



Défenseurs des Opprimés/Opprimés  
Defenders of the Oppressed (DOP)

« *Pour une société juste et solidaire* »  
*For a Just and United Society*

***Report: Eviction threats, arson, assault and assassination in  
Camp Acra Adoken, Monday April 15th.***

Adresse: 26, rue du Foyer, Delmas 3  
Téléphones : 509-29431886/37 177950/509-34 882075  
Email : [defenseursdesopprimes2013@gmail.com](mailto:defenseursdesopprimes2013@gmail.com)/ [florvilusp@yahoo.fr](mailto:florvilusp@yahoo.fr)  
Skype : patriceflorvilus

---

# ***Eviction threats, arson, assault and assassination in Camp Acra Adoken***

## **Background**

Camp Acra is located in Delmas 33 in front of the Police Station, located in the same area as Fort Dimanche and Fort Lanmò (Fort Death) during the time of the Duvalier dictatorship. Camp Acra sits on a big piece of land which a variety of individuals claim to own including former president and dictator Jean Claude Duvalier; Attorney Raynold Georges; and the wealthy Accra family. According to most, however, this land is owned by the Haitian state. DOP had previously represented residents of Camp Alyans Evanjelik, on the same plot, in court a number of times to defend their rights against a pastor who claims ownership of a small piece of Camp Acra. According to camp leadership and NGO statistics, there are approximately 32,000 people living in this camp. As in many camps, Camp Acra formed after the January 12, 2010 earthquake. Also like other camps, the people of Camp Acra still face the great threat of forced eviction.

On Saturday, April 13, 2013 around 2:30 PM residents reported that the attorney Raynold Georges, Jean Claude Duvalier's lawyer, arrived in the camp to claim his land. Judge Dimanche, a magistrate judge in the Delmas municipal court, accompanied Georges. Georges held a gun in his hand and warned residents that he would set the camp on fire or bulldoze it if they did not leave. It seems this threat soon became real. On Monday April 15, 2013, early in the morning before sunbreak, a fire broke out in the camp. The people in the camp woke to fight the fire and resist the threat. A delegation went to the Delmas 33 police station to ask for help, but police said they did not have the resources to go to the camp, which sits just a couple hundred feet away. Having been refused police assistance, the residents of Camp Acra decided to block the road to keep watch for their own safety and to protest the behavior of the Delmas 33 police. Although the police claimed they could not find the resources to help the people of Camp Acra put out the fire, they found the resources to come to the camp and harass residents.

### ***Saturday, April 13, 2013***

Saturday April 13, 2013 was not like any other day for the people of Camp Acra in Delmas 33. According to camp residents, Raynold Georges and magistrate judge Dimanche from the Delmas municipal court, arrived at the camp and threatened residents. They pulled their guns out, fired bullets in the air and arrested two people who were trying to understand why Raynold Georges and the judge had entered the camp. After the people of the camp protested, the two men they arrested were set free. The police officer who made the arrests at the request of Attorney Georges had covered up his badge number. According to residents, Attorney Georges told the camp residents that he would kick them out with fire or would bulldoze the camp. People took the threat seriously. Members of the camp committee, who are also members of a network called *Chanje m Leson*, asked DOP to encourage the residents of the camp to be vigilant for their safety and to take the following actions:

- File a complaint against Attorney Georges in the Order of the Bar, Port-au-Prince
- File a complaint in the CSPJ (Superior Counsel of Judicial Powers) against Dimanche

- File a complaint in the Office of the Inspector General of the Police against the police officers who accompanied Attorney Georges and Justice of the Peace Dimanche.

***Monday, April 15, 2013***

Just one day after Attorney George threatened the camp residents, around 2:00 or 3:00 AM on Monday the 15th, a big fire broke out in the camp. Residents woke up and rushed to put the fire out. They hurriedly contacted the Delmas 33 police station, a neighbor to Camp Acra Adoken. The police, however, responded with contempt. They did not come help people put out the fire because they did not have the resources. Trouble! The police response (or lack thereof) meant that residents were left to defend themselves. They blocked the road and mobilized to make sure that nothing else happened.

Around 5:30 AM, the same police that did not have the resources to offer help entered the camp with force, shot at camp residents and arrested Mèris Civil and Darlin Lexima. The police tortured them. According to Civil, they drove Lexima to the Gerald Batay intersection in order to kill him. But fortunately daylight had come and they could not execute this plan. They continued to torture Lexima and Civil until Civil died in the office of the Chief of Staff of the Delmas 33 police station.

The names of the police officers that were involved are:

Operation Delta:

- 1- Jules Sainsoit A2
- 2- Milan Joseph Rene Jerry A2
- 3- Cesar Joseph Jonas A2
- 4- Sistra Exil A1

Operation Bi Delta:

- 1-Pierre Wenson A2
- 2-Jean Rubens
- 3-Bully Jean Raymond
- 4- Jean Philippe Milord

***DOP Team Meeting with the Chief Inspector of the Delmas 33 Police Station, Salomon Jean Faustin***

Around 9 AM on Monday, April 15, a delegation from Camp Acra Adoken came to DOP to tell their story and open a case. As soon as DOP received information, Attorney Patrice Florvilus and two jurists hurried to the Delmas 33 police station to seek the release of Mèris Civil and Darlin Lexima. When they arrived at the police station, they sat and spoke with Inspector Salomon Jean Faustin, the Inspector Chief of the Delmas 33 police station.

While Attorney Patrice Florvilus was at the Delmas 33 police station trying to free the two arrested men, Inspector Salomon Jean Faustin never stopped repeating: “the two arrested men created many problems and I do not know the extent of their bad behavior. We cannot let them go.” The Inspector said this, again and again. When Attorney Florvilus asked to speak

with the victims, the Inspector said that they had arrived at the police station in bad condition and that the police had already sent them to the General Hospital. In reality, one of the men had died while the Inspector was giving Patrice the run-around.

The death of Mèris Civil has been confirmed. It was for this reason that the police officers did not allow journalists from the station Channel 40 record in their courtyard – to ensure that it was not captured on film when the police left with the body of Mèris Civil who died inside the office of the Chief of Police. However, people who were in the courtyard of the police station informed DOP that they witnessed the police take the body of Mèris Civil to a police car. The body was wrapped in a sheet. This means that the police sent Civil to the morgue in the General Hospital. And this means, too, that they did not take Civil to the emergency room as another judge, Frantz Ducasse, stated in the declaration [DOP later learned that] he gave to the MINUSTAH [UN Military Force in Haiti] Human Rights section.

Immediately after we learned of the death, which was after more than two hours of Inspector Jean Faustin Salomon spinning the DOP team in circles, we went to the Delmas municipal court to ask the judiciary to conduct a preliminary investigation of the Delmas 33 Police station and what happened to Civil and Lexima. We asked the Delmas judiciary to gather preliminary information to inform the judge:

- Where did the police arrest Mèris Civil and Darlin Lexima?
- When Mèris Civil arrived at the police station was he dead or alive?
- How did the police leave the police station with Mèris Civil?
- What was the reason and the cause for torturing Darlin Lexima?

### ***Delmas Municipal Court***

Magistrate Judges Dimanche, Salomon, nor Judge Etienne, who oversees the court, were willing to go to the Delmas 33 police station to conduct a preliminary investigation. In the end, the magistrate judge Dony Dubè accepted the task. With much surprise, the DOP team observed how the judge treated the head of the police station, Mouche Auguste, and Inspector Salomon Jean Faustin. The judge presented them like friends and asked Attorney Florvilus to negotiate a way to avoid the police getting in trouble. The judge did not ask the inspector any questions. He just asked that the inspector provide a declaration of what happened. He listened to the declaration and asked that he send the police in car 1-493 to court the morning of April 16, 2013 with Darlin Lexima.

### ***Tuesday, April 16, 2013***

Before 10:00 AM, Attorney Patrice Florvilus and a delegation from Amnesty International met with Darlin Lexima in the Delmas 33 police station. Darlin confirmed the following: Mèris Civil died in the police station after the police severely beat him with their batons and the butts of their guns. Lexima also confirmed that the police beat him extensively—so much that he lost hearing in his left ear. Inspector Salomon Jean Faustin threatened Lexima that if he did not “tell the truth” there would be great consequences.

Around 11:00 AM the other judge, Dubè, waited for the police to come to the courtroom. Inspector Salomon Jean Faustin and other police officers arrived. Inspector Solomon asked the judge to return to the police station in Delmas 33, where he would talk with Darlin Lexima in the absence of a lawyer. When Attorney Patrice Florvilus called the judge, the

judge informed Patrice that he was already in the police station taking statements from the police from vehicle 1-483 who led the criminal operation in Camp Acra on Monday April 15. In the Delmas 33 police station, Judge Dubè pulled many gimmicks before releasing Darlin Lexima on the afternoon of April 16, 2013. He told the police that he would do nothing to impede their work. These conversations should have occurred in the courtroom where Attorney Florvilus could have heard the statements and observed the process.

### ***General Hospital***

In the General Hospital, the police of the Delmas 33 police station asked Judge Frantz Casséus Ducas to investigate the cadaver of Mèris Civil in the morgue. DOP also asked a justice of the peace to do the same thing. DOP asked, in addition, to note how and when (and by whom) the body of Mèris Civil had arrived in the morgue.

### ***The Security of Darlin Lexima***

Darlin Lexima is forced to hide because he fears the police will kill him. They told him that if he did not speak the truth, it would be “very costly.” Darlin Lexima is scared for his life and the lives of his family members.

### ***Concerning Mèris Civil***

The parents of Mèris Civil are in a difficult situation. Civil has two children, one ten-year old and another who is only two. They are from Jeremie. They came to Port-au-Prince to see in what state the police killed their son. Mèris worked on a bus, collecting the fare from passengers. He did not have a lot of resources or money. According to all the information we could find, Mèris Civil was taking out trash on the morning of April 15, 2013, when around 5:00 AM the Delmas police in vehicle 1-483 arrested him, handcuffed him, beat him with their with their rifles and batons, put a tire around his head for them to burn it and attempt to create a scene that would make it look like someone else had killed him. The parents of Mèris Civil do not have the money for a burial or funeral.

### ***Concerning the Security of DOP’s Executive Director, Patrice Florvilus***

Before we agreed to represent the residents of Camp Acra, we noticed on the way to our office on April 15 around 8:30 AM there was a police truck, number 1-493 that was following us as from Delmas 24 until we reached Solino, on the road to Pouplard. Wednesday morning, the same police truck arrived at the parking lot in front of the office of Patrice Florvilus and left when Florvilus parked his own car. Another day when Patrice was close to a hotel, the same police car followed him until he arrived in Canapé Vert. This situation has forced us to ask the following questions: is this a coincidence or a form of intimidation to discourage us from working on the Camp Acra case? We do not believe it is a simple coincidence when we consider the number of authorities in the Delmas police station and in the court system who owe an explanation of the situation. We do not believe that this is a coincidence when we consider that the land where camp Acra Adoken is located is land that claimed by Duvalier and when we consider the position of the lawyer concerning the ongoing dictator’s case. In addition, we do not believe that this is a coincidence when we consider that two weeks before this event, Attorney Florvilus received threats from the friend of a former army colonel after he refused to take a case.

In any case, DOP is determined to help the victims seek justice. We are determined to demand that all police officers that were in the police truck 1-493 answer questions. We are also determined to fight alongside the oppressed at the root of the inequality, their lack of access to justice.

## **Conclusion**

In this situation, DOP thinks it is necessary for all citizens to raise their voices and scream *NO*. We refuse to return to Fort Dimanche and Fort Lanmò again. We will not resume living under acts of torture and assassination by the police or by the Tonton Macouts [Duvalier's henchmen] again. DOP believes that all organizations that defend human rights must join DOP to demand justice for Mèris Civil and Darlin Lexima. We believe it is important for the justice system to quickly investigate this case. The Inspector General of the police must open an investigation on back-up police 1-483 and 1-493. The Port-au-Prince Bar Association must quickly open an investigation into the bullying and intimidation carried out by Attorney Raynold Georges to the people of Acra Adoken.

DOP asks all that all citizens mobilize to demand justice for Mèris Civil and Darlin Lexima. We must stand strong to combat all the forms of repressions faced by the internally displaced, those who have lived under tents since January 12, 2010.

Victory belongs to the valiant.