

More aid arrives in Haiti

By Alfred de Montesquiou and Michelle Faul
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Troops, doctors and aid workers flowed into Haiti on Monday and officials said billions of dollars more will be needed following the quake that killed an estimated 200,000 people and left many still struggling to find a cup of water or a handful of food.

European nations pledged more than a half-billion dollars in emergency and long-term aid, on top of at least \$100 million promised earlier by the U.S. The president of the neighboring Dominican Republic said it will cost far more to finally rebuild the country: \$10 billion.

Help was still not reaching many victims of last Tuesday's quake — choked back by transportation bottlenecks, bureaucratic confusion, fear of attacks on aid convoys, the collapse of local authority and the sheer scale of the need.

Looting spread to more parts of downtown Port-au-Prince as hundreds of young men and boys clambered up broken walls to break into shops and take whatever they can find. Especially prized was toothpaste, which people smear under their noses to fend

off the stench of decaying bodies. At a collapsed and burning shop in the market area, youths used broken bottles, machetes and razors to battle for bottles of rum and police fired shots to break up the crowd. "I am drinking as much as I can. It gives courage," said Jean Pierre Junior, wielding a broken wooden plank with nails to protect his bottle of rum.

Even so, the U.S. Army's on-the-ground commander, Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, said the city is seeing less violence than before the earthquake. "Is there gang violence? Yes. Was there gang violence before the earthquake? Absolutely."

U.S. officials say some 2,200 Marines were arriving to join 1,700 U.S. troops now on the ground and U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced Monday he wants 1,500 more U.N. police and 2,000 more troops to join the existing 7,000 military peacekeepers and 2,100 international police in Haiti.

While aid workers tried to make their way into Haiti, many people tried to leave. Hundreds of U.S. citizens, or people claiming to be, waved IDs as they formed a long line outside the U.S. Embassy in hopes of arranging a flight out of the country.

Dominican President Leonel

Fernandez, hosting an international meeting to plan strategy for Haiti, said it would cost \$10 billion over five years to reconstruct the country and confront the immediate emergency.

Roughly 200,000 people may have been killed in the magnitude-7.0 quake, the European Union said, quoting Haitian officials who also said about 70,000 bodies have been recovered so far. EU officials estimated that about 250,000 were injured and 1.5 million were homeless. Even many people whose houses survived are sleeping outside for aftershocks will collapse unstable buildings. And while the U.N. said that more than 73,000 people have received a week's rations, many still wait.

So many people have lost homes that the World Food Program is planning a tent camp for 100,000 people — an instant city the size of Burbank, California — on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, according to the agency's country director, Myrta Kaulard.

About 50,000 people already sleep each night on the city golf course where the U.S. 82nd Airborne Division has set up an aid camp.

In town, bodies still lay in the street six days after the quake, but Haitians had made progress in hauling many away for burial or



Residents of Haiti line up for water from a fire truck on Monday in Port-au-Prince. Water began to reach more people around the capital, which was struck by a powerful earthquake last Tuesday.

burning. People were seen dragging corpses to intersections in hopes that garbage trucks or aid groups would arrive to take them away. Six days after the quake, dozens of rescue crews were still working to rescue victims trapped under piles of concrete and debris.

"There are still people living" in collapsed buildings, U.N. humanitarian spokeswoman Elisabeth Byrs told the Associated Press. "Hope continues."

She said some might survive until Monday — and a few special cases could make it further: Rescuers pulled a 30-year-old man

and a 40-year-old woman from a ruined supermarket on Sunday. Officials said they had survived for so long by eating food where they were trapped.

Stunned by images of the disaster, the European Union Commission said it would contribute \$474 million in emergency and long-term aid to Haiti.

EU member states also poured \$132 million in emergency aid, including \$32.7 million from Britain and \$14.4 million from France, which said it was willing for forgive Haiti's \$55.7 million debt.



Residents of Haiti wait to get disaster relief supplies distributed by U.S. troops on Monday. Homeland Security spokesman Sean Smith said orphans who have ties to the U.S., and Haitians evacuated for medical reasons, are among those who can gain permission to remain in the U.S.

U.S. prepares for migration

By Curt Anderson
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MIAMI — U.S. authorities are readying for a potential influx of Haitians seeking to escape their earthquake-wracked nation, even though the policy for migrants remains the same: with few exceptions, they will go back.

So far, fears of a mass migration have yet to materialize. However, conditions in Haiti become more dire each day and U.S. officials don't want to be caught off guard.

Between 250 and 400 immigration detainees are being moved from South Florida's main detention center to clear space for any Haitians who manage to reach U.S. shores, according to the Homeland Security Department. The Navy base at Guantanamo Bay could house migrants temporarily — far from suspected terrorists also being held there — and the Catholic church is working on a plan to accept Haitian orphans.

Homeland Security spokesman Sean Smith said Monday that orphans who have ties to the U.S. — such as a family member already living here — and Haitians evacuated for medical reasons are among those who can gain special permission to remain in the U.S.

The mass migration plan, known as "Operation Vigilant Sentry," was put in place in 2003 because of previous experiences with Caribbean migrations, said Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Chris O'Neil, spokesman for the Homeland Security Task Force Southeast that would manage any Haitian influx.

"There is no new incentive for anyone to try to enter the United States illegally by sea," O'Neil said. "The goal is to interdict them at sea and repatriate them."

The message was underscored by Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano during a week-end appearance at Homestead Air Reserve Base south of Miami, a

key staging area for Haiti relief flights. "This is a very dangerous crossing. Lives are lost every time people try to make this crossing," Napolitano said, addressing Haitians directly. "Please do not have us divert our necessary rescue and relief efforts that are going into Haiti by trying to leave at this point."

Some immigration advocates say the U.S. should shift away from stopping migrants and ease safe passage. They say those on approved waiting lists should be able to join spouses or relatives in the U.S. "We should be figuring out an orderly transition for people to come here, instead of being panicked about it," said Ira Kurzban, a leading Miami immigration attorney.

The Obama administration's decision last week to grant temporary protected status to Haitians in the U.S. illegally as of Jan. 12 does not extend to those attempting to enter the U.S. after that date.

Pittsburgh charity to bring orphans from Haiti to U.S.

By Joe Mandak
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PITTSBURGH — A charity relief flight taking supplies to earthquake-ravaged Haiti is supposed to return to Pittsburgh with about 60 children from an orphanage run by two western Pennsylvania women, a hospital spokesman familiar with the effort said.

Dan Laurent, a spokesman for the West Penn Allegheny Health System, confirmed that the plane filled with relief supplies from Brother's Brother Foundation left Pittsburgh International Airport late Monday morning.

Laurent says the plane is supposed to bring back 61 orphans cared for by Jamie and Ali McMutrie, who are from the Pittsburgh suburb of Ben Avon. They have lived in Port-au-Prince since 2007 and run an orphanage called BRESMA.

"We have three people on board," Laurent said Monday, referring to two physicians and a physician's assistant from the Pittsburgh-based hospital network. "My understanding is they took off around noon today."

Laurent said the flight should take about five hours and the plan is to bring back the orphans as soon as possible.

"From what I've heard, they're looking at late night, or early morning," for returning to Pittsburgh International Airport. "I guess it would all depend on how quickly they can load these folks on the ground."

Laurent said one of the physicians, Dr. Chip Lambert, is an emergency physician who regularly does medical missions for Brother's Brother Foundation, a Pittsburgh-based charity relief agency. Luke Hinson, president of Brother's Brother, said he can't say who organized the relief efforts because they wish to remain anonymous. He also knows nothing about any plans to bring back the orphans, because his charity was limited to gathering and sending surgical, hygiene and other supplies.

But he said Lambert is the charity's medical director and definitely was aboard the flight to Haiti. Media reports say the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center plans to care for the orphans through UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and Laurent confirmed that, though he works for a rival health network.

Laurent said Allegheny General Hospital, West Penn's flagship, is "prepared to admit some of these children if necessary" to its inpatient pediatrics unit.

The McMutrie family has not responded to calls for comment, though they have posted a statement on a blog called That's Church. "Please stay tuned. Things are progressing, but still very fluid," the statement said Monday.

Who organized the relief effort is unclear as various people said to be involved in it have either not commented or not confirmed their involvement.

KDKA-TV and WPXI-TV reported that U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire, D-Pa. was with the relief workers at the Pittsburgh airport, though none would comment.

Altmire spokeswoman Tess Mullen said only that, "Congressman Altmire is doing everything he can to bring Jamie and Ali home safely. As he has done for the past numerous day, he is doing everything he can." Allegheny County spokeswoman Megan Dardanell said county personnel have a contingency plan so orphans have temporary placement in safe homes. Dardanell said officials weren't told how many orphans to expect.

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