

U.S. SOUTHCOM United States Southern Command Fact Sheet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Situation Report for Media: Multinational Interim Force–Haiti

MIAMI – Following are significant events and activities of the Multinational Interim Force (MIF) and Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) – Haiti and associated agencies during the last 24 hours:

Presence Patrols, Security and Disarmament Operations:

- **Weapons turned in to MIF/CJTF-H:** Three Chimere leaders turned over more than 60 weapons to Haitian National Police today in the Cite Soleil neighborhood of Port-au-Prince.
 - French forces operating as part of the Multinational Interim Force – Haiti, brokered the turn-in and took part in the operation as well.
 - The voluntary disarmament assists the MIF-H in its mission of contributing to stability and security in Port-au-Prince and in setting the conditions for the arrival of follow-on UN forces.
- MIF/CJTF-H troops from the U.S. Marine, Chilean, and French contingents have secured port facilities and the international airport in PaP to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the normal delivery of commercial cargo and passengers.
- MIF/CJTF-H troops are clearing and securing key transportation routes to permit safe and secure movement of security forces and emergency services, humanitarian assistance and commercial traffic.
- The MIF/CJTF-H and Haitian National Police (HNP) continue presence patrols to stabilize the security situation throughout PaP, support disarmament and to protect Haitians from acts of violence.

• **Presence Patrol shooting incident:**

- Shortly before 10 p.m. last night, a combined presence patrol of HNP and U.S. Marines were returning to the patrol's starting point at the Presidential Palace, when it was approached by a civilian vehicle traveling about 40 mph.
- The Marines used flashing HMMWV headlights, flashlights, hand signals and shouted commands to signal the vehicle to slow down. The vehicle swerved around the leading HMMWVs and accelerated toward the Marines who were walking.
- The threatened Marines fired at the tires and engine compartment to disable the vehicle, which then collided with another civilian vehicle.
- The driver and sole occupant of the fired-on vehicle sustained a foot wound and scrapes; the occupants of the second vehicle were uninjured. No Marines were injured. An ambulance was called and transported the injured driver to a hospital.
- The presence patrol returned to the Presidential Palace without further incident.

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- **Stability Operations:** MIF/CJTF-H officials and representatives of other U.S. Government agencies continue to coordinate with Haitian authorities to restore stability and the rule of law.
 - The Civil-Military Operations Center (C-MOC) staff continues work with international agencies and Haitian leaders to improve life in Haiti and to coordinate operations with local Haitian officials.
 - The Maritime Component Command for the CJTF-H (elements of U.S. Coast Guard) continue to provide support for port security in Port-au-Prince (PaP) harbor, aids to navigation and conducting port assessments to help restore commercial and humanitarian operations in other Haitian ports.
 - HNP and MIF/CJTF-H officials continue to urge Haitians to disarm, and to emphasize that threats to MIF/CJTF-H forces or the HNP will not be tolerated.
 - The international airport is secure and commercial air carriers have resumed flights into Haiti.
 - Haiti's commercial activities are increasing.
 - Garbage collection, street cleanups, and basic services have resumed and are increasing and improving.

Security Assessments:

- The MIF/CJTF-H continues visits throughout Haiti conducting security assessments and providing security assistance to Haitian government officials.

• **Force Statistics:**

- MIF/CTJF-H currently consists of nearly 2,800 troops, which includes nearly 1,800 U.S., more than 525 French (not including French Naval personnel in Caribbean waters,) nearly 330 Chileans, and nearly 150 Canadians. The Canadian presence is expected to more than double in the next 24 hours.
- MIF/CTJF-H forces have a robust quick reaction and mobility capability, including more than 50 vehicles and nearly a dozen aircraft.
- U.S. government aircraft providing support to the MIF/CTJF-H include more than 50 aircraft. Their missions include personnel and cargo movement, reconnaissance and maritime surveillance.

• **Migrant Interdiction:**

- The Department of Homeland Security deactivated its Homeland Security Task Force Southeast yesterday, citing increasing stabilization of the situation in Haiti and a resulting reduced risk of increased migrant activity.
- Department of Homeland Security's Coast Guard District 7 continues patrolling to support migration interdiction and rescue, more details at: <http://www.d7publicaffairs.com/>.

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