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Toussaint L'Ouverture Port-Au-Prince International Airport Haiti



RP: 18°34'48" N 072°17'34" W

Image: GeoEye MS/Pan Merged Date: 13 Jan 2010

Damage Assessment January 2010







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Introduction

This briefing note covers Toussaint L'Ouverture, Port-au-Prince International Airport in Haiti and provides image analysis of the status, activity and facilities of the airfield with particular regard to any observed damage due to the recent earthquake. The note has been produced using a GeoEye multispectral image, dated 13 January 2010 which has been combined with open source collateral information. The information cut-off date of this briefing note is 22 January 2010.

1. Location and Type:

Reference Point (RP): RP: 18°34'48"N 072°17'34"W

International Airport

2. Status

Permanent, serviceable, occupied and operational

3. Activity

Aircraft activity included, two light helicopters, two executive jets and a single, probably unserviceable Boeing 727 airliner observed on the passenger terminal aircraft parking apron (Figure 3). On the grass area adjacent this, two light transport helicopters were observed with their rotor turning. On the central aircraft parking apron, 24 aircraft were observed. These comprised of 13 twin, propeller engine aircraft, 10 single, propeller engine aircraft, an executive jet and three light helicopters (Figure 4). On the apron located to the east of the UN Logistics Base (1) a Casa C212 Aviocar transport aircraft and a Dash 7 transport aircraft were parked. In addition, four Mi 8/17 'HIP' transport helicopters and five UH-1N Iroquois transport helicopters were also observed (Figure 5). Airborne and approaching the parking apron was a single light helicopter.

On the access roads leading to the airport vehicle traffic appeared to be moving freely with no visible damage or obstructions on the roads. Ground support equipment within the airport was also active.

4. Defences

No air or ground defences were observed at the airfield or in the surrounding area.

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5. Description of Facilities

Toussaint L'Ouverture, Port-au-Prince International Airport has a single, concrete runway known as RWY 10/28 with usable length of 3,000 m and a width of 50 m. The runway has a turning area 650 m from the eastern end and a second turning area at the western end. Three link taxiways connect the runway to three aircraft parking aprons. These aprons comprise of a concrete apron of 770 m by 110 m, in front of the airport passenger terminal (Figure 3), a centrally located, concrete apron of 170 m by 100 m to the south of the runway (Figure 4) and a concrete apron of 150 m by 160 m to the SE of the runway (Figure 5).

The passenger terminal is equipped with three passenger bridges and also accommodates the air traffic control (ATC) tower on its roof. Adjacent to the passenger terminal are numerous cargo transhipment buildings (Figure 3). To the east of the passenger terminal is a POL storage area with three flat-roofed POL storage tanks (Figure 3). In addition, a UN logistics base is contained in a compound to the west of the south eastern aircraft parking apron. The compound contains a hospital, numerous storage and support buildings and vehicle parking areas occupied by light-toned UN vehicles (2) (Figure 5). The airport navigation and landing aids include an ILS system and PAPI system at the western end of the runway. The airport is partly wall and partly fence-secured with watch towers and a perimeter patrol track. The main access to the airport is via a twin lane asphalt road leading to the airport terminal.

6. Damage Assessment

Although open source media reports have stated that the airport's ATC tower suffered damage during the earthquake and is not in use, no damage, such as ground cracks or collapsed buildings and structures was visible on the image of 13 January 2010. All of the aircraft operating areas and the internal roads appear serviceable.

7. IA Comment:

Although no damage was visible to the buildings and structures at airport, damage may have occurred to the interior of buildings and also to technical equipment essential to maintain the full operational status of the airport. This could explain the open source media reports that the airport's ATC tower is not in use.

References: (1) WFP Logistics Cluster, Haiti Map dated 13 Jan 2010

(2) UN Cartographic Section, Haiti Map dated 13 Jan 2010

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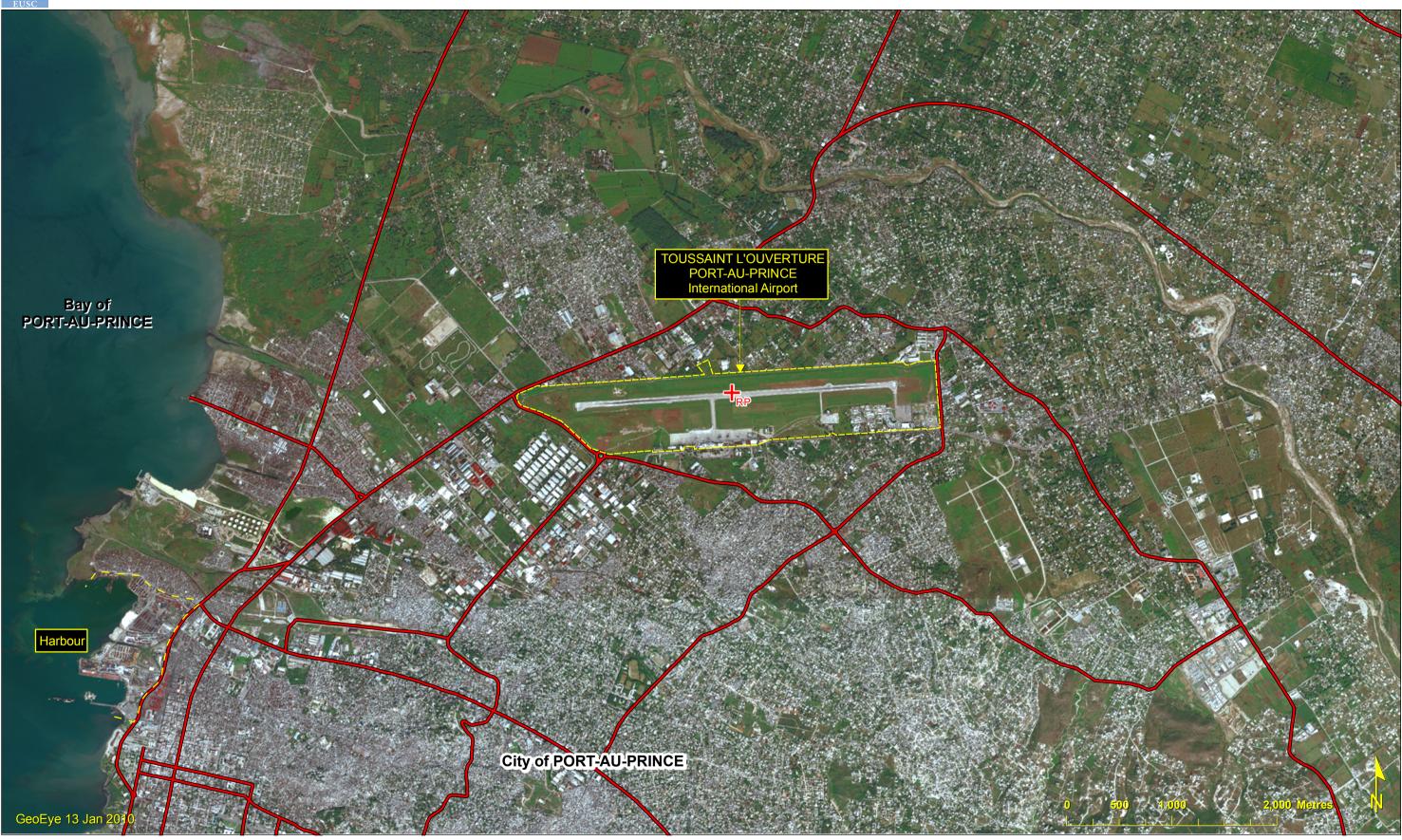




Figure 1



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Figure 2

