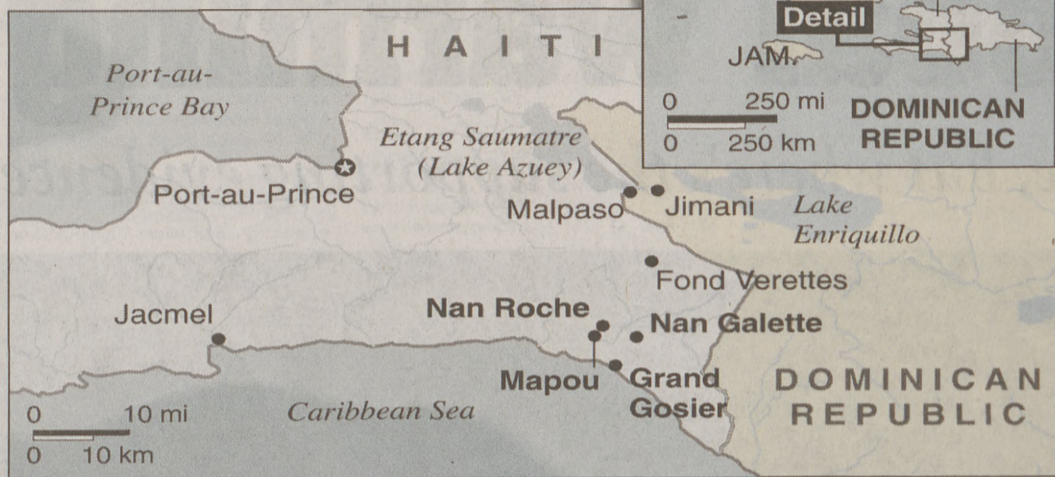


## Rains still threaten Haitian villages

The start of Haiti's rainy season Tuesday brought fears that additional rain could burst already strained dams near Mapou and other small villages.



SOURCE: International Committee of the Red Cross; ESRI

AP

## U.N. peacekeepers face funding problems in Haiti

By Paisley Dodds  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — U.N. peacekeepers took command from an American-led multinational force Tuesday, facing uncertainty about troop numbers and funding, while flood victims wait for urgent help and armed rebels roam the countryside.

In a symbolic ceremony at the police academy, Brazilian army Gen. Augusto Heleno Ribeiro Pereira took control of the projected 8,000-strong U.N. force, only a fraction of which has arrived. Most of the troops are expected by the end of June, when U.S. forces leave.

Their initial mission will be to provide security, which includes disarming rebels who helped oust President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on Feb. 29, and pro-Aristide militants. Both sides have said they will disarm if the other side does the same, but the U.S.-led troops have collected fewer than 200 weapons.

"Disarmament is very important, but what is also important is the disarmament of the spirit and the desire to rebuild," said Heleno as about 80 troops, including Brazilians, Chilean, Canadian and

Nepalese, replaced their camouflage caps with blue U.N. berets. Fewer than a dozen of the 1,900 U.S. troops will stay in Haiti with the U.N. peacekeepers. Troops from other countries in the 3,600-member multinational force — France, Canada and Chile — will remain until September.

**"The U.N. has a big job ahead of it, but they're coming in with double the force and will be here for twice as much time."**

— James Foley  
U.S. ambassador

"The U.N. has a big job ahead of it, but they're coming in with double the force and will be here for twice as much time," U.S. Ambassador James Foley told The Associated Press.

"The operation will deal with

security, but it will also help the government spread its authority, which is not the case now," Foley said, noting that "rebels are still in control of a pretty significant chunk of real estate."

The U.N. handover comes as the country of 8 million copes with deadly floods that have killed more than 1,700 in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. It was unclear whether the new troops would be involved in emergency operations to flooded areas.

The United Nations says the force will eventually number 6,700 troops and 1,622 civilian police from over two dozen countries, led by 1,200 Brazilian troops.

However, when, or whether, the force will reach full strength is unclear. Brazil, Chile and Argentina have pledged up to 2,500 troops. Other countries, including troubled nations such as Nepal and Rwanda, have promised 750 troops each.

Haiti's interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue said he would try to persuade the Americans to extend their June departure, saying only U.S. troops have a "dissuasive effect" on the population. Barring that, he hoped the U.N. force would stay until Feb. 7, 2006, when an elected president should be installed.

He also asked the international community to tackle the root of Haiti's instability, which he said was grinding poverty.

"What we need here is a U.N. mission that will not limit itself to maintaining the peace," Latortue told reporters after the ceremony. "They will have to get involved in the development process."

After a decade of failed missions, many in the traumatized nation wonder whether the peacekeepers can succeed.

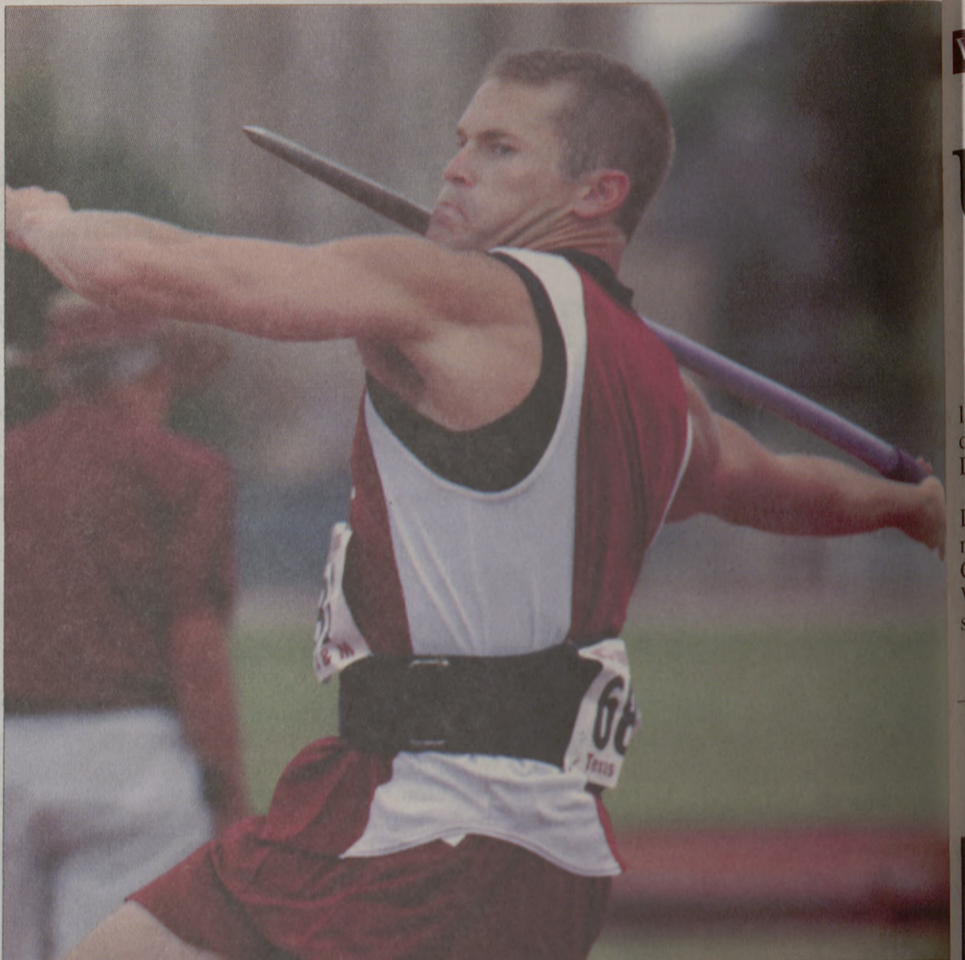
This U.N. mission will again try to keep a tentative peace and again train an ill-equipped and understaffed police force.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has asked member nations to make a long-term commitment to transform Haiti — which has suffered more than 30 coups in 200 years — into "a functioning democracy." But only a fraction of the \$35 million he requested has arrived and the mission's mandate remains six months.

Some Haitians are skeptical. "I don't understand what they're coming to do," said Marie Andre, 31, from the flood-hit southern village of Fond Verettes.

U.S. troops last intervened in Haiti in 1994 to restore Aristide after a 1991 coup.

## Going for distance



BRIAN WILLIS • THE BATTALION

Two-time All-American javelin thrower, Luke Marrs, competes in the NCAA Midwest Regional track and field championships Saturday at the Frank G. Anderson Track and Field complex. Marrs placed fourth.

## Karmazin out as president of Viacom

By Seth Sutel  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Mel Karmazin, one of the most highly regarded executives in the media industry, resigned suddenly as the No. 2 executive at Viacom Inc., the media conglomerate that owns CBS and MTV.

He was replaced by two senior Viacom executives, CBS head Leslie Moonves and MTV chief Tom Freston, the company announced Tuesday. The moves clear the way for either Freston or Moonves to succeed Sumner Redstone, who is 81 years old, as CEO.

Redstone agreed to step down as CEO within three years and to designate a successor sometime before then, the company said. Given years of rumored friction between Redstone and Karmazin, it was not clear that Karmazin, 60, would have eventually succeeded Redstone.

Redstone, speaking in a conference call with Wall Street analysts, said it was "extremely likely" that he would be succeeded by either Freston or Moonves. While Viacom will suffer a loss of talent with Karmazin's departure, the moves help clarify the company's succession strategy — a topic investors have been pressing the company about.

Karmazin said in an interview that the persistent concerns among investors about his relationship with Redstone were not serving his interests or those of the company.

"I was naive enough to think that if I signed a new contract a year ago that all of this Mel-Summer stuff would disappear," Karmazin said. "I thought it was time to leave." Karmazin declined to comment about his relationship with Redstone.

Redstone has dismissed persistent concerns that he had a rocky relationship with Karmazin. However, he also acknowledged on the call that Karmazin did not discuss his decision to resign with Redstone directly. Instead, Redstone said he learned of Karmazin's decision through another executive, whom he did not name.

Speaking with analysts, Redstone said Karmazin left because of "frustration" with the company's sagging stock price and issues related to the radio division, which has been struggling.

Redstone stressed that no one at Viacom had asked Karmazin to resign. He also said Karmazin had been in the running as a candidate to succeed him as CEO.

In a separate conference call with reporters, Redstone parried several other questions about the reasons for Karmazin's departure. "He just decided he was better off going in another way," Redstone said. "Mel was frustrated about something — I hope it wasn't about me."

Redstone said he regretted Karmazin's departure and wished him well. He also said Karmazin would stay on as a consultant for two months to help with the transition.

### Viacom's changing of the guards

With the sudden resignation of president and chief operating officer Mel Karmazin, Viacom Inc. has announced a corporate succession plan under which Chairman and CEO Sumner Redstone will step down as CEO within three years.

Viacom named MTV chief Tom Freston and CBS head Leslie Moonves as Karmazin's replacements to jointly oversee all of the company's operations.

**CURRENT DUTIES**  
 Freston, 58 (IN): MTV Networks (includes MTV, Nickelodeon, Comedy Central, Spike TV)  
 Moonves, 54 (IN): Viacom's broadcast television group including CBS and UPN

**EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITIES**  
 Freston: Showtime, BET, Paramount Parks, Simon & Schuster and the motion pictures operations of Paramount Pictures  
 Moonves: Paramount TV, Infinity Broadcasting and Viacom Outdoor

Investors have been pressing Viacom to clarify its plans for succession, especially given Redstone's age. Even though Redstone has voting control of Viacom through a special supervoting class of stock, he made clear in his announcement that he was working with the company's board on the succession issue.

Karmazin, who became the head of CBS Corp. before it merged with Viacom in 2000, was highly regarded in the industry and on Wall Street.

He worked his way up through the ranks in the radio business, and is known to be close to several of Viacom's leading radio personalities including Howard Stern and Don Imus. Imus broke the news of Karmazin's departure Tuesday morning on show broadcast by MSNBC.

Redstone suggested that Viacom's new management team would consider getting out of the radio business, saying the company would have a "hard look" at that operation as well as other assets. "There is no sacred cow," Redstone said. "But for the time being we're committed to radio."

Freston, who is 58, has been chairman and CEO of the MTV Networks unit since 1987. Moonves, 54 years old, has been chairman and chief executive of CBS since 2003 and joined CBS in 1995 as president of its entertainment operation.

Investors took the news of the management shakeup in stride. Viacom's widely held "B" class shares closed down 39 cents at \$36.50 in heavy trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

However, the sudden loss of Karmazin is likely to disappoint many on Wall Street. In note to investors, Merrill Lynch analyst Jessica Reif Cohen called Karmazin's departure "a very significant negative" factor for the company since Karmazin was "an extremely talented operating executive."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Bryan teenager critically injured in jump

BRYAN, Texas (AP) — A teenager who jumped out of a third-story window to flee law officers was hospitalized in critical condition early Tuesday. The 16-year-old, who has not been named because of his age, was confronted by Bryan police Sunday in a hallway of St. Joseph Regional Health Center.

Officers had received a tip that a youth wanted on a parole violation from the Texas Youth Commission was visiting the hospital. The Bryan boy fled after the officers made contact with him and later jumped over a balcony railing before falling three stories to the concrete surface.



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