BACKGROUND
Since taking office, President Joe Biden has deported more than 26,000 Haitians, most of them since initiating mass deportations in 2021. The Dept. of Homeland Security’s own civil rights office, Congress, senior administration officials, and human rights organizations have cited the deportations of Haitian asylum-seekers as inhumane in recognition of widespread poverty, food insecurity, and violence in Haiti. However, the flights continue. In September 2021, GEO Group, Inc. netted a single-bid $15 million contract to expel Haitians by air. GEO relies on subcontractors; especially, but not only Swift/iAero, to provide the planes.

ABUSES

Non-refoulement is an essential protection under international law that guarantees no one should be returned to a country where they would face grave harm.

DENIAL OF RIGHT TO SEEK ASYLUM
A U.S. policy known as Title 42 expels individuals who arrive at the border, denying them a chance to request asylum, a right protected under international law.

SPORTS TEAMS & ICE AIR
U.S. professional and collegiate sports teams frequently fly on the very same planes ICE uses to expel Haitians. University of Washington Center for Human Rights researchers found that at least 17 Major League Soccer teams and 13 National Hockey League teams – more than half of both leagues – flew on aircrafts that had been used in Haitian deportations. Oftentimes, athletes were on the planes only days after a deportation flight.

TEAMS THAT FLEW ON THE SAME PLANES USED IN DEPORTING HAITIAN ASYLUM-SEEKERS


For more information: tinyurl.com/abusesintheair