

HAITI: THE AID DILEMMA

Who Will Enter the Port?

You are the main administrative officer of the National Port Authority (APN) at Port-au-Prince, Haiti. It is your job to allow ships to enter the port and offload their cargo. As you know from the video you watched in class, dock space is very limited, as the U.S. Navy rebuilds damaged quays and facilities. Given the human suffering and damage to Haiti's infrastructure, you must be careful to allow only the most important cargo to dock.

Review the ships approaching the two main ports of Haiti, Port-au-Prince and Cap Haitien.

Vessels expected:			
This list of vessels arriving at Port-au-Prince was modified from an original list from Feb. 5 to Feb. 16, 2010, from the National Port Authority (APN). The APN is an independent, commercial agency, under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (www.apn.gouv.ht).			
Ship name	Ship type	Port of origin	Goods being shipped
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	Pallets	Valletta, Malta	General commercial goods (electronics)
<i>Huakai</i>	RO/RO	Honolulu, Hawaii	Emergency aid (rice, medical supplies, water)
<i>Sea Venture</i>	Mixed	San Francisco, CA Calif.	General commercial goods (textiles, fabrics, plastic)
<i>Orso</i>	Containers	St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada	Petroleum
<i>Freedom of the Seas</i>	Pallets	Nassau, Bahamas	Mixed (rice, wheat, aluminum, asphalt/ road repair supplies)

Definition of Terms:

Pallets: A flat transport structure that supports goods in a stable fashion while being lifted by a forklift. Pallets are generally slower to load and unload off cargo ships.

RO/RO: Vessels designed to carry wheeled cargo such as automobiles, trucks, semi-trailer trucks, trailers or railroad cars that are driven on and off the ship on their own wheels. These generally load and unload the quickest.

Containers: These ships carry their cargoes in truck-size intermodal containers. These ships generally carry the largest loads, but present the greatest challenge in unloading, as they require substantial docking space and a considerable amount of time, since loading/unloading affects the balance of the entire ship.

YOUR JOB:

1. There are three individuals who have been asked, by the APN, to give you advice on which ship to admit first to the port.
 - a. An official of the U.N.'s World Food Programme, whose fundamental duty is combating hunger worldwide.

According to this individual, which ship should dock first? Why?

--

- b. A member of Fonkoze, Haiti's Alternative Bank for the Organized Poor, a financial institution that tries to help the rural-based poor in Haiti.

According to this individual, which ship should dock first? Why?

--

- c. A representative of The Manufacturers the Association of Industries of Haiti (ADIH), a group of large wholesalers that who sell commercial goods to smaller wholesalers and street vendors throughout Haiti.

According to this individual, which ship should dock first? Why?

--

2. Having considered the advice of outside parties, you must now rank the ships in order of priority for entry.

a. Consider the following factors in your decision:

i. The best interests of all Haitian citizens

ii. The requirements of aid agencies in Haiti

iii. The requirements of the Haitian economy

iv. Practical considerations (How long will each ship occupy the port? How difficult will it be for each ship to unload its cargo? How far from their home port are these ships, and what difficulties are presented by making them wait?)

SHIP NAME/ORDER OF DOCKING	State your reasons for this ship's priority:
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	