

***National Human Rights Defense Network  
(RNDDH)***



**Seizure of illicit objects at the customs of Port-au-Prince:  
RNDDH demands a full investigation of this issue**

**October 14, 2022**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. On July 14, 2022, weapons, and ammunition as well as other illicit objects presumably covered by the exemptions granted by the Haitian government to the Episcopal Church of Haiti, were seized at the customs of Port-au-Prince.

2. The unpublished nature of this seizure as well as the indexed institution have attracted the attention of the general population and of the National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH) in particular who since decided to launch an investigation.

3. Today, three (3) months after this seizure, the RNDDH considers it its duty to share with the public opinion the results of its investigations.

## II. METHODOLOGY

4. As part of this investigation, RNDDH spoke with:

- The Central Directorate of Judicial Police (DCPJ);
- The public prosecutor's office near the Court of First Instance in Port-au-Prince;
- The owner of the containers in which the illegal packages were stored;
- Customs officers assigned to Port-au-Prince customs.

## III. CONTEXTUALIZATION

5. Since this political coalition led by de facto Prime Minister Dr. Ariel HENRY came to power, the security situation in the country has worsened. The bandits continue to spread terror. They are expanding their territory, openly engaging in acts of violence against lives and property, and raping women, girls, and men under the complicity of state authorities. The country and the power in place are gangsterized. The gangs themselves have formed a coalition and are increasingly imposing themselves on the political scene.

6. The Haitian people have never ceased to denounce the links of complicity that exist between armed bandits and those who rule the country. The lucrative trade in arms and ammunition has often returned to the debate, more so since, for some time now, the evidence of the origin of weapons – in this case, the United States, for the vast majority, through the ports – had already been established.

7. On July 1, 2022, the same day of the installation of Mr. Julcène EDOUARD as the new Director General of the General Administration of Customs (AGD) replacing Mr. Romel BELL, a spectacular seizure of firearms, The Port-de-Paix customs, in the North-West department. Not less than one hundred and twenty thousand (120,000) cartridges were distributed in one hundred and fifty-seven (157) boxes. The coarse steps taken by judicial authorities to keep indexed persons out of prison, in this case, have exacerbated the public anger that demands traffickers and their accomplices, Sanctions commensurate with crimes committed by armed bandits.

8. It is in this context where the case of Port-de-Paix was still making waves - due to the arrest of magistrate Michelet VIRGILE government commissioner at the Court of First Instance of Port-de-Paix of then and Maître Robenson PIERRE LOUIS, Secretary General of the Federation of Bars of Haiti and influential member of the cabinet of the Minister of Justice and Public Safety - many long caliber weapons, several boxes of ammunition, counterfeit U.S. dollar bills and other illicit items were seized.

9. Since then, searches, arrests, and summonses have been carried out; arrest warrants and departure bans have been issued, all with great publicity.

10. Beyond all this publicity, what should we remember from the scandal?

#### **IV. ON EXEMPTIONS GRANTED BY THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT TO THE INSTITUTIONS**

11. Customs exemptions are granted in Haiti based on the provisions of the Act concerning the Investment Code amending the decree of October 30, 1989, on the Investment Code. This law is still called the Investment Code. It was adopted on October 9, 2002, and was published on November 26, 2002, in the official Monitor.

12. Custom exemptions provide incentives for investors. Indeed, according to Article 19 of the Investment Code, special attention is paid to companies exclusively oriented towards export or re-export. In this case, they are companies operating in the fields of agriculture, crafts, national industry, tourism, and free zones.

13. However, according to Article 41 of the said Code, beneficiaries operating in fields other than those mentioned above may also enjoy customs and/or tax exemptions. These are natural or legal persons who have the qualifications required to enjoy these privileges. These persons are deemed to have activities of particular interest to the community because of their characteristics, the importance of the investment they require, the high priority attached to their achievement, etc. In these cases, and again by Article 41, the agreements relating to these tax exemptions specify the advantages granted to them and the obligations to which they are subject.

14. According to Article 45 of the Code, an Interdepartmental Investment Commission composed of senior technical staff is created. It includes:

- Two (2) representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Finance
- One (1) representative from the Ministry of Trade and Industry
- One (1) representative from the Ministry of Tourism
- One (1) representative from the relevant Department, depending on the sector and investment involved

15. The main tasks of this commission are to:

- Receive the files and decide on the eligibility of companies, legal or natural persons;

- Rule on the possible withdrawal of benefits granted under the Investment Code in the event of non-compliance with the beneficiary's legal or administrative obligations.

16. The duty-free agreement generally mentions the specific quantity of goods often referred to as goods by customs officials that may be imported in the same fiscal year. As soon as the quantity is exceeded, the company or beneficiary must pay the customs fees normally.

17. Furthermore, the exemptions agreement does not in any way imply that containers are not checked by customs officers. However, in practice, some institutions, such as the church, have such morality and reputation that customs officers have become accustomed to letting their containers through without checking their contents.

## **V. RECONSTITUTION OF THE FACTS**

### **a) Previous Facts**

18. For several years, the Episcopal Church of Haiti has enjoyed a customs exemption.

19. Agents met at the customs of Port-au-Prince in the context of this investigation and said that these exemptions were used several times by various companies, including commercial companies and by several people, having nothing to do with worship activities.

20. Precisely because of this situation, the Episcopal Church of Haiti began to no longer enjoy the reputation it had with certain customs agents. For example, between February and March 2022, three (3) containers arrived at the port of Port-au-Prince with a Bill of Lading on behalf of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. Recall that the Bill of Lading is a detailed list of the cargo of a ship that is given by the captain to the person who ships the goods.

21. Customs officers had then categorically refused to sign the papers for customs clearance of the above-mentioned containers because the quietus of the Episcopal Church of Haiti was used by too many people.

22. In addition, the RNDDH was able to meet with at least one (1) customs officer of Port au Prince who, for more than four (4) years, had decided to no longer be involved in the process of customs clearance of packages for the benefit of the Episcopal Church of Haiti, due to a suspicion of franchise traffic.

23. Thus, at the beginning of April 2022 the arrival of these three (3) new containers objects of the scandal of July 14, 2022, registered in the name of the company Rémy Multi Services, it turned out impossible to cover them by the exemptions of the Episcopal Church of Haiti.

24. This explains why, in the end, the owner of Rémy Multi Services agreed to submit to the verification of containers in order to pay the customs fees.

### **b) July 14, 2022, Scandal**

25. In early April 2022, three (3) containers arrived at Port au Prince customs on behalf of Rémy Multi Services, a company owned by Rémy LINDOR. They were stored at MEAD CPS2. Immediately upon arrival, the clearance process was initiated.

26. At the same time, rumors about the illegal contents of these containers were already circulating. And, despite the display of the customs exemptions of the Episcopal Church of Haiti, two (2) customs agents demanded the verification of the said containers, with a view to paying the customs fees.

27. After numerous unsuccessful attempts to cover the containers with the institution's exemptions, Mr. Rémy LINDOR agreed to submit to the required verification. The date of July 14, 2022, was therefore chosen to implement it.

28. On this date, Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS identified as 008-852-637-4, was dispatched to the scene by Mr. Rémy LINDOR. No anomalies were noted in the first container checked. However, upon verification of the first packages in the second container, firearms, and other illicit items were discovered. They were in eight (8) boxes. This will lead customs officers to call on the Counter Drug Trafficking Brigade (BLTS) and the Research and Intervention Brigade (BRI) who were already on the scene, precisely because of the rumors mentioned above.

29. Upon discovering the illegal boxes, Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS called a relative to ask him to inform Mr. Rémy LINDOR of the situation. In addition, Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS told customs officers as well as the police officers that he had been dispatched to the scene to attend to the verification of containers only. Therefore, he does not know everything that was there.

30. Customs officers prepared two (2) separate Statements of Findings in the presence of Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS, who attended all the audits as well as the preparation of the minutes in question. He was later arrested, and the Booking List was seized.

### **c) List of things seized**

31. The seized items were in the container BMOU 610 3158 covered by the customs declaration E 174 31, recorded at the Episcopal Church of Haiti having as representative Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS identified with the registration number GR 0712-0242. This contaminant is stored at MEAD CPS2.

32. In the first report, the following objects were noted:

- Seventeen (17) 556 and 762 rifles
- One (1) 12 gauge shotgun
- Four (4) 3 and 40 mm (1u) pistols
- Twelve thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine (12.779) 7.62 caliber ammunition units
- Four hundred and forty-three (443) 5.56 caliber ammunition units
- One thousand three hundred and eleven (1,311) 9-gauge ammunition units
- One hundred and thirteen (113) 12-gauge ammunition units

- Sixty-eight (68) 7.62 caliber magazines
- Sixty-three (63) 5.56 caliber magazines
- Nine (9) Olight 4.9 caliber chargers
- One (1) sight
- Three (3) gun cases

33. In the second Notice of Violation, customs officers stated that they had discovered five hundred (500) counterfeit hundred (100) US dollar bills of a single series KP582470394 and nine (9) firearms padlocks were mentioned.

34. RNDDH was unable to obtain any information on the contents of the third container. We were also unable to find out if any illicit objects were found there.

35. All seized items have been assigned to two (2) respective BRI and BLTS officers, designated as custodians by customs officers.

37. At the same time and as the Act makes him the injunction, the government commissioner at the court of the first instance of Port-au-Prince, Me Jacques LAFONTANT put the public action in motion within the framework of this scandal. And, given the complexity of the case, he decided to give letters of request to the Office of Economic and Financial Affairs (BAFE) attached to the Central Directorate of the Judicial Police (DCPJ) to continue the investigation.

#### **d) Booking List and Booking Ship information**

38. As mentioned above, the Booking List is a document providing information about the senders and recipients of imported goods in each container. In addition, it should be noted that the Booking Ship is a document that provides details on all containers of a ship, their size, their number, the list of parcel senders and recipients as well as their contact details.

39. By loading a container, the owner receives from his clients previously sealed objects that they wish to send to Haiti. They shall state their surnames, given names, addresses, and telephone numbers and shall also provide information on the recipients. A card is then designed. It also indicates the amount paid by the sender of the goods.

40. As part of the Scandal Container, the Booking Ship included forty-three (43) customers.

41. And the card relating to the eight (8) boxes in which the illicit objects mentioned in the minutes were found provides the following information:

- From: Fernand JEAN PIERRE
- Recipient: ISAAC Alert
- Company: Rémy Multi Services
- Card #: 825379
- Number of boxes: 8

The total amount paid by the shipper for the carriage and clearance of the eight (8) boxes is six hundred and eighty (680) USD.

### **e) Identity of those indexed in the July 14, 2022, scandal**

42. A minimum of twelve (12) individuals are indexed in this scandal. Of these, only six (6) have been arrested.

#### **Arrested persons**

43. The six (6) persons arrested are:

- Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS
- Mrs. Lovenie LOUIS JEAN
- Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS
- Mr. Frantz COLE
- Mr. Manion Saint-Germain
- Mr. Jean Mary JEAN GILLES

44. Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS is a customs commissioner. As such, it is responsible for monitoring the process of customs clearance of containers. According to what was reported to the RNDDH, this is not the first time that it is solicited on behalf of the Episcopal Church of Haiti.

45. Mrs. Lovenie LOUIS JEAN is not a broker herself. She works at Rebo S.A. She is the wife of the chartered broker Mr. Steeve JEAN. In contact with her husband, she learned the process of clearing containers. It is therefore Mrs. Lovenie LOUIS JEAN who hired Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS as a broker to complete the customs clearance formalities of the three (3) containers of Mr. Rémy LINDOR.

46. Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS is used to doing small jobs for the container owner, Mr. Rémy LINDOR. On July 14, 2022, he was dispatched to the premises to attend to the verification of containers based on the Booking Ship and to pay customs fees.

47. Mr. Frantz COLE is the diocesan executive secretary of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. He is the parish priest of Notre Dame de l'Annonciation located at the fourth (4th) avenue Bolosse.

48. Mr. Manion Saint-Germain works for the Episcopal Church of Haiti as a messenger.

49. Mr. Jean Mary JEAN GILLES is an accountant for the Episcopal Church in Haiti.

#### **Other people indexed in the scandal**

50. The other six (6) people indexed in the scandal are:

- Mr. Rémy LINDOR
- Mr. Fernand JEAN PIERRE
- Mr. ISAAC Alert
- Mr. Jean Mardochée VIL



- Mr. Vundla SIKHUMBUZO
- Mr. Fritz DESIRE

51. Mr. Rémy LINDOR resides in the United States and is the owner of Rémy Multi Services as well as the containers that transported firearms, ammunition, and other illicit objects.

52. Mr. Fernand JEAN PIERRE, resides in the United States. He is the shipper of the eight (8) boxes containing the weapons, ammunition, and other illicit items that were seized on July 14, 2022.

53. Mr. ISAAC Alert, is the recipient of the eight (8) boxes listed above. He is therefore the person in Haiti responsible for receiving the packages in question.

54. Mr. Jean Mardochée VIL is the President of the Permanent Council of the Episcopal Church in Haiti. On August 16, 2022, he appeared at the Central Directorate of Judicial Police (DCPJ), on notice. He auditioned for an entire day. After his hearing, he was invited to go home and was also required to bring some documents to the officers working on the file. The requested documents were indeed forwarded to the DCPJ. However, a few days later, he will learn that a warrant had been issued against him on August 13, 2022, by the prosecutor's office in Port-au-Prince, three (3) days before his hearing by the DCPJ.

55. Mr. Vundla SIKHUMBUZO is a Zimbabwean who, in the past, was responsible for seeking and raising funds for the Episcopal Church of Haiti. He was mainly active in the United States, where he was based. For example, after the 2010 earthquake, he was involved in the entire fundraising process for the benefit of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. The money collected at the time was used to repair the buildings of several institutions of the Church in question, which had been damaged.

56. In 2018, the Episcopal Church in the United States ended its services because of its involvement in several corruption scandals and one case of domestic violence. In the latter case mainly, he had indeed beaten his wife before burning her and leaving her for dead. Despite these repeated scandals and this assassination attempt with the beginning of execution perpetrated on May 5, 2017, against his wife, many priests based in Haiti continued to appeal to him in search of donors, for the financing of certain social and humanitarian activities of the Church.

57. As part of his activities when Mr. Vundla SIKHUMBUZO received donations for the Church, he also cleared containers. This is how he had access to all information related to the exemptions granted to the Episcopal Church of Haiti.

58. However, due to his inability to have the three (3) containers of July 14, 2022, covered by the exemptions of the Episcopal Church of Haiti, he obtained from Mrs. Lovenie LOUIS JEAN the promise to make the follow-ups. And the latter hired Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS as a broker. They are both (2) arrested in connection with this case.

59. Mr. Fritz DESIRE is a priest of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. Former president of the Permanent Council of the Church, he is the current director of the Collège Saint Pierre. He was summoned by the DCPJ but never went there. He is accused of maintaining links with

persons wanted by the DCPJ for their involvement in the international trafficking of firearms and ammunition. An arrest warrant was issued against him.

## **VI. INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AROUND THE FILE**

60. Since the seizure of July 14, 2022, at the Port-au-Prince customs office, several actions have been taken by the police and judicial authorities.

61. On July 16, 2022, the Counter Drug Trafficking Brigade (BLTS) attached to the Central Directorate of the Judicial Police (DCPJ) searched the residence of Mr. Rémy LINDOR in Santo 17. For this operation, no less than fourteen (14) DCPJ vehicles were mobilized. And it is reproached to the many agents who participated, to have carried fifty (50) gallons of gasoline that were stored in space, one hundred thirty-five thousand (135,000) gourdes, seven hundred (700) American dollars, as well as several other objects found on the premises including sneakers, a knife, etc. Mr. Rémy LINDOR's wife, who had been arrested in connection with this case, was released on the same day.

62. Several arrest warrants have been issued, some of them against high dignitaries of the Episcopal Church of Haiti.

63. The prosecutor's office near the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince, in its indictment to inform signed by the magistrate Lucnase ETIENNE decided to put the public action in motion against Mr. Samson FRANÇOIS, Mrs. Gina Rolles JEAN-LOUIS, and Mrs. Lovenie LOUIS JEAN.

64. As of August 23, 2022, the file was transferred to the investigating officer and entrusted to the training magistrate Chavannes ETIENNE.

65. On August 24, 2022, on the orders of Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT, a raid of the premises was carried out at Collège Saint Pierre, in search of the director of the institution, Mr. Fritz DESIRE.

66. On September 23, 2022, again by order of the magistrate LAFONTANT, the diocesan office of the Episcopal Church of Haiti was searched in the absence of a justice of the peace and without a search warrant. On that day, computers and the company vehicle made available to Father Frantz COLE were taken away as the body of the crime.

### **a) Protection of some of the persons indexed in the scandal**

67. Mr. Rémy LINDOR, the owner of the containers, Mr. Fernand JEAN PIERRE, the shipper of the eight (8) boxes in which firearms, ammunition, counterfeit bills, and other illicit items were found, Mr. Alert ISAAC, the recipient of the boxes in question as well as Mr. Vundla SIKHUMBUZO who started the fraudulent steps for the clearance of the said containers, are not worried. However, the RNDDH and the Haitian population expected that the investigation conducted around this issue would extend to them. To date, this is not the case.

68. And it is precisely this desire to leave the aforementioned persons outside the investigation that will allow the RNDDH to discover actions of interference of the government

commissioner near the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince Jacques LAFONTANT in the judicial inquiry, despite the fact that the file was transferred to the Cabinet of Instruction.

69. It seems clear that Mr. Vundla SIKHUMBUZO has for several years tampered with the exemptions of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. There are indeed many customs officers of Port-au-Prince to have found suspect the fact that the exemptions of the institution were used by several legal and natural persons, who were not involved in any religious or religious activities.

70. Mr. Rémy LINDOR lives in West Palm Beach, USA, in the same area as the parents of Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT. On July 14, 2022, after learning that illicit objects had been discovered in one of his containers, Mr. Rémy LINDOR contacted Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT and informed him. The latter advised him to meet with the former Minister of Youth, Sports and Civic Action, Mr. Ronald D'MEZA, whom he introduced to him as a lawyer, the only one who could get him out of the mess in which he found himself.

71. A few hours later, Mr. Ronald D'MEZA was met in his office at Rue Grégoire, Pétion-Ville. This meeting took place in the presence of a lawyer himself former government commissioner at the Court of First Instance of Port au Prince. And, during the conversation held there, Mr. Ronald D'MEZA called Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT on the telephone.

72. The day after this meeting, during the day, Mr. Ronald D'MEZA went to the private residence of Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT, on rue Cassagnol. However, he could not see it at that time.

73. At approximate twenty-two (22) hours, Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT himself visited Vivy Mitchell at the residence of Mr. Ronald D'MEZA. It was then that he formally constituted himself for the defense of Mr. Rémy LINDOR. Among other things, he set out to:

- Obtain the release of Samson FRANÇOIS as soon as possible;
- Provide their recipients with boxes that had nothing to do with those containing weapons, ammunition, counterfeit notes, and other illicit items discovered by customs officers.

74. It was also decided that Mr. Rémy LINDOR should avoid traveling to Haiti for some time.

75. Ten thousand (10,000) US dollars were claimed for the conduct of the file. The following day, the sum was handed over to Mr. Ronald D'MEZA. He was then near the Shalom Church in Delmas 33.

76. Finally, it should be noted that, according to the information gathered by the RNDDH, the BLTS handed over the knife that had been seized in Mr. Rémy LINDOR's home to Mr. Ronald D'MEZA who informed the family.

## **b) Statements by Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT**

77. During an interview with the RNDDH, Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT clarified that there are two (2) files in the same case. The first is smuggling, money laundering, and corruption. The second is illicit trafficking. The two (2) were entrusted to the magistrate Chavannes ETIENNE.

78. He also claimed that all actions taken by his prosecutor's office in connection with these two (2) cases are in accordance with Haitian Law. Concerning the search carried out at the diocesan office of the Episcopal Church of Haiti after the file was transmitted to the investigating cabinet, he explained to the RNDDH that the search warrant had already been issued by his prosecutor's office long before the file was sent to the investigating officer. Therefore, the delay recorded in the execution of this mandate is not attributable to the prosecutor's office of Port-au-Prince. In this case, it is the slowness of the DCPJ that is to blame.

79. In addition, he denied contact with Rémy Mr. LINDOR, or any other family member. He had also not recommended Mr. Ronald D'MEZA as his lawyer. However, he pointed out to the RNDDH that the latter is his cousin. Mr. Ronald D'MEZA informed him of the case. And so, he also learned that his cousin had claimed ten thousand (10,000) US dollars for the conduct of the said file. Finally, Commissioner LAFONTANT stated that he had persuaded his cousin not to take charge of this file which he wished to carry out, in respect of the judicial guarantees of all the parties involved.

## **VII. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

80. The record of July 14, 2022, relating to the seizure of weapons, ammunition, counterfeit notes, and other illicit items are of particular importance considering the continued deterioration of the security situation and the proliferation of illegal weapons in the country.

81. The RNDDH believes that this case must be treated seriously and responsibly to help, through the traceability of seized weapons, the arrest of all offenders and their accomplices who engage in the lucrative trade of arms and ammunition without considering the deadly consequences of this trafficking on the Haitian population, victim every day of acts harmful to its life and property.

82. The RNDDH also believes that serenely, an investigation on the integrity of the Episcopal Church of Haiti must be conducted and, all persons still maintaining or having maintained a link with this institution, involved in exemptions trafficking, must be held accountable for their actions before the judicial authorities, to which it will also be necessary to establish their involvement in the trafficking of arms and ammunition, alongside exemptions trafficking.

83. To date, the investigation seems to be conducted only to pin the Episcopal Church of Haiti in the trafficking of arms and ammunition. However, the RNDDH considers that it must primarily be conducted against the persons directly concerned by the illicit cargo that was seized on July 14, 2022, in this case, the sender of the eight (8) boxes containing the illicit objects, the recipient as well as the one who wanted at all costs to get them out of the customs,

using the franchise of the Episcopal Church of Haiti. These are duly identified persons for whom the judicial authorities have contact details. They should not be set aside.

84. If this is the case, the liability or negligence of the company Rémy Muti Services in the transport of these illicit objects must be clearly established by the Justice. Moreover, the involvement or otherwise of the owner of the company, Mr. Rémy LINDOR, in acts of tax evasion and corruption must also be clarified because the attempt to use a deductible illegally assumes that the person who is guilty does not want to pay the customs fee. In the case of Mr. Rémy LINDOR, these customs fees were deducted from the amount charged to parcel shippers.

85. The RNDDH believes that it was insufficient on the part of the customs officers of Port au Prince to only refrain from getting involved in the processes of customs clearance of parcels of the Episcopal Church of Haiti, while they suspected exemptions traffic. They should have referred the matter to the Inter-Ministerial Investment Commission, which, according to the Investment Code, is mainly responsible for deciding on the withdrawal of benefits granted to institutions that are guilty of non-compliance with legal obligations.

86. The RNDDH condemns the acts of interference of the government commissioner to the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince, Mr. Jacques LAFONTANT in this case. In fact, by recommending Mr. Ronald D'MEZA as a lawyer to the owner of the containers and by continuing to conduct a parallel investigation while the file was transferred to the office of a training magistrate, he exceeded his legal obligations, constituting, in so doing, an obstruction of truth. Through his behavior, he directed all eyes on the Episcopal Church of Haiti while clearly identifying people, maintaining direct links with the seized illegal parcels, are not worried at all. Thus, wanting too much to protect his friends, Commissioner Jacques LAFONTANT abused his authority.

87. Finally, the RNDDH considers that this case provides the judicial authorities with the possibility of cracking down on persons involved in smuggling and trafficking in arms, ammunition, and customs duty-free. It is therefore likely to allow them to send clear signals to all offenders who commit these crimes as well as to armed bandits who sow terror in the country.

88. The Haitian people are entitled to the truth in this matter. And for this reason, the RNDDH recommends to the authorities concerned:

- Thoroughly investigate the trafficking of weapons, ammunition, counterfeit notes and other illicit items, smuggling, and tax evasion;
- Severely punish all those involved, without distinction;
- To investigate the conduct of the Government Commissioner at the Court of First Instance of Port-au-Prince, Mr. Jacques LAFONTANT, and to extend this investigation into his assets;
- Investigate the conduct of DCPJ officers who have engaged in looting and theft during the search of this file.