

# USSOUTHCOM

## United States Southern Command

### Fact Sheet



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Situation Report for Media: Multinational Interim Force

**MIAMI** – Following are significant events and activities of the Multinational Interim Force (MIF) and Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF)– Haiti and associated agencies supporting Operation Secure Tomorrow during the last 24 hours (new or updated information in bold characters)

- **The U.S. Southern Command Commander, U.S. Army Gen. James t. Hill, visited Haiti today, meeting with representatives of each nation in the Multinational force, U.S. Embassy officials and with the U.S. Marines providing security at the PaP port facilities.**
- **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.
  - French forces are in Cap Haitian and Gonaives and are securing key routes between several northern cities to facilitate the flow of humanitarian assistance, stabilization forces and commercial traffic.
  - The Civil-Military Operations Center (C-MOC) and other elements of the MIF/CJTF- H staff continue work with Haitian leaders, U.S. and international agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Haitian people to improve life in Haiti and to coordinate operations with Haitian officials. **As of March 21, the total amount of USAID/OFDA's relief assistance is \$2.1 million. In the last eight days, some specific accomplishments have included:**
    - **On March 15, the first UN convoy since Feb. 1 made its way from Port-au-Prince (PaP) to Cap Haitian with 20 tons of food to feed 3,700 people.**
    - **On March 18, the U.S. Agency for International Development/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) delivered 6,000 hygiene kits to UNICEF for distribution to children in the PaP area.**
    - MIF/CJTF-H officials are working closely with the Haitian Coast Guard to restore their capabilities and facilities.
    - The CJTF-H Maritime Component Command (elements of U.S. Coast Guard) continues to provide support for port security in PaP harbor, aids to navigation and is conducting port assessments to help restore commercial accessibility and facilitate humanitarian operations in other Haitian ports.
  - Haitian National Police (HNP) and MIF/CJTF-H officials continue to urge Haitians to disarm and emphasize that threats to MIF/CJTF-H forces or the HNP will not be tolerated.
  - Key transportation routes continue to reopen, fuel **and other staples** are arriving by truck to most Haitian cities.
  - **Some schools have reopened in PaP, and with the urging of Haitian officials, students are returning to their studies. MIF/CJTF-H forces are patrolling in the areas of the schools to enhance security.**
  - Haiti's commercial activities are increasing.
  - Garbage collection, street cleanups and basic services have resumed and are increasing and improving.

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- **Presence Patrols, Security and Disarmament Operations:**
  - MIF/CJTF-H troops from the U.S. Marine, French, Chilean, and Canadian contingents have secured port facilities and the international airport in PaP to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and restore routine commercial cargo and passengers flow.
  - MIF/CJTF-H troops and HNP are clearing and securing key transportation routes to permit safe and secure movement of security forces, humanitarian assistance, emergency services and commercial traffic.
  - **The MIF/CJTF-H conducted nearly two-dozen presence patrols** in PaP to help stabilize the security situation throughout PaP, support disarmament and to protect Haitians from acts of violence. The patrols have repeatedly demonstrated disciplined and effective responses to threats and are promoting increasing confidence, cooperation and support from the majority of the Haitian people.
  
- **Security Assessments:**
  - The MIF/CJTF-H is continuing to conduct security assessment visits throughout Haiti and is providing security assistance to Haitian government officials. Those assessments indicate a generally improving security situation, the rule of law and civil order.
  
- **Force Statistics:**
  - **MIF/CTJF-H currently consists of more than 3,400 troops, which includes nearly 1,850 U.S., more than 760 French (including French Naval personnel in Caribbean waters), nearly 500 Canadians and more than 330 Chileans.**
  - MIF/CTJF-H forces on the ground have a robust quick reaction and mobility capability, including **numerous** vehicles and **more than 15** aircraft. Additionally, **about 10** ships in Haitian and nearby international waters provide for migrant interdiction, rescue and repatriation; maritime safety, aids to navigation and support of MIF/CJTF forces ashore.
  - Nearly 50 U.S. government aircraft are providing support to the MIF/CTJF-H. Their missions include personnel and cargo movement, reconnaissance and maritime surveillance.
  
- **Migrant Interdiction:**
  - Department of Homeland Security's Coast Guard District 7 continues patrolling to support migration interdiction and rescue, more details at: <http://www.d7publicaffairs.com/>. DHS, U.S. State Department, and MIF/CJTF officials continue to report no indicators of significant migration attempts.

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Additional information and previous releases are located at <http://www.southcom.mil/>