Jean-Bertrand Aristide

7 February 2001, I swore to respect and to defend the Constitution.

This evening, 28 February 2004, I firmly intend
To respect and to defend the Constitution.
The Constitution is the guarantee of life and peace.
The Constitution must not be drowned in the blood of the Haitian People.
Thus, if this evening it is my resignation which can prevent a bloodbath,
I agree to leave in the hope that there will be life and not death.

Life for every person.

Death for no one.

In respecting the Constitution,
And in defending the Constitution,
Haiti will have life and peace.

Thank you.

(signed) J.-B. Aristide

(Translated by Bryant C. Freeman, Ph.D. Director, Institute of Haitian Studies University of Kansas)