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Hails of bullets and violent acts in Port-au-Prince, close to the presidential palace

Port-au-Prince, June 22, 2005 (AHP)- At least one person was shot and injured this Wednesday downtown, during a confrontation between armed individuals and national police agents helped by the MINUSTAH.

These incidents that took place at the center of the capital not far from the presidential palace for about 30 minutes caused all activities to be almost paralyzed. Everyone was running everywhere trying to find a place to hide.

8 persons working in a construction site were arrested by the police on Montalais Street. They were taken to the anti-gang service despite the fact that no arm was found in their possession. « We were unfairly arrested by the police while we were attending our activities, the citizens arrested denounced.

There was also a confrontation between armed individuals and the police in the morning in commercial downtown. Big and small storekeepers left the area very quickly.

Hails of bullets were to get nearer Champ-de-Mars near the presidential palace at the end of the day at the time of the inauguration of the new members of the ministerial cabinet. This situation created real panic among the people participating to the ceremony.

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