

USSOUTHCOM United States Southern Command Media Statement



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SOUTHCOM Commander meets with Haitian and MIF leaders

MIAMI – U.S. military forces, as part of the U.N.-authorized Multinational Interim Force (MIF), continue to arrive in Haiti to help the Haitian government stabilize the security situation. Military forces began to conduct visits outside the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince to assess the security situation and to help local Haitian authorities identify the assistance they need to bring stability to their towns and cities. The multinational forces and Haitian National Police (HNP) continue to conduct presence patrols in Port-au-Prince, which are having a calming effect in the country's capital.

Currently, about 1,300 U.S. and about 700 multinational troops comprise the MIF, with another 130 U.S. military personnel expected to arrive throughout the day.

U.S. Army Gen. James T. Hill of U.S. Southern Command traveled to Haiti on March 5 to discuss the specific roles and missions of the multinational force with Haitian Government and MIF leaders. Gen. Hill also met with U.S. Ambassador to Haiti James Foley, President Boniface Alexandre, Prime Minister Yvon Neptune and the new Haitian Chief of Police Leon Charles. The focus of these meetings was the integration of the MIF with Haitian authorities and the HNP in order to enhance stability and continue to support Haiti's democratic process.

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All questions regarding this matter should be directed to the USSOUTHCOM Public Affairs Office at (305) 437-1213. A listing of press releases can be found at website: www.southcom.mil