

AHP News, March 18, 2004 - English Translation (Unofficial)

Citizens held prisoners at sea on a boat from the Haitian coast guard could be in serious trouble

Port-au-Prince, March 18, 2004 -(AHP)- Many members of the political organization Fanmi Lavalas and police officers who were arrested on Friday, March 13 at Port-au-Prince are held prisoners at sea on a boat from the Haitian coast guard at Bizoton (South of the capital).

Among others, there are division commissioner Jacques Anthony Nazaire, who was one of the managers of security for President Aristide; SMCRS manager, Paul Keller, police officer Pétion Ospide and a former pro-mayor of Port-au-Prince, Harold Severe.

One of these prisoners, Anthony Nazaire, who suffers from a handicap to an arm after the December 17, 2001 attack on the national palace left him with serious injuries, is allegedly in serious trouble, the AHP learned.

Suffering from sea sickness, he apparently keeps vomiting and, thus, is unable to eat anything.

The police are using security matters to justify keeping the 3 men held at sea.

Anthony Nazaire and the 2 other prisoners are accused of dealing with criminals. According to sources close to the police, some of them have been arrested for 'precaution reasons' to prevent alleged criminals from fleeing the country.

In Harold Severe's case, Judge Brédy Fabien allegedly had him arrested for his presumed involvement in the murder of Radio Haitien's manager. However, that judge's authority in this matter is in doubt, for Judge Napela Saintil, who was first in charge of the case, has not been told about the appointment of the new judge.

It is not known whether Louis Charles and Emée Luckson - a USGPN agent - who were arrested on the same day are still held prisoners at Petion-ville's police station.

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Senate president condemns a scheme from the former opposition aimed at destroying