presence of MINUSTAH's Brazilian troops that were nearby to back up the operation.

According to residents, there was no clash between armed groups and the police at the time of the raid. Those killed included a mad man, a football trainer man who has been training children from the neighborhood for several years and a street seller who is described by his relatives as being slightly mentally handicapped.

After police left, the bodies of those killed lay lying in the street or in the alleys as families and residents in shock reacted with anger and despair.

Ernst Gay (38), Alex Michel (29), Jean Yves Narcisse, Papouch (who looks like a teenager) and a not yet identified man.

Brazilian troops at Rue St Martin after the killings, next to the dead body of Jean Yves Narcisse

Crying out their despair, the population angrily blamed the authorities and MINUSTAH for allowing the killings to take place and not protecting residents of poor neighborhoods. In a spontaneous demonstration that took place after the police left, many asked for the resignation of Interim Prime Minister Latortue as they shout out: "Twop san koule, fok Latoti ale".

Protesters at Rue Tiremasse and Rue Saint Martin after the killings were perpetrated.

They were similarly angry at MINUSTAH force and accused them of assisting the police in those and other killings that have been taking place for several months now. They described how MINUSTAH's troops stood by as police raided Rue St Martin and inside alleys indiscriminately killing several persons.

The relationship of residents with MINUSTAH military troops in these poor neighborhoods has significantly deteriorated as residents are increasing accusing them of collaborating with authorities in the violations being carried out against them. Operations conducted by police in the past months in popular neighborhoods have resulted in scores of killings carried out in complete impunity and sweep of arbitrary arrests that have

sometimes resulted in the death or disappearances of many in police custody. In addition, MINUSTAH military troops have increasingly been carrying out numerous arrests on their own, further antagonizing their relationship with the local population.

Men, women and children hurling abuses and rocks at Brazilian troops urging them to go home,  
Brazilian troops were forced to leave the area.

Hours after the killings took place, there was no police or UN personnel at the scene investigating what happened.

At the time of writing, it had not been possible to obtain reactions to these killings from the authorities or MINUSTAH military command.

February 24, 2005  
Massacre at Village de Dieu  
Alleged Perpetrators : armed civilians

At least 10 persons (7 women and 3 men) have been reported killed in the night of February 24 by armed civilians at Village de Dieu, a popular neighborhood that borders on the coastal area of Port-au-Prince.

This last January the majority of the population in Village de Dieu deserted their places of residence after enduring months of violence resulting from actions by police and armed gangs. MINUSTAH Sri Lankan's troops were eventually sent in to assure security. As a result, a good majority of those who left came back but kept asking for a police station that would be based permanently in the areas to presence they believed ensure better protection.

A more thoroughly report will be issued on the killings in Village de Dieu as soon as more information become available.

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Port-au-Prince  
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