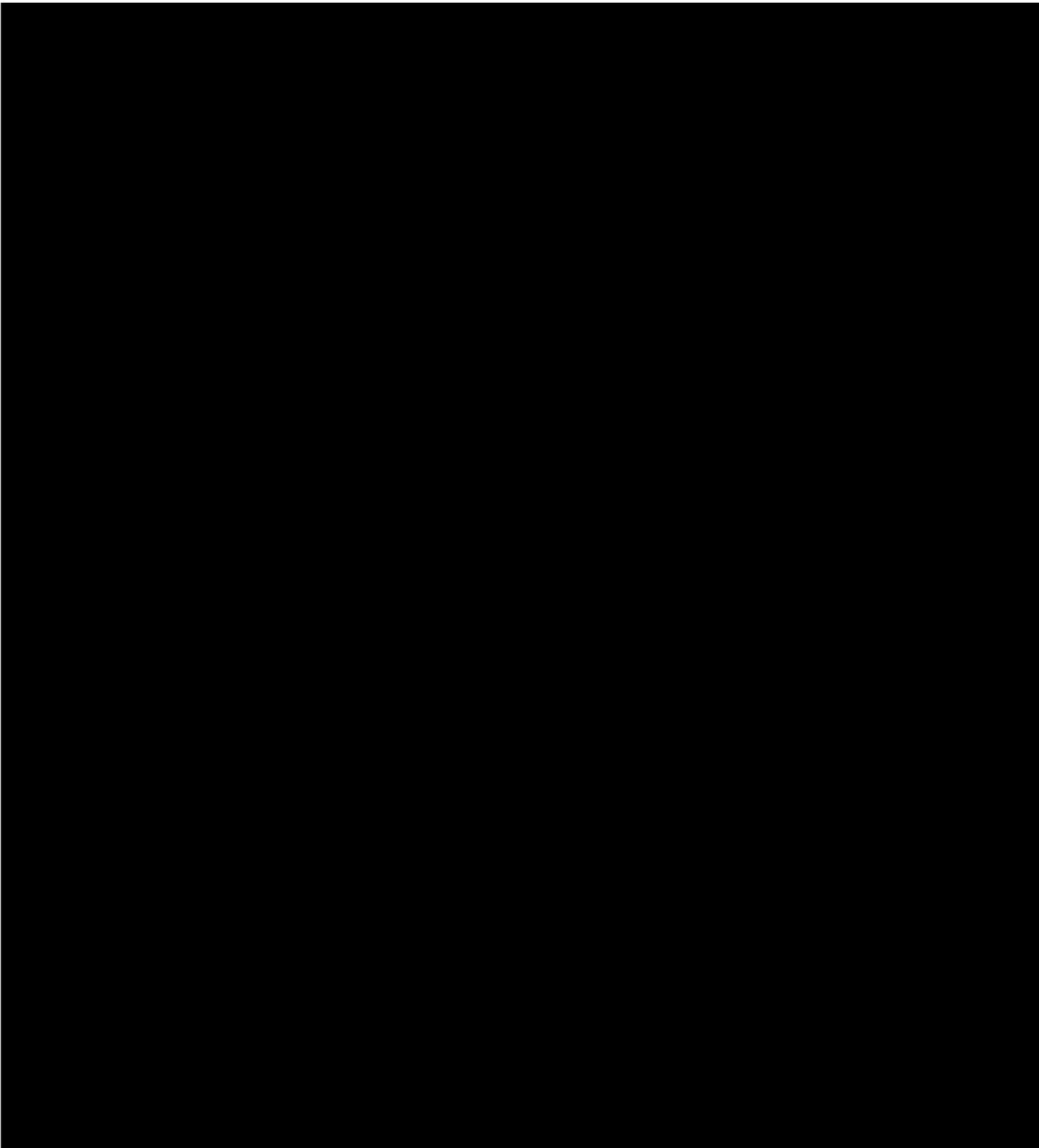


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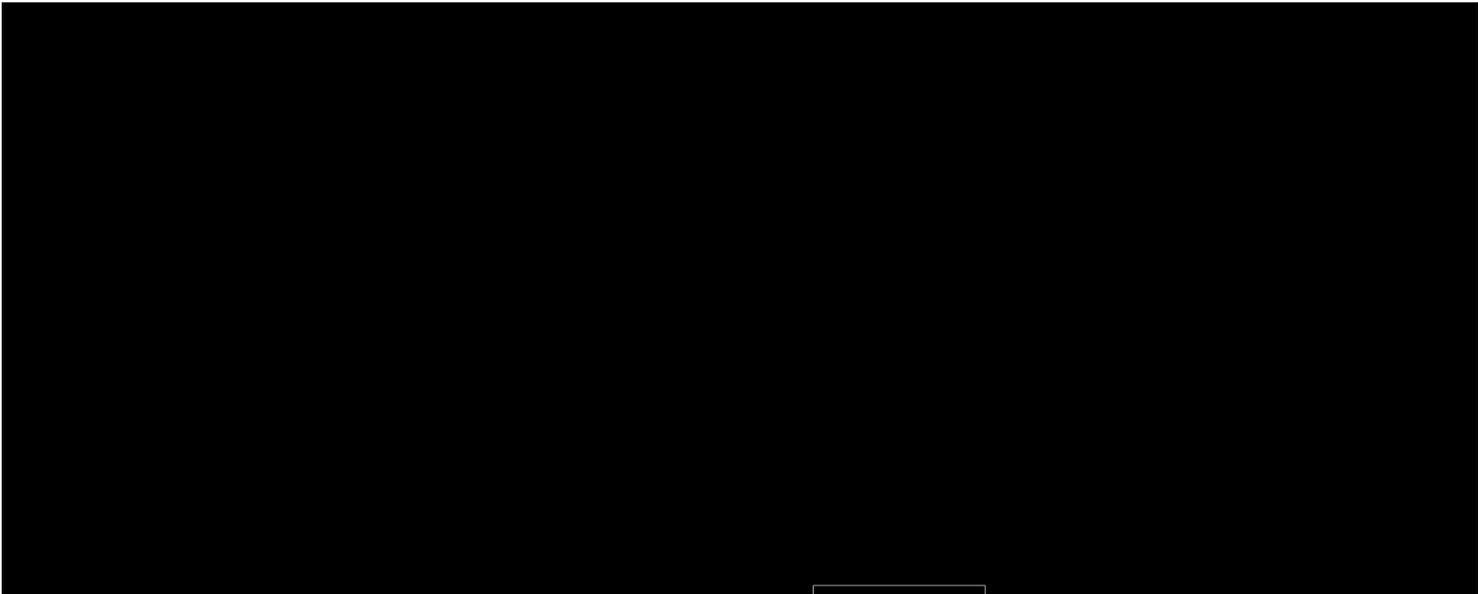
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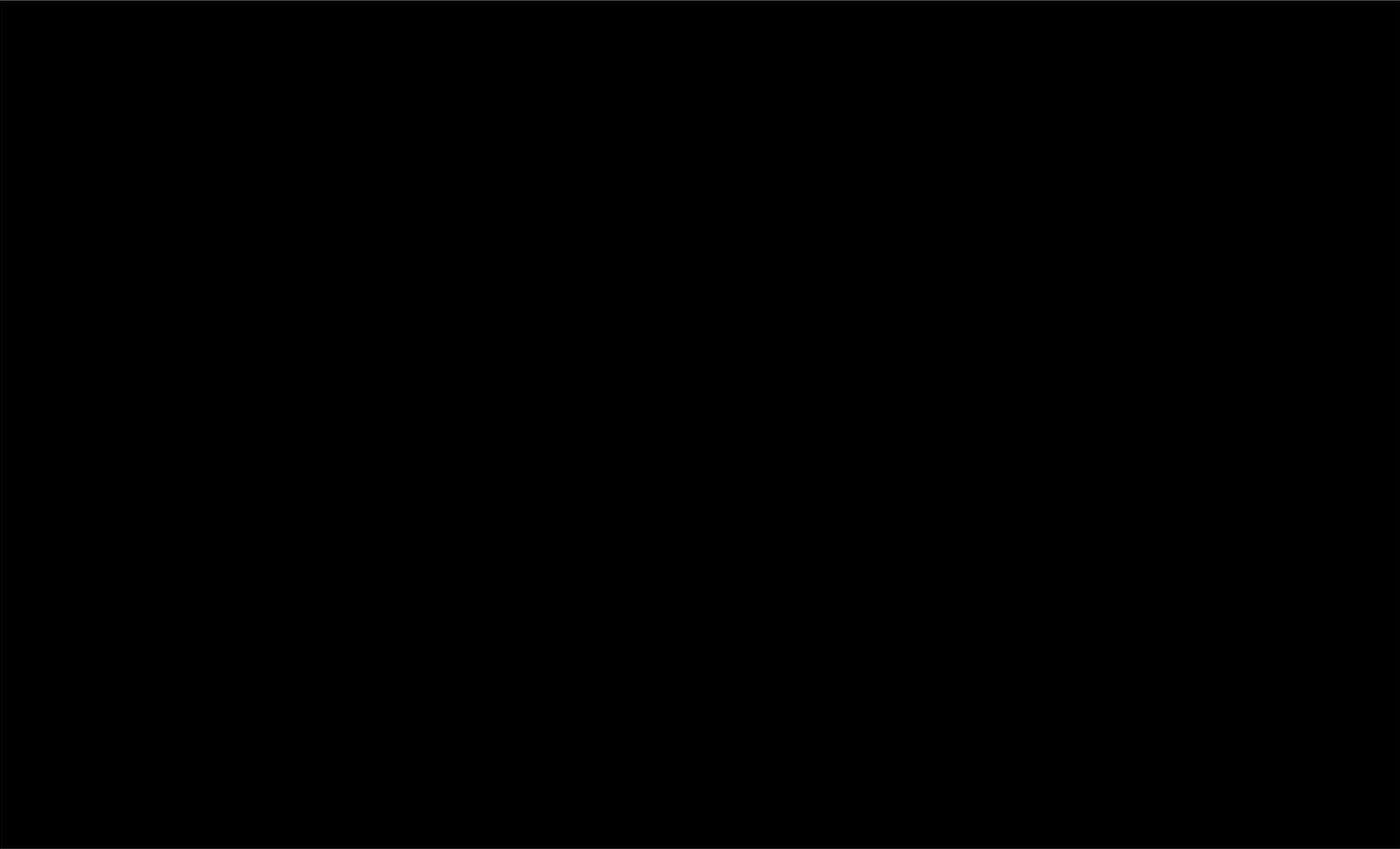
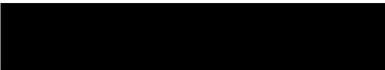
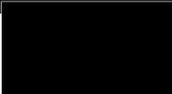
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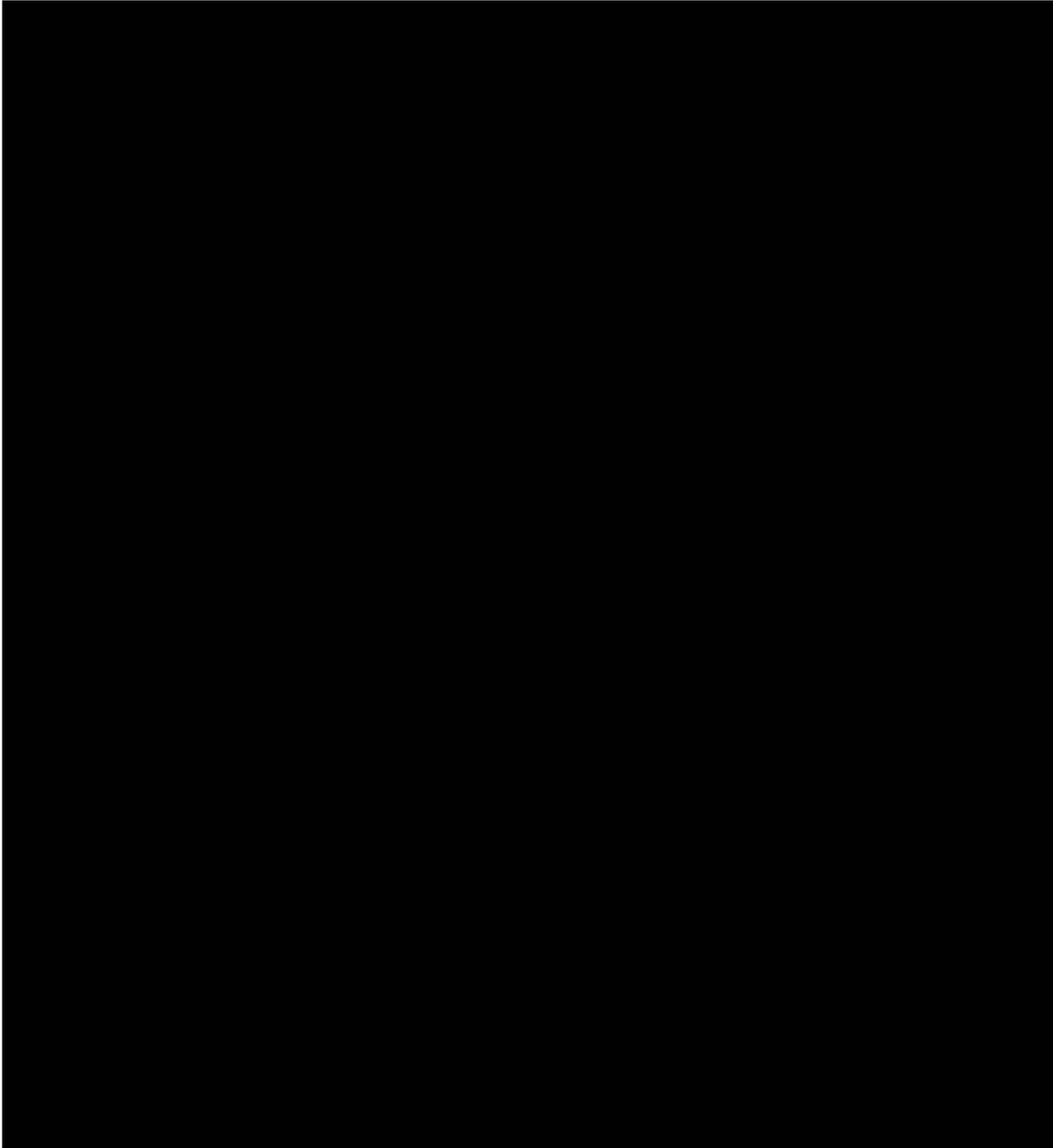
3. HAITI: LEFTIST GAINS INCREASE CONCERN



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HAITI: THE ARISTIDE PHENOMENON

ARISTIDE OWES HIS POPULARITY TO PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS THAT HE CHAMPIONS REVENGE AGAINST THE INFLUENTIAL ARCHITECTS OF THE DUVALIER REGIME, FAVORS A MASSIVE REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND LAND, AND WILL DEFEND HAITIAN SOVEREIGNTY IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA. HE IDENTIFIES WITH BOTH THE RURAL AND THE URBAN POOR, SPEAKING TO THEM IN SIMPLE CREOLE TERMS AND USING POWERFUL SYMBOLS SUCH AS A 'FLOOD' OR 'AVALANCHE' TO DESCRIBE HIS PROGRAM FOR CHANGE. UNION LEADERS ADMIT ARISTIDE PROBABLY HAS SUPPORT FROM MORE THAN HALF THE MEMBERSHIP OF TWO MAJOR LABOR FEDERATIONS; A RECENT CAMPAIGN TOUR WAS SPONSORED BY AN INFLUENTIAL PEASANT ORGANIZATION. ARISTIDE HAS DEVELOPED A MYTHICAL PERSONA, BASED LARGELY ON HAVING SURVIVED NUMEROUS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS. [REDACTED]

ARISTIDE'S BROAD APPEAL AND RECIPE FOR RADICAL CHANGE, HOWEVER, MAKE HIM AN ANATHEMA TO HAITI'S ESTABLISHED MILITARY, BUSINESS, AND POLITICAL ELITES. CHURCH, LABOR, AND EVEN SOME MAINSTREAM LEFTIST LEADERS ARE CONCERNED THAT HE IS UNBALANCED, SUFFERS FROM A MESSIAH COMPLEX, AND IS INFLUENCED BY VIOLENT EXTREMISTS. ACCORDING TO THE

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] ARISTIDE'S KEY ADVISERS ARE DRAWN FROM A
TERRORIST GROUP, AN ORGANIZATION OF DISGRUNTLED FORMER SOLDIERS, AND
A FRINGE POLITICAL PARTY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]