

**Haiti Cases**  
**Last Updated: 26 May 2017**

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T1378	COALITION OF NATIONAL BRIGADES		1973	1973
T898	HECTOR RIOBE BRIGADE		1982	1983
T496	TONTONS MACOUTES		1991	1991
T2470	FANMI LAVALAS	2004	1996	2002
T2300	FACE TO FACE (FACE-A-FACE)		2002	2002
T2223	FRONT POUR LA LIBERACI" N ET LA RECONSTRUCTION NATIONALES	2004	2003	2004
T2283	CANNIBAL ARMY		2003	2003

I. COALITION OF NATIONAL BRIGADES

Min. Group Date: 1973

Max. Group Date: 1973

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

**Part 1. Bibliography**

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## **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: n/a

Group Formation: 1973

Group End: 1973 (did not claim responsibility for another terrorist attack)

## **Part 3. Narrative**

### **Group Formation**

The founding date of the Coalition of National Brigades is unknown. It is suspected that this was a name adopted just for this operation (MIPT 2008). The group's only known action was the kidnapping of American Ambassador Clinton E. Knox in 1973 (MIPT 2008; GTD 2017). Not much is known about the group, but some reports claim that they were leftist and aimed to release prisoners (MIPT 2008; Jones and Libicki 2008, 153). In an interview, they said that they were not communists, even if the Haitian government claimed that they were (New York Times 1973). They hoped to release prisoners who might have been in opposition to Jean-Claude Duvalier, the dictator of that time in Haiti (MIPT 2008).

### **Geography**

They operated out of Port-au-Prince, Haiti (GTD 2017). Following the successful negotiations with the French Ambassador, the three kidnapers along with the twelve prisoners that were released flew to Mexico City, where they might have resided in exile (MIPT 2008).

### **Organizational Structure**

Their organizational structure is unknown, but the group is estimated to have had a peak size in the tens (Jones and Libicki 2008). The group had approximately three members from the attack information, two men and one woman (New York Times 1973; MIPT 2008). No additional information could be found about group size, membership, leadership, or wings.

### **External Ties**

The Coalition of National Brigades has no known ties to organizations, non-state actors, nations, etc.

### **Group Outcome**

After demanding the release of thirty-one prisoners and one million dollars in exchange for Knox, members of the Coalition negotiated with the French Ambassador (MIPT 2008). Negotiations were successful (New York Times 1973). They eventually decided on the exchange of seventy thousand dollars and twelve prisoners (MIPT 2008). Mexico offered the kidnappers amnesty, so the kidnappers and released prisoners flew to Mexico City after the exchange (MIPT 2008; New York Times 1973). The group never made another appearance or claimed responsibility for another terrorist attack, so the last year that they were active was 1973 (MIPT 2008; GTD 2017).

Notes for Iris:

- Duvalier comes into power in 1971
- they were trying to free the political prisoners
- unusual in that they receive concessions potentially because they have a high profile kidnap
- doesn't arrest, which could potentially embolden additional opposition groups
- odd that there's not a lot of information

- II. HECTOR RIOBE BRIGADE  
Min. Group Date: 1982  
Max. Group Date: 1983  
Onset: NA

Aliases: Hector Riobe Brigade, Hector Rio De Brigade

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

- Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman. Political Terrorism: A New Guide to Actors, Authors, and Concepts. Routledge 1988. P. 568.  
<https://books.google.com/books?id=Up4uDwAAQBAJ&pg=PP1&dq=schmid+jongman&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjhtavqpTXAhXF5CYKHfSYBtAQ6AEIKDAA#v=onepage&q=haiti&f=false>
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<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=4597>
- "Hector Rio Brigade." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 4048, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wBQ6UycfKSSEveM1OnusN7xLDAPZvYHD356mvjqU7xU/edit>

- Edward Cody. "Haitian Exiles' Bomb Creates no Echoes." Washington Post. 1983. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1983/03/20/haitian-exiles-bombs-create-no-echoes/60b421c3-e4ee-489b-b2e6-c004afce3b09/?utm\\_term=.4e11b3d93fd4](https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1983/03/20/haitian-exiles-bombs-create-no-echoes/60b421c3-e4ee-489b-b2e6-c004afce3b09/?utm_term=.4e11b3d93fd4)
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- "Haiti: Official Receives Letter Bombs." Terrorism Review. Declassified. Central Intelligence Agency. 1983. P. 18. <https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP84-00893R000100160001-3.pdf>

## **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: Hector Riobe Brigade, Hector Rio De Brigade

Group Formation: early 1980s, first known act of violence was in 1982

Group End: 1983 (trial in 1985 sentenced five members to lifetime hard labor; in 1986, Duvalier was overthrown, so they had no need to continue violence)

## **Part 3. Narrative**

### **Group Formation**

The Hector Riobe Brigade was founded by Haitian exiles based in Miami in the early 1980s (MIPT 2008; Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568). One of the leaders of this group was Jean-Claude Luis-Jean (CIA 1983). The group opposed the Jean-Claude Duvalier regime (MIPT 2008). The group is named for a deceased government opponent that was killed in a confrontation with the government in 1963 (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568; MIPT 2008). Their first known act of violence was in August 1982 when they shot and dropped leaflets at the Haitian presidential palace (MIPT 2008; Meislin 1982). Besides this, they also sent letter bombs and threats (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568). It is unknown if they ascribed to a particular ideology.

### **Geography**

This group launched attacks on Port-au-Prince in Haiti on several occasions (Cody 1983; Meislin 1982). However, the group operates out of Miami in Florida, as evidenced by the postmarks on some of the letter bombs that they sent (CIA 1983, 18; Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568).

### **Organizational Structure**

Not much is known about the group's organizational structure. It allegedly had about a dozen members conducting these attacks (Cody 1983). The leader is Jean-Claude Jean-Louis, who received training from the PLO (CIA 1982). Alleged members of this group were relatives of Middle Eastern businessmen (Meislin 1982). The group reportedly received funding from the Miami drug trade (Washington Post 1983; MIPT 2008).

### **External Ties**

The group has alleged ties to the Miami drug trade, which might have funded their operations (MIPT 2008). One of the members, Jean-Claude Jean-Louis, was trained with weapons and explosives in Lebanon and Libya by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568; CIA 1983). Another member, Hilertaut Dominique, was arrested in December 1982 for traveling to several countries to plan a campaign of destabilization for the organization (CIA 1983).

### **Group Outcome**

The group's last violent incident occurred in 1983 (GTD 2017). In 1984, five members of the groups were sentenced to life in prison for the 1983 car bombing. The group disappeared shortly after (MIPT 2008; DBT 2017).

Notes for Iris:

- duvalier regime overthrown in 1986
- they never clearly articulated their aims, but were just in favor of general opposition
- bombed the palace, but was not able to muster any support. Dropping leaflets doesn't do anything. Duvalier headed a very repressive regime so it's hard to mobilize individuals to take the risks of joining the group.
- arresting half of the group just devastates the group

- III. TONTONS MACOUTES  
Min. Group Date: 1991  
Max. Group Date: 1991  
Onset: NA

Aliases: Tontons Macoutes, Boogeymen, National Security Volunteers

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

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- Alex Schmid and Albert Jongman. Political Terrorism: A New Guide to Actors, Authors, and Concepts. Routledge 1988. P. 568. <https://books.google.com/books?id=Up4uDwAAQBAJ&pg=PP1&dq=schmid+jongman&h>

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- Stephen Kurczy. “5 Reasons why Haiti’s Jean-Claud Duvalier is infamous.” Christian Science Monitor. 2011.  
<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2011/0120/5-reasons-why-Haiti-s-Jean-Claude-Duvalier-is-infamous/Tonton-Macoutes>
- “The Tonton Macoutes: the Central Nervous System of Haiti’s Reign of Terror.” Council on Hemispheric Affairs. 2010. <http://www.coha.org/tonton-macoutes/>
- \*Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Haïti : 1) Tontons macoutes. 2) Manifestations des 29 novembre 1987, 17 janvier 1988 à Lucy et 11 septembre 1988 à l’Eglise St Jean de Bosco, 1 February 1990, HTI4224, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac7c44.html>
- \*Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Haïti : situation des TonTons Macoutes (1999-2000), 2 March 2000, HTI33873.F, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ad5ac.html>

## **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: Tontons Macoutes, Boogeymen, National Security Volunteers, Milice de Volontaires de la Sécurité Nationale, MSVN

Group Formation: 1959

Group End: 1991 (Last major attack before Aristide was forced to leave the presidency; smaller splinter groups still remain)

## **Part 3. Narrative**

### **Group Formation**

This paramilitary organization was founded by François “Papa Doc” Duvalier in 1959 to use violence to suppress political foes and enemies (COHA 2010). It is unknown when their first violent attack occurred. They worked as a secret police force to support Aristide and deter assassination attempts (CIA 1968; MIPT 2008). It is unknown when their first attack occurred. They were named after the Haitian Creole creature, the Boogeyman, a legend that kidnapped and ate children (Kurczy 2011). Because of their name, the group

had some religious or voodoo influence, as some of the most important members of the group were possibly voodoo leaders (COHA 2010).

### **Geography**

This group operated out of Haiti although the exact city is unknown. Their attacks in 1991 were in Miami, Florida (GTD 2017). The group is transnational.

### **Organizational Structure**

The group is estimated to have about 15,000 members, all of which are fiercely loyal to the Duvalier regime (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568; COHA 2010). The group organized as a paramilitary force (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568; MIPT 2008; COHA 2010). The group's leader from the 1960's to 1971 was Luckner Cambronne (COHA 2010).

### **External Ties**

They were tied to the Haitian government as it was the Duvalier regime that founded them (COHA 2010). They did not oppose the Haitian government.

### **Group Outcome**

The group mostly disappeared after Duvalier fled Haiti in 1986 (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568; MIPT 2008). However, small splinter groups from the original continued to operate, working crooked politicians with intentions to continue with their paramilitary actions. Despite the group mostly disappearing, it allegedly orchestrated a large massacre in 1987, killing several hundred people (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 568). The group's last known violent attack was in 1991 (GTD 2017).

Notes for Iris:

- very large paramilitary organization
- ends up splintering into smaller paramilitary organizations
- persist for a very long time

- IV. FANMI LAVALAS  
Min. Group Date: 1996  
Max. Group Date: 2002  
Onset: 2004

Aliases: Sovereign Citizens

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

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- Kristian Gleditsch, David Cunningham, and Idean Salehyan. "Haiti vs OP Lavlas." Non-State Actor Dataset Narratives. P. 620-621.  
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<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/haiti/politics-aristide-2000.htm>
- "Haiti factions face off over rising violence." NBC. 2004.  
[http://www.nbcnews.com/id/6239897/ns/world\\_news/t/haiti-factions-face-over-rising-violence/#.WfUp9RNSz6A](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/6239897/ns/world_news/t/haiti-factions-face-over-rising-violence/#.WfUp9RNSz6A)
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[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country\\_profiles/1202857.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1202857.stm)
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Haiti: The Fanmi Lavalas political party, including its leaders, political platform, geographic reach and activities; its relationship with the government; whether the party has ties to criminal gangs, 10 February 2017, HTI105745.FE, available at:  
<http://www.refworld.org/docid/58b428214.html>

## **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: Sovereign Citizens, OP Lavalas

Group Formation: 1996

Group End: 2004 (Their leader and former Haitian president Aristide had the presidency forcibly taken away from him. The violent coup that preceded this most likely scaring off the remaining violent members of the group)

## **Part 3. Narrative**

### **Group Formation**

Fanmi Lavalas was a socialist political party founded by Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1996 (Hall 2012, 103). This group is a splinter group of Lavalas Political Organization (OPL), a political party. Fanmi Lavalas splintered when the OPL supported a different presidential candidate than Aristide (Hall 2012, 103). Fanmi Lavalas's aim was to help support Aristide in his return to power (NBC 2004; Global Security n.d.). Their name is a

reference to a Biblical flood that rid of an unjust government (Hall 2012, 103). It is unclear when their violent attack occurs, but occurs as late as 2001 or 2002 (Global Security n.d.; GTD 2017).

## **Geography**

Various officials from the group attacked neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince (NBC 2004; IRB 2017). The group operated out of Jacmel in Haiti during their 2002 attacks (GTD 2017).

## **Organizational Structure**

The group was formed by Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1996 (Hall 2012, 103). Aristide was president of Haiti from 1990-1995 and 2000-2004 (BBC 2012). Both of his terms of presidency struggled to handle political and economic crises (Global Security n.d.). Other leaders include: Luis Gérard-Gilles, Maryse Narcisse, and Joel Vorbe (IRB 2017). The exact group size and organization is unknown. This group has a political wing (Hall 2012, 103; IRB 2017; Global Security n.d.). It was originally a political party that ended up turning violent and might be organized as such (Hall 2012, 104; IRB 2017; Global Security n.d.).

## **External Ties**

This group had no known external ties other than Aristide, who founded the group (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 620).

## **Group Outcome**

In 2004, a celebration of 200 years of independence turned into a violent uprising against Aristide that led to his ouster (BBC 2012; NBC 2004). Clashes between ex-soldiers and Lavalas supporters led to the death of 48 people (BBC 2012; NBC 2004). After Aristide fled, his followers claimed that he could be restored to power (NBC 2004; Global Security n.d.). This catalyzed additional violence by Lavalas followers and Aristide supporters (Armed Conflict Report 2009).

The United States and United Nations intervened during this coup to help establish an interim government and stabilize the situation (NBC 2004; BBC 2012). The group's last known violent incident was in 2004 (BBC 2004). However, the group partially splintered in 2006 (Armed Conflict Report 2009). The political party still existed in 2017, but has not had much important activity since 2004 (IRB 2017; BBC 2012).

Notes for Iris:

- originally start as a non-violent political movement
- Aristide president from 91-95. He splintered to create this group after he was annoyed his old political party decided to support another candidate
- in 2004, there is a huge political crisis between military and Aristide. There's a coup in 2004 which leads to Aristide's exile. His followers - part of Fanmi Lavalas - are trying to restore Aristide to power. Interesting political shock by the military coup.
- 200-year history event may be a focal point, but it's unclear.
- US gets involved with a peacekeeping mission to stabilize the region and also provided sanctuary for Aristide
- there is no clear leadership for the group after he leaves so there is a lot of mob violence that quickly dissipates with US intervention
- 2004 is the last date they're violent as well
- catalyst is the coup

V. FACE TO FACE (FACE-A-FACE)

Min. Group Date: 2002

Max. Group Date: 2002

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

**Part 1. Bibliography**

- GTD Perpetrator 20157. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last Modified June 2017.  
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=20157>
- "Haiti: Unidentified Individuals set fire to home of Senator Prince's mother." BBC. 2002. Proquest Historical Newspapers.  
<https://search.proquest.com/news/docview/452214673/D3F68B46A7E242F2PQ/1?accountid=14026>

**Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: none

Group Formation: 2002

Group End: 2002 (Group did not take credit for any other terrorist attacks)

**Part 3. Narrative**

**Group Formation**

The founding date of Face to Face is unknown, but Dieula Prince claimed to have received threats from the group before the attack (BBC 2002; GTD 2017). Their violent attack in 2002 burned down Prince's home in Jacmel. This is when the group came to attention (BBC 2002; GTD 2017). They also possibly attacked Prince's son, a senator of Haiti, and killed his bodyguard (BBC 2002). Their motives and ideals are unknown.

### **Geography**

Their group burned down a house in Jacmel, Haiti (GTD 2017).

### **Organizational Structure**

Their organizational structure is unknown.

### **External Ties**

Their external ties are unknown.

### **Group Outcome**

The group did not take credit for any other terrorist attacks. Their last known attack was in 2002 (BBC 2002; GTD 2017). It is unknown why this group stopped using political violence.

Notes for Iris:

-one hit wonder

## **VI. FRONT POUR LA LIBERACI" N ET LA RECONSTRUCTION NATIONALES**

Min. Group Date: 2003

Max. Group Date: 2004

Onset: 2004

Aliases: National Front For The Liberation Of Haiti, Front Pour La Liberacion Et La Reconstruction Nationales, Front Pour La Liberaci—n Et La Reconstruction Nationales, Front Pour La Liberacion Et La Reconstruction Nationales (Flrn)

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

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## **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: NRFLH, National Revolutionary Front for the Liberation and Reconstruction of Haiti, Front Pour La Liberation Et La Reconstruction Nationales (FLRN), Artibonite Resistance Front

Group Formation: 2003 (originally started as Cannibal Army)

Group End: 2004 (Aristide was ousted, causing most of their members to join a post-coup police force as their main goal was achieved)

## **Part 3. Narrative**

### **Group Formation**

It is unknown when FLRN formed, but came to attention in October 2003 as part of the Cannibal Army, a criminal gang (GTD 2017). The leader, Buteur Métayer, potentially held Aristide responsible for killing his brother that year (Hall 2012, 114). After this incident, the gang decided to become political. Their goal was to overthrow Aristide and restore the country's older security forces (Fernandez 2012). This group was a military organization that opposed Aristide's rule (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 619). Some of their members were disgruntled soldiers that lost their jobs when Aristide got rid of the army in 1995 and former pro-Duvalier figures (Hall 2012, 114; Keating 2010). Their first known activity was taking over Gonaïves, the third-largest city in Haiti, in early 2004, but are also known for causing Aristide to flee Haiti (Hall 2012, 114).

### **Geography**

FLRN was able to successfully take over Gonaïves and Cap-Haïtien, two large cities in Haiti, and were planning to attack Port-au-Prince, the capital city (Hall 2012, 114). Their bases are unknown, but it is suspected that they might have had one in Gonaïves due to

the Cannibal Army, a gang that was a central part of their leadership (Hall 2012, 114). They may have also had an external base in the Dominican Republic prior to their insurgency (Fernandez 2012).

### **Organizational Structure**

The group was estimated to have around 700 members and was made up of mostly disgruntled former soldiers (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 619). One of their leaders was Guy Philippe (UCA n.d.). The core of the group is an armed gang based in Gonaïves known as the Cannibal Army (Hall 2012, 114). Some of their members were disgruntled soldiers that lost their jobs when Aristide got rid of the army in 1995 and former pro-Duvalier figures (Hall 2012, 114; Keating 2010). Their leadership was cohesive enough to be able to plan activities and maintain a political wing (Gleditsch et. al. 2013, 619). One of the commanders was Louis-Jodel Chamblain (Sprague 2012).

### **External Ties**

The group allegedly received financial support from the Dominican Republic, specifically the government and army officials, that did not want Haiti's influence to affect their country (Fernandez 2012). They also had ties to narco-trafficking (Sprague 2012).

### **Group Outcome**

In February 2004, Aristide fled Haiti after the FLRN captured additional territory (Hall 2012, 114). After the 2004 coup, many of the members were integrated into a police force and the rest of the group disbanded (Sprague 2012; Hall 2012, 114).

Notes for Iris:

- it is unknown what they are doing between October and February 2004, but when they reemerge they are very well organized fighting force
- they got financial and territorial support from the Dominican Republic
- why so quickly in one month? They are really well organized, fighter experience, combat training + FLRN leadership → quickly mobilize and take territory
- the members whom are soldiers were ex-soldiers from a coup-proofing exercise that happened
- they're one of the few groups who got what they wanted and they got integrated (disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration was highly successful here anything)
- note: coup ("political shock") arises after this rebel group successfully takes over Gonaïves

- VII. CANNIBAL ARMY  
Min. Group Date: 2003  
Max. Group Date: 2003

Onset: NA

This group should likely be merged with the FLRN.

Aliases: None

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

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### **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: n/a

Group Formation: 2003

Group End: 2004 (Aristide was ousted, which was the group's goal)

### **Part 3. Narrative**

#### **Group Formation**

The exact year and founder of the group is unknown, but their first known violent acts occurred in 2003 (GTD 2017). The group originally was pro-Aristide, as it burned down houses and assaulted Aristide's opponents (CNN 2003). After Amiot's murder, the group turned anti-Aristide and eventually formed the FLRN (VOA 2004).

## **Geography**

The group operated out of Gonaïves, Haiti (Warren 2003).

## **Organizational Structure**

Amiot Métayer was the group's leader until September 2003 when he was killed (CNN 2003; VOA 2004). Some speculate Aristide was responsible for the incident (CNN 2003; VOA 2004). Amiot's brother, Butteur, took over after his brother's passing (VOA 2004). The group was originally an armed gang (Hall 2012, 114).

## **External Ties**

The group had no known external ties before it became the FLRN.

## **Group Outcome**

After Amiot's death, the group turned anti-Aristide, eventually forming the FLRN in 2004 (VOA 2004).

Notes for Iris:

- Is this an alias for FLRN or a separate faction? - Cannibal Army is a gang that is one of the central parts of FLRN that also created the group
- This may be combined with FLRN?
- They are originally a criminal gang that was pro-aristide led by Amiot Metayer
- Amiot Metayer was killed in September 2003 under "mysterious" circumstances
- The assassination is a shock that forces the group to change its beliefs and decide to launch an insurgency