Murer of Aristide Supporter Increases Chance of Invasion

By Norman Kemper

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration said Monday that the assassination in Port-au-Prince of a prominent supporter of deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide sharply increases the probability of a U.S.-led invasion of Haiti to restore democracy to the impoverished Caribbean nation.

"Make no mistake, outrages such as these reinforce the determination of the international community to take all necessary means to bring about the early restoration of democracy in Haiti," State Department spokesman Mike McCurry said, employing diplomatic language for the use of military force.

McCurry referred to the killing Sunday night of B.V. Jean-Marie Vincent, a Roman Catholic priest and a longtime supporter of Aristide, himself a populist and a longtime opponent of the Haitian military.

The Clinton administration is reviewing its plans for a major increase in the number of U.S. military personnel in the region, the State Department said.

"We do expect to see support within the region," he added, insisting that several Western Hemisphere countries will join the potential invasion force, even though "down the road" several have not yet announced plans to do so.

Japan to Offer Compensation For Women Used as Sex Slaves

By Sam Jameson

Japan will announce Wednesday a 10-year, $1 billion program to indirectly compensate women used as "sex slaves" by Japanese soldiers and other individuals who were victims during World War II.

Since May, two Cabinet ministers have made the announcement and his Chief Cabinet Secretary Koizumi said he will spell out the details, the official said.

"There is a large number of women" whose cases have not yet been dealt with, the official said.

"To fulfill our international obligations," the official said, "we should make these women's cases known to the world and in the process, let the world know what kind of war we fought and our responsibility to the suffering they endured during the war.

"We believe we have a moral responsibility to those who were treated improperly in those days, and the people of Japan should assume their responsibility.

"We are going to try to resolve this problem in a new way.

"We are going to try to resolve this problem in a new way, to fulfill our obligations to the world.

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