



THE FRIENDS OF HAITI

P. O. BOX: 365, HOPEWELL JUNCTION, N. Y. 12533

TEL.: 914-226-6282



Dear Friend,

Will you join the Friends of Haiti?

In America today, there are over 200,000 Haitian refugees that have fled their island country to escape the terrors of a monstrous dictatorship which has enjoyed all along the blessing and sanction of our government.

It becomes, then, imperative for honest Americans to support the exiled Haitians in their efforts to bring a more humane and democratic society to their country!

Many Americans may not even know where Haiti is; that was the case with Vietnam about 14 years ago. Today our country finds herself involved in an immoral and illegal war because the public's right to know was ingeniously frustrated. The Friends of Haiti intends, consequently, to keep the American people constantly aware of our government's involvement in the internal affairs of this poor and small country.

We feel that the U. S. government, having ratified the charters of both the United Nations and the Organization of American States, is bound by the international principle of self-determination and has, therefore, no right whatsoever to intervene, either politically or militarily, in the internal affairs of another country. That is the only way to keep our country out of entanglements in neo-colonial wars.

U. S. Marines landed in the Dominican Republic in 1964. At first it was supposedly in order to help evacuate the Americans living in that country, but it quickly became more and more obvious that we were once more embarked on a flagrant operation designed to protect a bunch of generals who had usurped power by overthrowing a freely elected government. The support provided by our government for unpopular and repressive regimes under the pretext of "regional stability" is wrong in every way. The declaration of July 1775, addressed to the British Parliament and authored by Thomas Jefferson and John Dickinson, is still relevant: "... where regard should be had to truth, law, or right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their order and impolitic purpose of enslaving these colonies by violence, and have thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last appeal from reason to arms. Yet, however blinded that assembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited domination, so to slight justice and the opinion of mankind, we esteem ourselves bound by obligations of respect to the rest of the world to make known the justice of our cause ... what is to defend us from so enormous, so unlimited a power? ... we reasoned, we remonstrated with parliament in the most mild and decent language. But administration ... sent over fleets and armies to enforce them ... They boast of their privileges and civilization and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death."

The Friends of Haiti wants to be another voice of Americans for a fair America. Take the opportunity of supporting the people of the Third World in their incessant struggle for a just World by becoming a Friend of Haiti.



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A brief study of Haitian-American relations reveals to us the essence of the actual foreign policy of our State Department :

In 1826, the United States government expressly brought about the exclusion of Haiti, the first black republic in the world, from the initial conference of the independent American countries that was held in Panama, when slavery was still solidly implanted in the United States.

On December 14, 1914, American Marines from the U.S. warship, "Machias", entered the Haitian National Bank in Port-au-Prince and confiscated \$500,000 in gold, undisputed property of the Haitian government. The gold bullion was then transferred to the vaults of the National City Bank in New York, which had agreed with the U. S. State Department to this brutal, arrogant act in violation of the sovereignty of a small country.

In July 1915, the United States invaded Haiti under the pretext of bringing law and order, and remained there by force of arms until 1934.

In the late months of 1918, the leader of the guerrilla warfare against the American occupation, Charlemagne Peralte, was captured by the Marines, crucified on a door and displayed to the population as a macabre warning.

In July 1920, the Haitian government initially rejected the takeover by the National City Bank of New York of the Haitian National Bank and the American financial advisor for the occupation, John McIlhenny, retaliated by seizing as forfeited the salaries of the President of Haiti and of all the Cabinet ministers.

In 1958, A U.S. military mission under the command of Colonel ^{Heint} ~~Heint~~ of the U.S. Marines, trained and equipped the first battalion of Dr. François Duvalier's "Tonton Macoutes."

During the Johnson Administration, Bobby Gene Baker was paid a penny a pound for meat slaughtered and exported from a country that does not have enough to feed it's own people, when Meyer Lansky of National Crime Syndicate fame befriended him.

Not long ago, the late François Duvalier ^{leased} ~~sold~~ the island of Tortuga to Dupont illegally, for less than \$~~50~~ ^{2.00} an acre.

Dupont Caribbean, a Texas-real-estate firm

One thing you should know: the mass media is cultivating a myth about Haiti. Stories are being built around stereotyped words like Voodoo, Tonton Macoutes, Papa-Doc, and so on. This has the definite role of satisfying the American reader's quest for the exotic and even sadistic entertainment. The Friends of Haiti wants to bring the other picture to light, not the superficial, the spectacular, the unreal, the mythical, but instead the true image of the complex problems that Haiti faces.

As a member you will receive a pamphlet, "Haiti and the U.S." and the newsletters, "Voice of Haiti".