

SECURITY REPORT

DECEMBER 9TH TO DECEMBER 16TH, 2024

REPORT NO. 10

12/16/2024



Médecins Sans Frontières Partially Resumes Operations in Port-au-Prince Amid Ongoing Security Concerns

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has partially resumed its medical activities in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince after a 22-day suspension caused by threats and violence against its staff. This resumption includes the hospitals in Tabarre, Carrefour, Cité Soleil, and the Pran Men'm clinic. However, patient transportation and operations at the Turgeau emergency center remain suspended due to ongoing security risks.

Haitian National Police Intensify Operations Against Gangs in Wharf Jérémie and Artibonite

The Haitian National Police (HNP) announced its plan for a firm response to the massacre at Wharf Jérémie carried out by gang leader Micanor. On December 11, Deputy Spokesman Lionel Lizarre provided updates on ongoing police operations in the West and Artibonite departments. Despite their base in Delmas 3, the HNP was unable to intervene during the massacre, which reportedly claimed nearly 200 lives, mostly elderly people. However, the police are now intensifying efforts to dismantle criminal strongholds and regain control of affected areas.

In Petite-Rivière de l'Artibonite, the HNP has reclaimed the local police station and sub-stations in Pont Sondé, dismantling gang bases in Savien and Douin while clearing toll checkpoints set up by armed groups. Operations, supported by Kenyan officers, have reopened major roads, and timid recovery of normal activities has been observed. Similarly, in the West Department, the HNP, in collaboration with the Multinational Security Support Mission (MMAS), is conducting day-and-night operations against gang-controlled zones. Police have regained strategic areas in Port-au-Prince, including key roads and previously occupied facilities, ensuring increased patrols and a stronger presence in neighborhoods such as Pétion-Ville, Delmas, Tabarre, and Bas Delmas. Law enforcement efforts aim to restore security and facilitate movement for residents, emphasizing collaboration with local populations to achieve these goals.



MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS





CONTROVERSIAL DEMONSTRATION IN CITE SOLEIL SPARKS DIVISION OVER ALLEGED MASS KILLINGS BY GANG LEADER WA MIKANÒ

Jean Monel Félix, also known as Micanor Altès or "King Micanor," the gang leader of Wharf Jérémie in Cité Soleil, has been accused of orchestrating a series of brutal massacres, plunging the region into chaos. The most recent atrocities began on the night of December 6-7, 2024, with reports of up to 200 individuals, primarily elderly people accused of witchcraft, being killed in retaliation for the death of his son. Victims were reportedly abducted, stabbed, decapitated, and their bodies either burned or discarded in the sea. While some residents dispute the death toll, claiming only 11 people were killed, subsequent violence has brought the total number of fatalities to an estimated 300 since December 6.

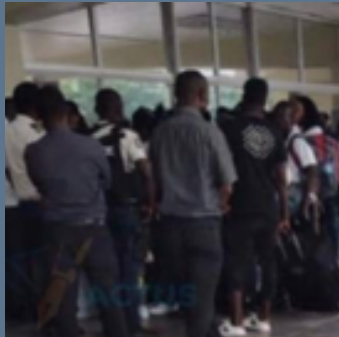
Between December 12-13, at least 50 additional people were killed, with over 20 homes burned, often with women and children trapped inside. Civilians accused of leaking information about prior massacres were specifically targeted, and entire families were slaughtered. Pregnant women, elders, and community leaders were among the victims, reflecting the indiscriminate brutality of the attacks. Micanor's gang uses violent tactics to maintain control, including executing family members of disobedient gang members. In one case, a 17-year-old was killed for refusing to attack his own relatives. The gang has also imposed strict rules on residents, banning cell phone use and punishing violations with death. Extortion is another key tool of control, with the gang reportedly collecting over \$1 million annually from businesses, market vendors, and residents to fund operations, purchase weapons, and maintain loyalty among members.

Micanor's violent history extends back to 2008, when he orchestrated the murders of seven voodoo priestesses (mambos), followed by the 2012 killings of a dozen women for alleged "mystical empowerment." He is also affiliated with the "Viv Ansanm" criminal coalition, led by notorious gang leader Jimmy Cherizier, alias "Barbecue." Personal accounts reveal the devastating toll of his actions. Marcel Cangé, a respected elder, was kidnapped and burned alive, leaving his son Marckenson in fear after reporting the crime. Hospitals in the region remain overwhelmed, unable to provide care due to logistical constraints and fear of gang retaliation.

The violence in Wharf Jérémie has been widely documented on social media, with graphic images of mutilated and burned bodies circulating, exposing the horrifying scale of the atrocities. On December 11, a controversial demonstration in Wharf Jérémie saw segments of the local population showing support for Micanor, viewing him as a protector, while others condemned his reign of terror. Survivors and families of victims remain trapped or in hiding, fearing retribution, as the gang's dominance continues. Despite the presence of a multinational security force in Haiti for the past five months, its impact on curbing gang activity has been minimal. Haiti's government has promised swift action, but effective measures to stop the violence have yet to materialize.

The atrocities in Wharf Jérémie underscore the collapse of state authority and governance in Haiti. Escalating violence, fueled by political instability, a culture of impunity, and inadequate law enforcement, has deepened the humanitarian crisis. Vulnerable groups, including marginalized individuals such as the elderly and LGBTQ+ communities, face increasing threats as communities remain divided and trapped in fear. Without urgent and coordinated local and international intervention to restore security, dismantle gang networks, and provide justice for the victims, the region risks becoming entrenched in an unending cycle of violence and suffering.

TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE AIRPORT



HAITI REOPENS TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE AIRPORT AMID FAA FLIGHT BAN EXTENSION

Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aimé announced the resumption of commercial flights at Toussaint Louverture International Airport on December 10, 2024, as part of efforts to restore security and revitalize Haiti's economy. The decision followed strategic consultations with national institutions, including the Haitian National Police (PNH), Haitian Armed Forces (FAd'H), and the Multinational Security Support Mission (MMSS), resulting in the implementation of an immediate security plan.

Key measures include strengthened patrols and checkpoints around the airport, infrastructure rehabilitation led by the Ministry of Public Works, and successful test flights confirming operational readiness. The reopening is seen as a critical step toward economic recovery, facilitating international trade, investment, and tourism.

However, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has extended its flight ban for American airlines and U.S.-registered aircraft to Port-au-Prince until March 12, 2025, citing ongoing safety concerns. This decision, tied to the November 11 projectile attacks on three commercial planes, contradicts claims by the Transitional Presidential Council (CPT) that the ban would be lifted due to improved security. The FAA's renewed restrictions highlight the ongoing instability affecting Haiti's aviation sector and underscore the challenges the government faces in regaining international confidence.

The Prime Minister reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring the security of strategic infrastructure and fostering sustainable development, urging collective efforts to build a secure and prosperous future for Haiti. While the decision signals optimism, many remain skeptical about its feasibility and long-term impact given Haiti's ongoing challenges. Despite promises of enhanced security measures, including patrols and checkpoints, the ability to sustain these efforts in a volatile environment is uncertain. Infrastructure improvements and successful test flights are encouraging steps, but critics question whether these are sufficient to address the systemic issues threatening stability. The resumption of flights aims to reintegrate Haiti into the global economy, boost trade, and attract investments. However, the persistent insecurity, economic stagnation, and lack of trust in government capabilities cast doubt on whether this move will deliver the intended results. Observers warn that without addressing deeper structural and security challenges, this initiative risks being a temporary patch rather than a lasting solution.

More than fifty Haitian citizens checked in at Toussaint Louverture International Airport on the morning of Saturday, December 14, 2024, to head to Brazil. According to sources, the flight did depart safely.

TRANSAT SUSPENDS FLIGHTS TO PORT-AU- PRINCE AMID RISING VIOLENCE

Due to the escalating violence in Haiti, flights to and from Port-au-Prince are suspended until at least April 30, 2025, for the safety of crews and passengers. All affected reservations are canceled, and full refunds will be issued automatically. Refunds to credit cards may take up to two weeks, depending on the financial institution. Updates on the situation will be provided on the company's website.





HAITIAN POLICE CONDUCT MAJOR OPERATION: KEY GANG MEMBER NEUTRALIZED

- During a large-scale police operation carried out by the Haitian National Police (PNH) on Sunday, December 15, 2024, a prominent member of the gang led by Jimmy Cherizier, alias "Barbecue," was killed. The individual, known as Kenken Bèl Chèf, served as the right-hand man to the gang leader. Kenken Bèl Chèf was part of a criminal faction operating in Delmas 6, located in the West Department.



GOVERNMENT UNVEILS YET ANOTHER THREE-POINT PLAN TO TACKLE INSECURITY AMID PUBLIC DOUBTS

Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aimé chaired a critical meeting of the Superior Council of the National Police (CSPN) on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, according to a statement from his communication office. The meeting, attended by key national security officials, was convened to address the ongoing security crisis, particularly in response to the recent massacres in Wharf Jérémie and Petite-Rivière de l'Artibonite.

The CSPN presented a three-pronged action plan to tackle the worsening situation:

- Eradicate Banditry and Crime:** The government pledged to intensify operations against armed gangs and criminal networks, aiming to dismantle their influence.
- Restore Peace and Stability:** Efforts will focus on securing the country, with priority given to areas most affected by violence.
- Guarantee Free Movement of People and Goods:** Authorities plan to secure strategic corridors, particularly in Port-au-Prince and the Artibonite region, to facilitate daily life and economic activities.

The plan prioritizes regaining control over sensitive areas such as Solino, the Lower City, and regions of the Artibonite, where insecurity has paralyzed daily activities. The government also issued a call for unity and resilience, stating, "Together, we will overcome this difficult time to build a future where every citizen can live in peace and security."

While the announcement may signal renewed determination, many Haitians remain skeptical. Plans like these have been circulated repeatedly over the years, often tied to changes in leadership but with little follow-through. Residents in violence-stricken areas, frustrated by a history of inaction and the unchecked rise of gangs, are demanding tangible results, not recycled promises.

The effectiveness of this action plan will be closely watched by a population that has grown weary of empty declarations. The enduring cycle of insecurity and political instability has left many questioning whether these strategies will yield substantive change or simply fade into obscurity, as so many plans have before. For Haiti to move forward, concrete and sustained efforts must replace the rhetoric, ensuring that the cycle of circulating promises does not continue to undermine public trust.

ARMED ATTACK IN POSTE MARCHAND: CHURCH BURNED, CASUALTIES REPORTED

December 15, 2024 – An armed attack by members of the Viv Ansan M coalition in Poste Marchand on Sunday resulted in several injuries and significant property damage. Houses and a church were set on fire, forcing many residents to flee the area. According to reports, law enforcement engaged the attackers, leading to the deaths of several armed individuals. The police were able to repel the assailants, bringing the situation under some level of control. Residents continue to evacuate the area due to the ongoing threat posed by armed gangs, which have launched a new wave of violence across various neighborhoods in the capital. Gunfire has been reported in the region throughout the day.

GRAN GRIF GANG ATTACK DEVASTATES PETITE-RIVIÈRE DE L'ARTIBONITE: 15 DEAD, DOZENS KIDNAPPED, HOMES BURNED

Since the arrival of police in Petite-Rivière de l'Artibonite last weekend, the local population has taken justice into their own hands, targeting suspected gang members and accomplices in a wave of reprisals. Reports indicate that several individuals were captured, lynched by angry mobs, and their bodies thrown into the Artibonite River. Graphic images of the victims, widely circulated on social media, underscore the brutal nature of the violence. This escalation reflects growing desperation in a region plagued by insecurity.



On December 10–11, the Gran Grif gang from Savien retaliated by killing at least 15 residents, including two girls and two boys, while setting homes and vehicles ablaze. The gang also kidnapped several individuals, some of whom were later executed. Entire families were reportedly slaughtered in their homes near the Henri Christophe High School. Witnesses suggest that the gang's actions were a response to mounting tensions and ongoing attempts to restore security in the region.

André Saint-Louis, head of the Initiative Committee for Peace in the Lower Artibonite, highlighted the difficulty of assessing the true scope of the situation, as many bodies vanish into the river or are buried in secret. While some residents see this wave of mob justice as a shift in fear and a way to reclaim control, others express alarm at the risk of innocent people being wrongly targeted.

This cycle of revenge killings illustrates the collapse of state authority in Petite-Rivière de l'Artibonite. Without a swift return to institutional governance and effective law enforcement, the region faces the danger of descending further into a relentless spiral of violence, division, and lawlessness.



ESCALATING GANG VIOLENCE GRIPS PORT-AU-PRINCE: RESIDENTS DEMAND URGENT GOVERNMENT ACTION

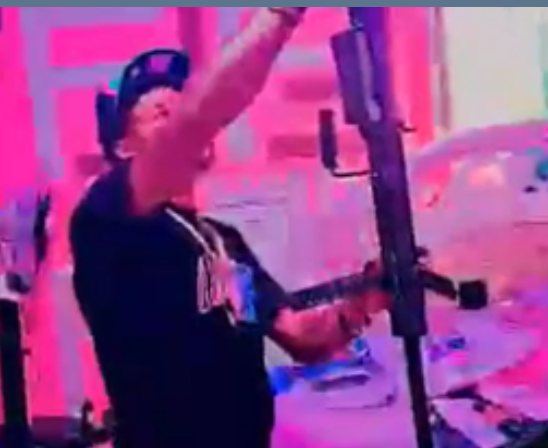
During the night of December 10 to 11, 2024, several neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince experienced extreme violence carried out by armed gangs. Areas such as Delmas 17 and 19, as well as Carrefour-Aéroport, were particularly affected, with reports of tragic deaths and vehicles set on fire.

The attacks plunged residents into a state of fear, heightened by the sound of heavy gunfire from war-grade weapons in areas like Nazon, Christ-Roi, and Bas-Delmas. In response to this escalating violence, the population continues to urgently demand effective security measures from the de facto government led by Alix Didier Fils-Aimé. While Haitian security forces, supported by the Multinational Security Support Mission (MMAS), have made some progress in targeted areas, their ability to contain these criminal groups remains limited. Armed gangs, more determined than ever, maintain their control over vast territories, openly defying authorities and making daily life unbearable for countless citizens.



Haitian Police Conduct Major Operation: Key Gang Member Neutralized

The Escalating Threat of .50 Caliber Weapons in Gang Hands: Implications for Protection Details



On Saturday, a circulating video showed "Lanmo San Jou," the leader of the 400 Mawozo gang, brandishing a .50 caliber weapon. This stark display underscores a severe security threat, as standard armored vehicles are not equipped to withstand the immense power of such weaponry. The .50 BMG round, often used in heavy sniper rifles and machine guns, generates extraordinary kinetic energy, capable of penetrating up to 1 inch of rolled homogeneous steel armor at considerable distances.

While civilian armored vehicles are typically designed to withstand small arms fire (e.g., up to 7.62mm rounds), they are vulnerable to .50 caliber rounds, especially armor-piercing variants. Critical weak points, including glass, undercarriages, and engines, are particularly susceptible, allowing such rounds to disable or breach standard protection. With an effective range exceeding 1,500 yards, the weapon poses a significant challenge to protection teams operating in high-threat environments.

This is not the first time Halo Security Firm has become aware of .50 caliber weapons being in the hands of gang members. The prevalence of these arms amplifies the danger for protection details conducting operations or movement. Teams must remain acutely aware of the heightened risks, as these weapons can incapacitate even high-level armored vehicles. To counter this evolving threat, protection teams must prioritize intelligence gathering and analysis. Staying informed through intelligence-based groups, international organizations, and open-source reporting is essential for understanding the threat landscape and adjusting movement protocols accordingly.

Halo Solutions Firm S.A. recommends:

Implementing active countermeasures, such as deploying surveillance and detection systems to identify and neutralize threats at long ranges.

Enhancing operational tactics, focusing on reducing exposure during movements by varying routes, avoiding predictable patterns, and maintaining a heightened level of situational awareness.

The presence of such high-powered weaponry in the hands of criminal elements like 400 Mawozo underscores the urgent need for enhanced security protocols, specialized equipment, and meticulous planning to protect personnel and assets in high-threat environments.

The Bahamas Deploys Naval Vessels to Haiti to Combat Arms Trafficking and Irregular Migration

The Bahamas has announced plans to deploy two Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF) vessels to Haiti by December 22, 2024. The mission, as stated by National Security Minister Wayne Munroe, aims to patrol Haiti's coastal waters to intercept illegal arms shipments entering the country and to prevent unauthorized migrant departures. This initiative is part of a broader Multinational Security Support Mission (MSSM) in Haiti, which includes contributions from countries such as Kenya, Jamaica, and Belize. The MSSM's objective is to assist the Haitian National Police in restoring security amid escalating gang violence and political instability. The United Nations Security Council has expressed grave concern over the high levels of gang violence and criminal activities in Haiti. In response, it unanimously voted to expand the arms embargo on Haiti to all types of weapons and ammunition, authorizing member states to take appropriate steps to prevent illicit trafficking and diversion of arms into the country. The deployment of RBDF vessels underscores The Bahamas' commitment to regional security and its proactive stance in addressing both the flow of illegal arms into Haiti and the prevention of irregular migration from the country. This move aligns with international efforts to stabilize Haiti and support its path toward peace and security.

PRIME MINISTER ENGAGES DIPLOMATIC CORPS ON SECURITY, ELECTIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prime Minister Alix Didier Filis-Aimé met with representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Haiti on December 10, 2024, to strengthen dialogue between the transitional government and its international partners. The meeting focused on addressing key national priorities, including enhancing security, managing humanitarian and economic crises, and preparing for credible and inclusive elections.
- During the meeting, the Prime Minister outlined the primary objectives of his government, emphasizing the need for international support to overcome Haiti's current challenges and restore confidence and stability. Key priorities include strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies, advancing economic recovery through sustainable development initiatives, organizing inclusive elections, pursuing constitutional reform, and ensuring respect for the rule of law.
- The international partners reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Haiti in achieving these strategic objectives, consistent with the framework established by the April 3, 2024, agreement. This collaborative effort aims to foster a stable and secure environment, paving the way for economic growth and democratic governance.



MISCELLANEOUS SECURITY REPORTING

Security Incidents Tracked by Halo Solutions Firm S.A.

The security situation in Port-au-Prince and other parts of Haiti has continued to deteriorate significantly between December 8 and December 15, 2024. Armed gang activities, violent confrontations with police forces, and widespread shootings have been reported in multiple areas, resulting in heightened security risks for residents and organizations operating in these regions. Escalating violence has severely impacted movement and access to key locations, with roadblocks and checkpoints set up by armed individuals further complicating mobility.

Incident Overview by Date

Sunday, December 8, 2024

1. **Poste Marchand:** Active gang activity reported.
2. **Nazon / Carrefour Aéroport:** Clashes between gangs and police, accompanied by heavy gunfire.
3. **Bel-Air / Poste Marchand:** Gang activity in progress.
4. **Petite-Rivière, Artibonite:** Armed clashes and gunfire reported between gangs and police.
5. **Carrefour Samida / Bas Delmas:** Violent confrontations involving heavy shooting.

Monday, December 9, 2024

1. **Palmis, Petite-Rivière, Artibonite:** Clashes between gangs and police.
2. **Petite-Rivière, Artibonite:** Continued gang activity, with reports of local residents searching for gang members.
3. **Nazon / Carrefour Aéroport / Christ Roi:** Armed confrontations reported.
4. **Marché Salomon Area:** Heavy shooting during violent clashes.
5. **Delugé, Montrouis, Trous Forban, Trous Barrette, Cariesse (RN1):** Ongoing gang activity with gunfire reported.

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

1. **Poste Marchand / Carrefour Marassa:** Gang activity alongside ongoing police operations.

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

1. **Delmas 19:** Intense confrontations between gangs and police, with heavy gunfire.
2. **Ruelle Alerte / Marché Salomon Area:** Significant shooting incidents during clashes.

Thursday, December 12, 2024

1. **Bellanton / Croix des Bouquets:** Armed men reported in the area.
2. **Carrefour Samida:** Continued gang activity; police presence reported.
3. **Bas Delmas / Nazon:** Heavy gunfire during violent confrontations.
4. **Delmas 19 & 31:** Ongoing clashes with reports of gunfire.
5. **Trou-Caïman / Thomazeau (RN3):** Armed individuals observed.
6. **Petite-Rivière, Artibonite:** Persistent gang activity.
7. **Delmas 17 & 19:** Gang-related incidents, with police responding.

MISCELLANEOUS SECURITY REPORTING

Friday, December 13, 2024

- **Poste Marchand / Lalue:** Intense gunfire during clashes.
- **Delmas 95:** Gang activity reported.
- **Lalue Area:** Violent confrontations with heavy shooting.
- **Canapé Vert (Near Pont Morin, Natcom, and Medlab):** Roadblocks set up, restricting access.

Saturday, December 14, 2024

- **Canaan 70 / RN3:** Armed men established a checkpoint.
- **Champs de Mars / Downtown:** Ongoing clashes with gunfire.
- **Carrefour Aéroport / Nazon:** Violent confrontations with significant shooting.
- **Delmas 11 & 13:** Gunfire reported amidst clashes.
- **Palmis / Petite-Rivière / Artibonite:** Armed clashes reported, with roads blocked in some areas.
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Sunday, December 15, 2024

1. **Champs de Mars / Downtown:** Continued clashes and gunfire.
2. **Delmas 30, 32, Nazon:** Ongoing violence, with shooting reported.
3. **Ravine Pintade / Nazon:** Heavy gunfire amidst violent confrontations.
4. **Poste Marchand / Carrefour Aéroport / Fort National:** Significant clashes with widespread gunfire.
5. **Delmas 6:** Violent confrontations with gunfire.
6. **Meyer Area / RN3 / Croix des Bouquets:** Armed individuals reported.
7. **Palmis to Savien / Petite-Rivière:** Roadblocks reported, with police present.

Key Affected Areas

- **Port-au-Prince:** Delmas 6, 11, 13, 19, 30, 31, and 32; Nazon; Carrefour Aéroport; Champs de Mars; Poste Marchand; Lalue; Ruelle Alerte; Marché Salomon; Canapé Vert.
- **Artibonite Region:** Palmis, Petite-Rivière, Savien, Trou-Caïman.
- **RN1 and RN3:** Armed activity and roadblocks reported at several points, including Bellanton, Croix des Bouquets, Canaan 70, and Thomazeau.

Impact on Security and Mobility

1. **Restricted Access:** Armed checkpoints and roadblocks have severely restricted movement in affected areas, particularly on major roads like RN1 and RN3.
2. **Elevated Risk:** Persistent gang activity and violent confrontations with police pose a high risk to civilians, businesses, and organizations operating in the region.
3. **Displacement:** Residents in heavily affected areas are likely displaced or seeking refuge, exacerbating humanitarian needs.

Gang Toll Charges December 15, 2024

1. **Kanaan / Morn Kabrit:**
 - \$90 to \$450
2. **Santo:**
 - \$90 to \$450
3. **Croix-des-Bouquets, Fonds Parisien to Jimani:**
 - Empty truck: \$90
 - Loaded truck: \$450
4. **CPS (per container):**
 - \$315
5. **Terminal Varreux (per tanker):**
 - \$225
6. **Cabotage Boats (truck transport, North/South):**
 - \$450 per truck