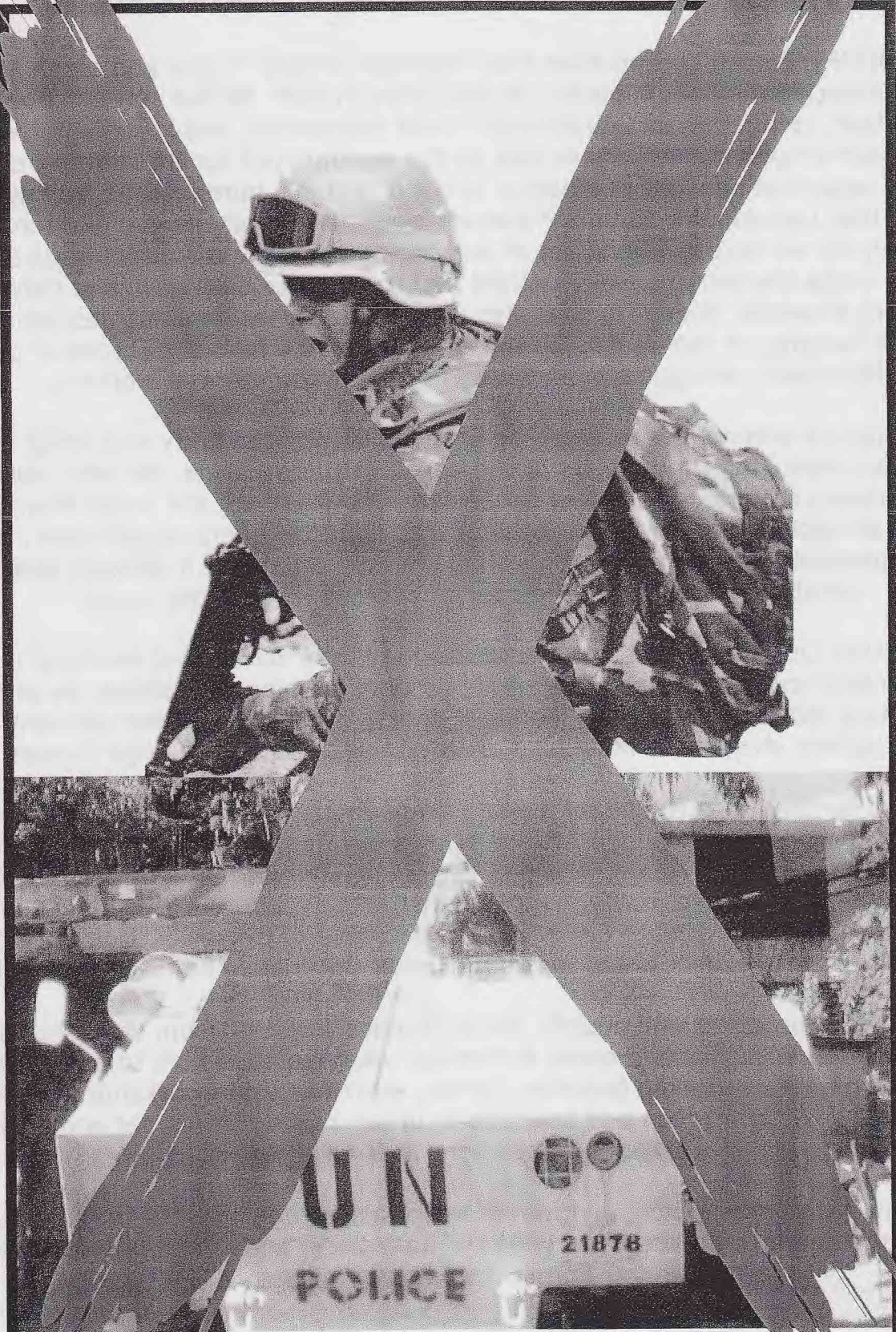


ABA OKIPASYON!



BATAY OUVRIYE - Mouvmán Demokratik Popilè (MODEP) - Plate-Forme des Employés
Victimes des Entreprises Publiques (PEVEP) - Komite Relèvman Divivye (KRD) -
Kòdinasyon Nasyonal Sinistre (KONASI)

DOWN WITH THE OCCUPATION!

WHAT IS BATAY OUVRIYE?

BATAY OUVRIYE is an organization that regroups factory unions and committees, workers' associations and militants, all struggling in Haiti for the construction of an independent, combative and democratic union movement, and to organize wage-workers, self-employed workers as well as the unemployed for the defense of their rights. The organization is an alternative to the traditional bureaucratic, corrupt union movement that upholds the dominant classes' power amongst the exploited masses of Haiti. Not only do we take the initiative of developing spontaneous direct issue struggles, but also we incite the working class to fight and to organize themselves to defend their independent interests. Batay Ouvriye also links these particular struggles with those, more wide-ranging, of the people. In this sense, we take part in all types of popular democratic struggles by encouraging the involvement of workers.

Batay Ouvriye entered the struggle against the Disney company and other large multinationals exploiting the workers of the earth. In this struggle, we were able to find the collaboration of various solidarity organizations throughout the world interested in workers' struggles in general and those of the Haitian workers in particular. Batay Ouvriye representatives participate in various forums organized in protest against the violations and abuses endured by workers all over the world.

In Haiti, Batay Ouvriye encourages the diffusion of information and workers' training through conferences and debates, seminars or labor training workshops, by preparing and distributing didactic material on workers' rights, international labor conventions and appropriate struggle strategies in order to thwart local or foreign bosses.

We wage a continuous struggle for a real change in our life and work conditions, as workers of Port-au-Prince, the high Artibonite, the low Central Plateau and the North, as well as specific struggles throughout the entire country around problems emerging from our daily lives. This, also, through campaigns: for day laborers wage hikes in the agricultural sector; their right to organize; the decrease of the production quotas in the textile factories; the respect of the rights of workers who have home responsibilities...

Thanks to these practices and despite the difficulties resulting from the effect of high interests at stake in the Haitian social formation, we have been able to establish many unions and committees within factories, hotels, stores or small workshops, as well as associations of small craftsmen and teachers in urban zones and farmer and agricultural workers organizations in rural areas.

Batay Ouvriye, consequently, articulates workplace struggles with those generally concerning the changes necessary in workers' daily lives, against the various shapes of oppression that stake out their existence.

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