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Caricom Delegation Travels To Haiti To Evaluate Democratic Reforms

by John Neagle
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On Aug. 15, a Caribbean Community (CARICOM) delegation comprised of foreign ministers from the Bahamas, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago, was scheduled to arrive in Haiti to discuss democratic reforms in that country. Haiti's Gen. Prosper Avril invited the delegation to spend a week meeting with representatives of the government, political parties, church and labor leaders. The mission was authorized by the 13 CARICOM member-nation leaders at a summit in July. After the summit, the Caribbean leaders emphasized that the mission should not be interpreted as a demonstration of support for Avril, who came to power in a coup last September. Haiti has observer status in CARICOM. Unidentified CARICOM officials in Kingston, Jamaica, were cited by AFP as saying that the ministers would collect information on Haiti's current political and economic situation in order to determine the most effective type of assistance the regional organization could offer. (Basic data from AFP, 08/15/89)

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