

FREE THE GUACIMAL WORKERS! Stop Worker Repression in Haiti!



9 Guacimal prisoners in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, have been illegally jailed since May 27

Big land owners and factory owners in Haiti bust unions, repress and abuse workers with impunity, often with the collusion of authorities. Most workers are paid less than \$1.50 a day, and are often fired for claiming their rights. On May 27, 2002, a group of thugs led by local authorities and landowners murdered 2 union organizers, Fransilyen Exiné and Ipharès Guerrier, and arrested 11 others, in an attempt at busting the Guacimal Workers Union (Batay Ouvriye Federation). The union workers were claiming their right to farm between harvests on the Guacimal plantation (where oranges have been produced for Cointreau since 1958,) as they had done, by contract, for almost 50 years. The prisoners were falsely accused of being terrorists and land robbers, and flown to national jails in Port-au-Prince. 9 prisoners are still being held illegally. They have not been charged with any crime. After more than 2 months, the victims are still in jail while the assassins walk free.

Several international human rights and labor organizations have called on the Haitian government to release the prisoners. Among those are Amnesty International, Reporters Without Borders, Réseau Solidarité (France), Haiti Support Group (England), War on Want (England), ICHRDD (Montreal), South African Municipal Workers Union, International Trade Union Confederation (ICFTU), and the International Labor Organization (ILO). More than 40 Haitian organizations have also called on the government to release the Guacimal prisoners. Among those are the National Commission on Human Rights (NCHR), PPN, AJH, PAPDA, PODH, SAKS, ICKL, SOFA, FES-TREDH, Tèt Kole, MPNKP, and CRAD.

We demand the immediate release of all the Guacimal prisoners, reparation for all the victims, the arrest and trial of all the criminals, and a guarantee of all the legal rights of workers and of their unions!

**WE DEMAND THE RESPECT OF WORKERS RIGHTS!
Justice and reparation for Fransilyen Exiné and Ipharès Guerrier!**

Protest at the NY Haitian Consulate

Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M., at 271 Madison Ave (East 40 St.,) Manhattan

*Picket sponsored by **Rezo Solidarite ak Batay Ouvriye** and the **Global Sweatshop Coalition** (212) 947-7744
bosolidarity@hotmail.com*

Endorsed by: Haiti Support Network, SELA (Sant Enfòmasyon Lè Ayisèn), Haitian Coalition For Justice

Call the Haitian Consulate at 212-697-9767 to protest this injustice!