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Stabilisation en Haïti

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**PRESS RELEASE**

***Two MINUSTAH Civpol Officers attacked by armed bandits and another one injured in Port-au-Prince***

*Port-au-Prince, 12 January 2005* – A United Nations Civpol patrol was fired at, on 12 January, by approximately 12 armed individuals, while driving in the district of Nazon in Port-au Prince, near the intersection of Boulevard Toussaint Louverture.

The vehicle, which was hit by gunshots in its engine and tires, was disabled and its passengers were forced to flee on foot. After the incident, officers from the Haitian National Police (HNP) and Civpol arrived from a nearby location to provide reinforcement and the two Civpol members were rescued without suffering any injuries.

Due to this incident as well as previous confrontations where other vehicles were set on fire by bandits in this zone, the FPU and other United Nations militaries are now securing the area. Furthermore, the United Nations vehicle was recuperated and an investigation regarding this incident is ongoing.

In addition, a MINUSTAH police officer was injured, on 11 January, when rescuing a victim which was about to be attacked by an angry crowd on Route de Freres. While attempting to flee the area with the victim on board, the crowd threw rocks and stones towards the UN vehicle.

One rock struck a passenger window and hit a Civpol Officer in the right eye. The Civpol Officer was quickly taken to the Argentinean Military Hospital, where he received immediate medical assistance. The incident is under further investigation by the HNP and being monitored by MINUSTAH's Civpol Unit.

***For additional information, please contact MINUSTAH's Office of Communication and Public Information at tel.: (509) 510-2563 ext.: 6343 or 510- 3183/84/85 ext.: 6037- 6034-6035 or consult the Mission's Internet site at <http://www.minustah.org>.***

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