

HAITI 7.0 - HEAVY LIFTING

by

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ABSTRACT

An earthquake of 7.0-magnitude hit Haiti in January, 2010, and left the country as well as the international aid organizations struggling with something, which became the biggest international relief effort in history. This piece is about the immediate aftermath of the catastrophe through the eyes of a television news correspondent. It's a descriptive and a reflective manuscript for a 45-minute documentary.

HAITI 7.0 - HEAVY LIFTING

VIDEO

VO NARRATOR

07:51:21-07:51:30 (0:09)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

A hall at the airport with people lying on chairs and on the floor.

VO NARRATOR

07:55:32-07:55:37 (0:05)

CU

Pan from a dog in a cage to another dog staring at the camera.

VO NARRATOR

07:58:44-07:58:53 (0:09)

FULL SHOT

A French rescue team in their overalls sitting on their equipment boxes.

LOS ANGELES SECTION 1

VO NARRATOR

CU

Irrigator starting to water neatly cut grass.

AUDIO

This is the gateway to Haiti. Hundreds of sleeping folks in their colorful gear, covering their eyes with whatever to block the lights at Santo Domingo's International Airport.

Tens of rescue dogs staring out of their cages. Density in the air and a condensed feeling of frustration.

These rescuers shouldn't be here. They've come from across the world and now they're stuck in the capital of the Dominican Republic doing nothing. They should be 150 miles away, doing their job in Port-au-Prince and its suburbs after the earthquake.

I should have been somewhere else, too – I should have been in Sunny California. That was supposed to be my safe haven from these kinds of gigs for a full year.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>VO NARRATOR ESTABLISHMENT SHOT Santa Monica Pier.</p> | <p>Taking nice walks on the Santa Monica Pier next to my apartment and enjoying life in an orderly, comfortable place -</p> |
| <p>VO NARRATOR FULL SHOT Fisherman catching a halibut on the north side of the Santa Monica Pier.</p> | <p>part of which is getting surprised and cold-called by the professors at the University of the Southern California.</p> |
| <p>VO NARRATOR ESTABLISHMENT SHOT McDonald's Swim Stadium at USC.</p> | <p>I was here on a leave of absence from my job in which I've covered many crisis zones during the last decade.</p> |
| <p>VO NARRATOR CU Following a swimmer jumping into the pool, being under water, surfacing and starting to crawl.</p> | <p>It's an addictive job, and the strange thing is the itch that foreign correspondents tend to get after they've stayed put for a while. They want to get their hands dirty and voluntarily leave their clean sheets and steady meals.</p> |
| <p>VO NARRATOR MS Man in USC's Lyon Center painlessly lifting weights.</p> | <p>When the Haiti quake happened, the accumulated itch became too hard to handle.</p> |

VO NARRATOR

MCU

Another man in USC T-shirt
working out in a power rack with
heavy weights.

My employer back in Europe wanted
stories and the journalism professors at
school said that it's a good idea to get
on going. So I did, even if I would miss
the first week of the spring term, my
last one.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:03:15-01:03:25
(0:10)

LONG SHOT

A hall at the airport. Rescue
workers walking towards camera
from a flight. Among them four
men with carriages full of camera
equipment.

Like many journalists and rescue
workers, I arrived in Santo Domingo
on January 14th, 2010 en-route to
Haiti. It was clear that there was some
heavy lifting to do.

SOT (In English)

09:11:25-09:12:27 (01:02)

CG: Sham Rana / Crew

Commander, British Rescue Force

- We've made two attempts to land there, Port-au-Prince. First time we circled twice and we didn't have fuel enough to land back at the airport ten minutes from here. And then the second time we circled around 45 minutes and we still weren't able to land.

- And what's your best guess now: when will you be able to reach Port-au-Prince?

- The discussions are still going ahead, but we're considering how to make it in by land tomorrow, because we think tomorrow will be the same situation. More people will be coming and the situation isn't going to change in Port-au-Prince, so land might be one of the options for us. Whichever way we're gonna get there, that's gonna be the best way.

VO NARRATOR

08:55:54-08:56:04 (0:10)

MS to FULL SHOT

Men sleeping side by side. Snoring.
One man sleeping on a big metal
box. A woman moving her eye
cover.

The UK elite team has tons of rescue equipment, which is badly needed in Haiti. It's stuff like listening devices, jackhammers, carbon dioxide detectors and video cameras. They arrived with their own 757, which was too heavy to land on Port-au-Prince's constrained air strip. They then split their load into smaller planes, but they couldn't land with those either.

VO NARRATOR

09:20:11-09:20:22 (0:11)

LS

On the balcony of the airport – pan from the dark night to the windows of the hall. Members of the Mexican team having a negotiation. Moya taking his vest off.

With their two cargo planes, rescuers from Mexico are hoping to get lucky, too. Because of the lack of electricity, there aren't runway lights at Port-au-Prince's airport, so the landing is impossible when the sun isn't up. On top of that, Port-au-Prince's air control tower was destroyed in the earthquake.

SOT (In English)

09:25:55-06 (0:11)

CG: Xavier Moya / Disaster
Management Advisor, Mexican
Rescue Force

- What we've done here is waiting for twelve hours, more or less, and hopefully, finally in one more hour we are leaving for Haiti.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:10:32-01:10:47

(0:15)

FULL SHOT

Carriage being rolled out of the airport exit. Taxi driver starts loading the gear in the trunk. Cameraman takes the big TV camera with him and heads to back seat.

My cameraman parachuted in from Helsinki. We decided to sleep over in Santo Domingo and get a cab to the border the next day. There were some rumors that with a couple of hundred dollars a seat in a small passenger plane could have been secured, but the car seemed like a better bet to get to Port-au-Prince the next day.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:15:40-01:15:49

(0:09)

MS

Cameraman editing the story on his laptop in the lobby of Hotel Hispaniola.

Santo Domingo's hotels were packed with traveling news teams, helpers and refugees. When we finally found a vacant room, we filed a short story for our Finnish news service about the bottleneck on the Santo Domingo Airport.

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 15, 2010.

I got to bed at 7am after the file transfer was completed and after I had loaned my laptop to people pouring into the hotel from Haiti.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:23:36-01:33:44
(0:08)

American embassy worker in the lobby of hotel Hispaniola making notes while talking to an elderly man and a woman. Younger woman in the background.

The computer was a welcomed commodity: American teachers evacuated from Haiti needed to send e-mails and update their Facebook profiles to let their friends and families know that they were OK.

VO NARRATOR

18:30:43-18:30:48 (0:05)

LONG SHOT

Chi-Chi at the gas station filling the tank.

After a few hours sleep, we hired Chi-Chi to drive us to the border crossing of Jiman.

VO NARRATOR

18:50:59-18:51:11 (0:12)

Footage through the windscreen. Driving behind and past the trucks flagged as "Cruz Roja Domenica".

The trip took us about five hours even though the main routes – always potholed - were mostly empty. We passed only occasional trucks hauling emergency gear.

VO NARRATOR

01:10:13-01:10:17 (0:04)

EXTRA LONG SHOT

People walking from the darkness and pass a light in a garden.

By the time we got to Jiman, the sun had already set.

VO NARRATOR

04:11:31-04:11:39 (0:08)

Pan from streetlight to pitch black alleyway.

It would have been a bad idea to cross the border in the dark – there could be obstacles on the road and with bandits, security was a concern.

VO NARRATOR

04:12:13-04:12:23 (0:10)

FULL SHOT

A guesthouse with bars in the windows. Distant sound of television. Dim lights. A woman in backlight walks across the picture.

The Haitian – Dominican border is closed between 6pm and 7am, so we spent the night in this guesthouse. A Russian television crew was also staying there and we hitched a ride from them in the morning.

NATS FULL

13:02:10-13:02:15 (0:05)

The border crossing from a moving car. People shouting in general confusion.

The customs procedures were fast.

VO NARRATOR

13:02:40-13:02:49 (0:09)

A man in a uniform shot from inside the car. Driver handing him the passes.

Only one armed guard on the Dominican side wanted to see our press passes and that was it. We didn't even step out of the car. Then we sped through the collapsing tin plate border gates and we were in Haiti.

VO NARRATOR

13:44:28-13:44:17 (0:19)

LONG SHOT

Street scene with standing cars and people walking. Mopeds passing by, one with three people riding.

In forty minutes we reached the Port-au-Prince city limits. The streets were swarming with people – it was my first time in Haiti, so I really couldn't tell whether the scene was always so packed on Saturday mornings or if it was because the people didn't have anywhere else to go.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:44:44-01:44:56

(0:12)

FULL SHOT

Full screen of tightly packed men in front from the airport entrance.

We headed straight to the airport, which was the hub of journalists and aid-workers. To get to the entrance we had to penetrate ranks of men offering their services as drivers, interpreters, carriers and general assistants. The normal day jobs didn't exist after the quake, so there were a lot free men.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas3 01:45:39-01:45:47

(0:08)

SUBJECTIVE CAMERA

A marine in fatigue opening the door – "C'mon in" can be heard.

U.S. Marines were guarding the doorway and let us into what was left of Toussaint L'Ouverture Airport.

VO NARRATOR

14:20:22-14:20:38 (0:16)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

”TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE”

Sign over two journalists carrying laptops and two other writing texts messages on their cell phones.

This is the media ghetto. Reporters are frantically trying to get through to their newsrooms back home using their cell phones. Most of the time it is useless, because most of the networks masts have fallen, and those that are left can't handle the network traffic.

VO NARRATOR

NATS FULL

LONG SHOT

14:23:04-14:23:15 (0:11)

Loud jet engines.

A US AIR cargo plane rolling by next to a line of cars with television satellite dishes attached.

Shock and awe started as we were looking for the European Broadcasting Union's up-link and stand-up points, which we had booked to deliver the stories to Finland – and to do satellite lives.

VO NARRATOR

14:27:17-14:27:24 (0:07)

MS opens to FULL SHOT

Three satellite operators shouting into each other's ears and making signs with their hands.

There weren't too many options for the international television service providers to set up their gear and deliver their clients' feeds. They found their home next to the runways.

VO NARRATOR

14:29:29-14:29:37 (0:08)

CU

A woman opening a pack of earplugs, molding one and placing it to her ear.

The companies' multiple generators would have made a distorted concerto, if the jet engines were not drowning out all other noise.

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 16, 2010.

Our first account from Haiti got on air before midday Haitian time. The time difference between Finland and Haiti is seven hours. The reporter couldn't hear anything from the earpiece – no commands from the director, no questions by the anchorperson. Thirty seconds before our slot a US Air Force cargo plane rolled about 30 feet from the stand-up point and stayed there with the engines running.

NATS FULL

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 16, 2010.

VO NARRATOR
FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 16, 2010.

The reporter had to practically stick the microphone into his mouth and shout at the top of his lungs to make himself heard.

VO NARRATOR
FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 16, 2010.

Luckily the cameraman was standing close by, and could hear the studio commands from Helsinki through the satellite phone. He gave hand signs when the time was up, so the reporter could wrap up his ruminations.

VO NARRATOR
THREE STILL PHOTOS WITH
SLIGHT ANIMATION.

The reporter was me. The cameraman was Mr. Tapio Sovijärvi, pictured here tuning the Inmarsat BGAN terminal at the airport. Without the portable satellite terminal we would have been, to put it lightly, screwed. It turned out to be our only means of communication in the chaos.

VO NARRATOR
15:31:01-15:31:13 (0:12)
CU opens to FULL SHOT
California Task Force badge.
Cross and one colleague talking
and taking notes on the runway.

Chaos, however, is a subjective concept. The Americans seemed to be doing OK. Los Angeles County's Heavy Rescue Task Force said everything was under control. Their teams had started work the night before.

SOT (In English)

15:28:40-15:29:03 (0:23)

CG: Dennis Cross / Captain, Los Angeles County Fire Department, California Task Force 2

- Well, we work under the Office of Federal Disaster Assistance within the United States Agency for International Development. We have what we call a search and rescue group, which is coordinating all of it. So from our perspective it's very organized. The coordinators were located in the embassy, receiving area on the map that we search extensively, or recon. Once we rule it out that there are no more lives that come out, we move on. So from our perspective we're very self-sufficient, we bring everything we need, including communications.

VO NARRATOR

15:40:12-15:40:17 (0:05)

CU

Logo of the US AIR FORCE on a plane.

Some European news reports were saying that the United States had taken over control of the airport.

VO NARRATOR

15:59:00-15:59:10 (0:10)

FULL SHOT

Reporter talking with Foster.

The US Air Force strongly denied the takeover, though. The military's wording of choice was co-operation with the Haitians; Haitians controlled the air traffic long-distance and then Americans took over when flights were approaching the city.

SOT (In English)
15:57:29-15:57:56 (0:27)
CG: Ty Foster / Chief Master
Sergeant, US Air Force Special
Operations Command

- Recently, as of today eleven o'clock, the Air Force and the airfare control work together to create a new standard where pilots have to register in order to land this airspace. Our special operations airmen are still controlling the airflow to this airfield. They're doing a good job of it. There are no tie-ups, there's no ramp congestion, so they're doing fine job.

VO NARRATOR
16:12:10-16:12:27 (0:17)
LONG SHOT
A civilian plane approaching,
touching the runway and landing.

The arrangement seemed to work. The aid planes had to register with the flight control in Miami. At one point there had been 42 planes at an airport designed to handle only 16. Now aid planes began landing, which was good, because the skies over Port-au-Prince were getting crowded. I was told that there had been 15 planes circling during the worst of it.

NATS FULL

MiniDV Cas2 00:02:33-00:02:38

(0:05)

FULL SHOT

People standing behind a fence in scorching sunshine. Jet engines roaring. Man pushing a wheelchair past the screen with an elderly lady sitting on it. Man shouting towards a plane and waving his hand.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas2 00:06:18-0:06:31

(0:13)

MS

Pan across the faces and upper bodies of the people behind the fence.

A hundred feet away from the satellite trucks there was a waiting area for the outbound people. These were the people who had the money to buy a seat in a plane or a place to stay abroad. Some of them had passports for other countries, which were helping their citizens to evacuate from Haiti.

19:26:11-19:26:14 (0:03)

CU

Crutches on a big bag.

19:27:08-19:27:12 (0:04)

FULL SHOT

Maeiolane family.

SOUND: Unrecognizable chattering in Creole.

Among those preparing to leave is the Maeiolane family, who are evacuating to Colombia.

SOT (In Spanish)

19:29:13-19:29:40 (0:27)

CG Oscar Maeiolane

Oscar Maeiolane holding daughter
in his arms and talking.

19:33:02-19:33:06 (0:04)

CU

Over-the-shoulder Oscar Maeiolane
looking over the crowd towards the
airplanes.

SOT 19:29:59-19:30:11 (0:12)

CG: Mieline Maeiolane

VO NARRATOR

17:30:01-17:30:09 (0:08)

LONG SHOT

Trucks in a line with uniformed
men hopping on.

- The food and the water are almost
finished, and we cannot continue in my
house, so we decide to leave the
country.

- When will you come back?

- I don't know. But we need to come
back to help the people who remain
here, friends and family. Some people
are guarding my company's compound
from the robbers.

- Do you know where your friends and
family are?

The communication is very difficult.

We don't know yet. There are some
people I can't contact because they
don't answer the phone. I don't know
if they're OK.

Security for the non-American search
and rescue forces was administered by
these pick-up trucks further down the
airport.

SOT (In English)

17:40:42-17:41:56 (01:14)

Serge Bulianr / UN MINUSTAH

Mission, Canada

- We're providing transport and security to some areas because some areas are more dangerous. Even before the earthquake we were talking about rat-zones.

- So even the previously dangerous places have now grown more dangerous?

- Yeah, that's right. There are very dangerous places now. The crime they do here is the kidnapping. They kidnap a person and then ask for ransom. Now they are more aggressive, because the rescue teams have food and water, and they don't. Teams need security in the rat-zone, because criminals know that international rescuers' home countries have money.

- So you are able to work only in the daylight?

- Yeah, during the daylight. The rescue team can try and work maybe six hours in a day, because they come up too late. We deliver them to work maybe at seven, seven-thirty, eight. And we have to pick them up between two and five-thirty.

VO NARRATOR
17:44:07-17:44:15 (0:08)
FULL SHOT
Reporter shaking hands with
Bulianr.

We looked at the time and realized we had better get going immediately in order to get footage of the damage before the dark.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas2 00:05:08-00:05:13
(0:05)
Subjective camera, sitting in an
80's Mercedes with men shouting
in from the windows.

We grabbed two video cameras and two still cameras and hired the first English-speaking driver in the airport parking lot.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas2 00:05:13-00:05:22
(0:09)
The same picture continues, the
SMS alert coming in.

I got a text message from the newsroom in Helsinki warning us to be careful. Some news reports were saying that machete slinging Haitians were chasing foreign journalists in Port-au-Prince.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas2 00:12:13-00:12:23
(0:10)
Camera placed on the sidewalk.
Feet passing before a sleeping dog.

We didn't spot any of those guys. The city was paralyzed, not threatening. A few miles from the airport the cityscape deteriorated drastically. Just about every other house was collapsed.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas2 00:17:59-00:18:10

(0:05)

FULL SHOT

Women sitting in the middle of a narrow street surrounded with concrete rubble.

FULL SHOT

00:19:42-00:19:49 (0:07)

A dead body covered with a dirty sheet.

People were staying far from houses, far from any walls, for that matter.

There were frequent aftershocks and the damaged structures would have collapsed easily. The distinctive smell of decaying human bodies was in the air.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas1 00:14:11-00:14:19

(0:08)

ESTABLISHING SHOT

Marketplace: Woman cutting a melon. Audio – people blabbering, some shouting – NATS FULL.

Our first stop was at a local food market.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas1 00:17:37-00:17:41

(0:04)

FULL SHOT

Three women carrying fruit vases on their heads AND SWEEP TO woman carrying a clay pot on her head.

There wasn't any shortage of fruits. Also there was water and bread for sale.

VO NARRATOR
00:19:45-00:19:49 (0:04)

FULL SHOT

Two young men sweeping the walking path on the edge of the marketplace. Surgical masks on.

SOT (In Creole)
23:15:56-15 (0:21)

Unknown street sweeper,
MS of the sweeper.

VO NARRATOR
23:10:30-23:10:38 (0:08)

NATS FULL

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

One shirtless young man hitting hard the concrete blocks. Standing high on the remains of a collapsed house.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURE OF THE SAME
MAN.

Even if some groceries were available, it wasn't so easy to get them.

- I have some money on my bank account, but the banks are closed. No-one can withdraw money to buy food. My family lives on the street, because we can't go in the house. The life is getting harder all the time.

But people didn't give up easily. The sound of pick-axes and shoveling filled the next block.

These men said that the mother of the shirtless guy was buried in the rubble. They had heard her signaling for help not long before we arrived.

SOT (In Finnish)
23:20:40-23:20:49 (0:09)
Conversation off the camera
Shaky video camera being
positioned on a concrete block
shooting the diggers from below.

- Is that car honking the horn?
- Yes, we have to go, the chaps down
the street don't look friendly.
- Just this shot.
- Yes. Hurry up. Come on.

VO NARRATOR
23:20:49-23:20:58 (0:09)
Shaky camera lifted and left
recording while carried to the car.

We left the men looking for the woman
and continued on to the Cathedral of
Our Lady of the Assumption.

VO NARRATOR
23:25:05-23:25:11 (0:06)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
Families on blankets in the middle
of a street.

We couldn't drive too fast, because
families on blankets were sitting and
chatting in the middle of the road.
Mothers were breastfeeding.

VO NARRATOR
23:27:09 – 23:27:14 (0:05)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
Pan from the families to the right –
fires on streets.

The newly homeless had started these
makeshift camps on wider streets to
stay well away from buildings in case
of aftershocks.

VO NARRATOR

23:28:40–23:28:45 (0:05)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

The Cathedral square littered with concrete, pieces of broken furniture and trash.

23:28:50-23:28:54 (0:04)

CU

The ace of hearts on the ground

As we approached the cathedral, the neighborhood became totally empty.

The square was littered with all kinds of remains of life and a thick mixture of dust and smoke hung in the air.

VO NARRATOR

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

Low angle of the church.

Only the walls of the main Catholic sanctuary were standing.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas 1 00:28:30-00:28:37
(0:07)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

The ruins of the church in backlight. Bicycle passing by and vanishing on the declining street.

Nobody seemed to want get near the church – the only person we saw was riding his bicycle past the collapsed structure as fast as he could.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas 1 00:33:32-00:33:38
(0:06)

A pan from a rastaman to the presidential palace.

The second iconic scene of the Haiti Earthquake was the next on our list. The symbol of the total breakdown of the country – the presidential palace.

VO NARRATOR
23:46:05-23:46:10 (0:05)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
The presidential palace behind the camp.

On the square next to the former palace was one of the hundreds of evacuation camps dotting Port-au-Prince.

VO NARRATOR
23:47:32-23:47:36 (0:04)
FULL SHOT
Woman gazing from behind a shelter made of plastic bags.

This camp is not controlled by anybody, neither hard-hit Haitian officials nor international organizations.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas1 00:35:22-00:35:34 (0:12)
FULL SHOT
Edge of the grass and the street, line of tents ending where street starts.

This place is full – each square inch of the grass is occupied. Several thousand people have pinned up plastic sheets, blankets, fabric and whatever they had at hand to build a shelter from the sun and a cover at night.

VO NARRATOR 23:52:20-23:52:25 (0:05)
FULL SHOT
A man steering large cooking cattle with a branch of a tree.

People in the camp tell us that families have put their money together to buy food jointly. Tonight this collective meal will be rice.

VO NARRATOR
23:54:34-23:54:39 (0:05)
MS
A woman spitting and arguing
loudly.

But tensions are running high even if
many are trying to hold on to some
kind of normalcy.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas1 00:38:17-00:38:23
(0:06)
MS
A young girl packing books in a
pink backpack.

This girl carries her schoolbooks in her
backpack, even though all the schools
are closed.

MiniDV Cas1 00:39:55-06 (0:11)
FULL SHOT
The girl with the pink backpack
holding father's hand as they're
crossing the street.

Her father doesn't want to be
interviewed, but says that she can't
sleep at night.

VO NARRATOR
23:52:56-23:53:02 (0:06)
FULL SHOT
A truckload of UN peacekeepers
driving by.

We went to another camp just a mile
away from the presidential square and
our fixer Marc tells us that most of his
friends are also street people now.

MiniDV Cas1 00:40:39 -00:40:42
(0:13)

NATS FULL

Footage out of moving car, people
laying and sitting on the street with
their belongings.

All you see, all the people are on the
streets. They sleep here, they do their
food here, they do their poop here,
yeah... they cook here... they have to
do everything here. Yeah.

VO NARRATOR

23:56:38-23:56:43 (0:05)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

A whole block collapsed.

As we drove further into the city, the
scenes of destruction became worse.
Whole blocks had seized being.

VO NARRATOR

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

23:57:30-23:57:36 (0:06)

Smoke coming out of the rubble,
one gable of a house left standing
out of a whole block.

The smoke was still rising from the
skeletons of the city.

VO NARRATOR

23:58:48-23:58:56 (0:06)

FULL SHOT

Man being carried on a door, hands
hanging loose.

People were using whatever they could
to carry the wounded. This person is
being transported on a door.

VO NARRATOR
23:59:35 – 23:59:42 (0:07)
FROM CU TO FULL SHOT
Men carrying wooden stretchers
approaching.

These people didn't survive. The men
carrying the bodies have spread strong
aromatic lotion under their noses to
block the smell.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas1 00:45:30-00:45:38
(0:08)
FULL SHOT
Two men asking arrivers questions.

The second camp is somewhat more
organized than the first one. There are
men controlling the people arriving at
the gate of the park.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas1 00:47:30-0:47:39
(0:09)
MCU
Woman pouring water on the head
of a naked boy.

And children are getting their baths.
Seeing kids in places like these makes
me think of my own children and
wonder what am I doing here, instead
of being with them. But in action those
feelings evaporate fast.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas2 00:02:37-00:02:46

(0:09)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

Two helicopters hovering over the ground and then landing with blades whirling.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas2 00:03:05-00:03:15

(0:10)

FULL SHOT

Men jumping out of the helicopter in green overalls and helmets.

Hercules cargo plane in the background.

VO NARRATOR

00:16:11-00:16:15 (0:04)

MS

Woman and man studying a plastic tube in their hands.

VO NARRATOR

00:17:40-00:17:45 (0:05)

MS

Girl lying on stretcher.

Back at the airport the blades of the helicopters were whopping while new loads of aid supplies were loaded in, just to be dropped in new areas as soon as possible.

The constant rush hour seemed to cause several dangerous situations, but nothing serious happened while we were there. The camera crews were free to shoot anywhere, which didn't reduce the risks.

Next to the tarmac the medical personnel are improvising as much as they can with their limited equipment.

This girl has fractured feet, and they had to use a piece of wood to support the bones with.

VO NARRATOR
00:18:10-00:18:14 (0:04)
CU
The foot with piece of wood and
bondage.

The doctors are saying that she'll
probably be able to walk again.

SOT (In Spanish)
00:20:15-00:20:27 (0:07)
CG: Daniel Segura / Medical
Colonel, Columbian Army

- We have an overwhelming workload
here. There's lack of just about every
medical supply. We have fractures,
open wounds and we're doing
amputations. Morphine is much
needed.

VO NARRATOR
FOOTAGE FROM THE LATE
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 16, 2010.

We had filed two stories during the day
and decided to look for a place to
sleep. The ears adapt to noise easily,
but the tarmac wasn't the nicest
sleeping space even with earplugs in.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas2 00:10:16-00:10:28
(0:12)
SLOW PAN FROM THE DARK
TARMAC TO THE MINISTRY
BUILDING WITH LIGHT IN THE
WINDOWS.

A building of the Haiti Transportation
Ministry was attached to the airport
and had been taken over by journalists.
There were even a few taps with
running water to rinse the worst dirt
away, so we were able to save the baby
wipes for later use.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURES OF THE DAY.

Before we passed out on the grass after 4am, we had filed another picture reel and some texts to Finland.

LOS ANGELES SECTION 2
VO NARRATOR
STABLISHMENT SHOT
Wide of Santa Monica 3rd Street shopping district.

When you get there, no matter how exhausted you are the energy always comes from somewhere. Journalists feel like they're on a common mission. That's a difference from the basic settings in the urban comfort zone.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURES FROM HAITI.

Some news operations had sent hostile and nervous simpletons to cover this quake - maybe because they had kicked out the people who know the natural code of conduct in harsh settings – but still almost everybody shared as much information as they could. The scoop race isn't the driving force. And it takes different methods to cover celebrities' divorces than it takes to work in disasters like Haiti.

VO NARRATOR

08:08:54 – 08:09:02 (0:08)

Reporter and reporter walking in pitch black aid warehouse.

Flashlights occasionally illuminating camera, laptop and notebook.

NATS FULL (in Finnish)

08:09:02 – 08:09:10 (0:08)

Reporter and cameraman talking off-camera, walking in pitch black warehouse.

VO NARRATOR

18:31:01- 18:31:13 (0:12)

FS Man (Kumpulainen) walking towards camera.

It's OK to try to teach and study crisis reporting in schools, but I doubt if there will ever be a simulator to learn the trade anywhere else than on the field – where chaos, disorder and societies falling apart teach their own lessons.

- Do you think we could use the pictures of those Canadians?
- Go ahead.
- I lost the direction.
- Where's the plug? Watch out for that hole.

Or then it's a little like what this man has been through. UNDAC, UN's Disaster Management and Coordination folks, came to coordinate the relief on-site, but sometimes even a common language is hard to find. The data connection specialist arrived to build satellite lines, but his latest job was to find gasoline. And he has been sleeping much less than our crew.

SOT (in Finnish)

18:32:36-18:33:00 (0:24)

CG: Kari Kumpulainen, UNDAC

- How many languages have you had to speak using sign language?

- Well, with English you can get along, some French helps, and German, too. I've had to use hand signs as much as I've could. I've had to learn Spanish and Korean. There are some other tongues, but I don't remember them now. The fact is that we just have to study several languages simultaneously.

STILL PICTURES OF THE DAY

SOT

20:32:23-20:32:50 (0:27)

CG: Nicholas Reader / UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

THE AIRPORT NOISE FADE-IN

- We are still in the search and rescue phase, the most lives can be saved in the first few hours and days after the crisis, but of course we are transitioning into the humanitarian assistance period. The assistance is really ramping up, as you can see the airport here now, more and more stuff is arriving. It's moving through the airport quicker, it's getting out to the people who need it. The main needs are going to be food and the food distribution, which have started. Almost 40-thousand are going to get rations today.

VO NARRATOR
15:50:23-15:50:31 (0:08)
FULL SHOT
People marching on the tarmac
carrying their gear and placing
them by the wall of the airport
building.

The next day saw more and more aid
organizations and rescue teams
arriving from all around the world.

VO NARRATOR
17:05:20-17:05:27 (0:07)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
Containers placed wall-to-wall with
each other. People walking fast in
front of them.

The United Nations was in a tough spot
trying to coordinate all kinds of
contributors – especially when its own
organization in Haiti was seriously hit.

VO NARRATOR
17:07:22-17:07:29 (0:07)
SUBJECTIVE CAMERA,
WALKING INTO A
CONTAINER.

This is the core of the UN operation – a
camp with containers used as offices. It
was really tight.

VO NARRATOR
(0:10)
SUBJECTIVE CAMERA inside
one container, sweeping past
negotiating people and people on
the phone, two people drawing a
map on a blackboard.

The UN mission had been in Haiti for
17 years and now when it could have
done the most good, it was crippled by
the disaster. The mission's chief and
about a hundred UN workers were
killed in the quake.

SOT

17:08:51-17:09:26 (0:35)

CG: Fernando Pereira / Colonel,
UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti,
Brazil.

- Just after the earthquake until now,
we've four days, that is very important
that for organizing our team because as
you know our place, the Hotel
Kristoffer, was falling down also, but
now we are organized and we are
working on providing this food and
drinking water for everybody, but of
course organizing ourselves we spent
one day or two days or three days.

SOT

19:48:26-19:48:47 (0:21)

CG: Massimiliano Cosci / World
Food Program, Logistics

- Well, ooh, there's a lot of confusion
as you can see, all around, a lot of
people coming in, this is one of the
main problems now because the base is
not calculated to have such an amount
of people here. So we start to be
overcrowded and it's very very
difficult to work all together here. So
we try to find space outside.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas2 00:11:33-00:11:38

(0:05)

CU

A of blue helmets (blurry) in front
of a Red Cross flag (sharp).

One of the first responders on the
ground was the Red Cross.

SOT (In Finnish)
17:15:24-17:16:40 (0:16)
CG: Pauli Immonen / Red Cross,
Flight Coordinator

- What kind of project are you facing here in Haiti?
- At this moment we estimate that we are having a 3-year-long project ahead of us, but at this point we are concentrating on immediate lifesaving. Still yesterday evening 40 people were found alive in the ruins.

VO NARRATOR
17:19:43-17:19:53 (0:10)
Reporter and Immonen talking to each other, Immonen handing a piece of paper to reporter.

Immonen was having a rough time of it. Alongside his main effort to see to the aid flights, he was coordinating the early stages of the Red Cross' Finnish Federation's efforts to build a field hospital.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURE.

This German Red Cross team has just started to construct a water purification unit, but they don't know where fellows from other countries are.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURE.

Neither does the Haitian Red Cross – their headquarters were destroyed in the quake, too.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURE.

Everybody had their hands full of first aid work.

VO NARRATOR
A PUFF PIECE – FOOTAGE OF
CHANNEL FOUR NEWS
FINLAND, AIRED ON
JANUARY 17, 2010. Reporter in
front the crowds, walking past the
UN troops.

This fenced area is guarded by UN
troops. Inside the compound various
organizations are getting ready to
receive the wounded.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURE.

Still, nobody knows where the base
camp of the International Red Cross is.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:02:10-00:02:14
(0:04)
A truck driving by carrying a metal
structure.

One of the main reasons for the lack of
communication were these...

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:02:50-00:02:59
(0:09)
EXTREME LONG SHOT
GSM-mast on a truck with people
gazing it. Dust in the air.

GSM-masts. Without cell-phones the
level of coordination was set back to
the Stone Age. The structures were
probably among the most welcomed
emergency deliveries in Haiti.

SOT

20:38:32-20:38:51 (0:19)

CG: Rozann Tanjuyu / Emergency
Coordinator, Medecins de Monde,
France

- Coordination is a bit... is not
functioning very well, because all UN
offices are collapsed and everything.
So normally the system would have
been very reactive and it took a few
days so that it could restart, but now
this first aid system has started and we
can have some meetings with all the
medical NGOs because we need to
have a medical organization and I think
it just should start becoming days.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas4 00:10:34-00:10:39
(0:05)

FULL SHOT

A car full of corrosion buried under
trash.

We were driving around in the poorest
areas of the poor city while searching
for the Red Cross base camp.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas 4 00:12:44-00:12:53
(0:09)

FULL SHOT

A pile of human bodies on a porch.

There were reports about mass graves
in Port-au-Prince, but clearly they were
not an issue in Cite Soleil – one of the
most underdeveloped human
habitations on the planet.

VO NARRATOR

21:22:56-21:23:01 (0:05)

EXTREME LONG SHOT

Smoke/dust above Cite Soleil.

It was clear that no aid efforts had
gotten here yet.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas4 00:20:03-00:20:10

(0:07)

FULL SHOT

Tiny alley with a gate to the right,
Red Cross flag.

We finally found the ICRC base camp,
filed a couple of pieces and made
arrangements for the next day.

19:17:15-19:17:22 (0:07)

FULL SHOT

Two generators side by side. Two
men laughing with jerry cans next
to them.

The camp had what we needed the
most. Generators - the only way to get
the electricity.

MiniDV Cas4 00:23:43-00:23:50

(0:07)

SUBJECTIVE CAMERA

following a chord on the ground,
ending to a battery charger.

We got access to two plugs and
managed to charge our batteries. We
couldn't have covered anything with
our dying gear.

VO NARRATOR

FULL SHOT

00:30:00-00:30:06 (0:06)

An empty chair sharp in the front,
three blurry human figures arguing
in the background. Voices heard,
but unclear.

There were a few other journalists
staying over at the camp, too.
Everybody had had a tense day.

SOT (in English)
20:10:34-20:10:45 (0:11)
CG: Tony Wannamaker /
Cinematographer, Canada

- I cry sometimes while I film young people in terrible agony. And I feel joy at the same time, so while I'm here it's an up-and-down rollercoaster.

VO NARRATOR
21:10:10-21:10:14 (0:04)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
Little tents on a field.

We got sleeping pads and mosquito nets from the Red Cross and crashed well before dawn. We almost felt corrupted.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:34:23-00:34:28
(0:05)
"NO GUNS INSIDE"-tag on the window of an SUV.

The next morning we went for a ride with the Red Cross, which was trying to figure out where the next field hospital would be needed the most.

VO NARRATOR
18:10:56-18:10:59 (0:03)
EXTREME LONG SHOT
The hospital in the courtyard.

The Norwegian Red Cross had put up a field hospital the day before.

VO NARRATOR
18:11:46-18:11:55 (0:09)
LONG SHOT
A street next to the tents, in front a pile of bodies (blurred).

But it was only partly functional and the neighborhood here wasn't pretty either. The operation was set up in the yard of the partly destroyed central hospital.

| | |
|--|--|
| SOT | 100% |
| 18:15:33-18:15:10 (0:37) | 18:15:33 |
| CG: Borge Brende / Norwegian Red Cross, Secretary General | - You got this polyclinic of yours up and running yesterday, what's the situation today? - It's still a very horrible situation because here we have hundreds of patients waiting for treatment, we can treat a few here but we need our surgery up and running because a lot of the patients are seriously wounded and they need to be operated really. They will not make it 24 hours so this is... the help is needed here and now, so every hour counts. |
| VO NARRATOR | The problem was that hospital surgery equipment had been stuck somewhere on the roads between the Dominican Republic and Haiti since yesterday. |
| 18:20:00-18:20:08 (0:08) | |
| FULL SHOT | |
| Young men assembling stretchers. | |
| VO NARRATOR | Every bed in the makeshift hospital was taken. |
| 18:24:14-18:24:18 (0:04) | |
| CU | |
| Two wrapped heads next to each other. | |

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:35:17-00:35:21
(0:04)
XCU
Toes in plaster.

There were a lot of fresh plaster casts.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:37:01-00:37:09
(0:08)
FULL SHOT
Two women with big bellies.

And the mothers, who were pregnant before the quake still are pregnant after the quake. The basic medical needs don't change.

VO NARRATOR
18:34:56-18:35:01 (0:05)
LONG SHOT
Florant stroking his sisters head under a shelter.

Roland Florant is staying by his sister.

SOT (in Creole)
18:35:54-18:36:09 (0:15)
CG: Ronald Florant

- My 8-year old sister got buried in the rubble. It took five hours before we managed to spot where she was. We got her up from there.

SOT (in Creole)
18:36:51-18:37:00 (0:09)

- My big sister is dead and her daughter died there, too. There was also a friend visiting them. They're all dead now.

VO NARRATOR

MS

18:37:02-07 (0:05)

Florant and his sister sitting side by side (blurred), with a woman waving her hand behind them (sharp).

Mental trauma was as easy to spot as physical trauma.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas4 00:37:22-00:37:28

(0:06)

XCU

Eyes rocking on and off the camera.

This woman has been waiting for her husband to come home from work since the earthquake struck.

VO NARRATOR

MinoDV Cas4 00:49:49- 00:49:56

(0:07)

Cameraman fixing a BGAN-terminal to the right position with a compass.

We spent the day with the quake victims and following the Red Cross, trying to get a fuller picture of the disaster.

VO NARRATOR

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN

NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL

FOUR NEWS FINLAND,

JANUARY 17, 2010.

We filed a couple of stories and the next day at the airport it was clear that Haiti had become the biggest international relief effort in history.

VO NARRATOR

16:30:01-16:30:07 (0:06)

MS

The rescuers positioning their electronic equipment on a conveyer-belt.

We happened to talk to the Finnish Rescue Force fresh out of plane – The team was one of the many sent in by different governments.

SOT (In Finnish)

17:05:37-17:06:06 (0:29)

CG: Raimo Rasijeff / Team Leader, Finnish Rescue Force

- You're just starting your work here in Haiti, but you've gathered much information beforehand and you're a veteran responder in crises – how bad is this assignment?

- Well, just thinking about the rescue efforts this is the biggest rescue operation ever existed. There are 50 different rescue formations from over 30 countries and about 2000 rescuers, 200 canine units and several field hospitals. So this is massive. Thinking about the security, we're on the United Nations' level 3. That means that without guards it's not possible to move outside the designated areas.

VO NARRATOR

18:58:11-18:58:18 (0:07)

LONG SHOT

UN parking lot.

We got to experience that first hand. We negotiated seats in an aid distribution convoy of the World Food Program.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:52:04-00:53:11
(0:07)
Truck WFP tags in a row.

We were supposed to leave immediately to distribute energy biscuits to a suburb where not even the American choppers had yet dropped food.

SOT
18:57:04-18:57:20 (0:16)
CG: David Orr / World Food
Program WFP

- The need is tremendous and there are of course areas that we haven't been able to reach. The thing that has to be said, I suppose, is that because the earthquake happened so close to Port-au-Prince, the numbers of those who have lost homes or who have been affected by this earthquake, are concentrated in and around the city.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas4 00:58:44-00:58:55
(0:11)
MS
SUBJECTIVE CAMERA walking towards the end of the truck and then showing the people inside.

The loaded convoy waited for an hour, then a second and a third. The drivers and WFP people were waiting to get on the road. There were UN troops, and even a UN photographer, onboard.

SOT (in English)
19.20.40 – 19:20:44 (0:04)
FULL SHOT
Jordanian UN troops standing next to a WFP truck.

- Yeah, I happy we're finally going...
(laughing)
- I too happy we go soon.

VO NARRATOR
MiniDV Cas5 00:09:11-00:09:15
(0:04)
People jumping off the trucks.

Finally the whole distribution got disposed, because it got too late in the afternoon.

VO NARRATOR
WIDE SHOT
MiniDV Cas5 00:12:14-00:12:23
(0:09)
TILT from the WFP truck to the sky, an airplane flying.

No-one could really tell us why the convoy never left – the best answer was that the UN’s military chiefs and WFP, a UN organization, didn’t really communicate and the convoy never got the security clearance.

VO NARRATOR
21:53:33-21:53:40 (0:07)
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
A vast crowd in front of gates.

Nearby, the health care stations were building up fast and the Jordanians were especially quick builders.

VO NARRATOR
21:59:12-21:59:19 (0:07)
FULL SHOT
People shot from above queing at the gates.

This site was empty at noon – and by 3pm there was a fully equipped field hospital treating patients.

VO NARRATOR
22:05:59-22:06:06 (0:07)
MS
Soldier grabbing a young man by his sweater.

The people found the place immediately and armed troops had to prevent the people from storming in.

VO NARRATOR
22:13:13-22:13:19 (0:06)
CU
Soldier talking to a woman holding
a baby.

The soldiers also made the first
treatment decisions. Most of the people
got turned away before they saw any
nurses.

VO NARRATOR
22:14:00-22:14:04 (0:04)
FULL SHOT
Scuffles in the crowd – shot from
above.

Not everybody was happy about it.

SOT (in Arabic)
22:19:52-22:19:18 (0:26)
CG: Issam Khaddam / Colonel,
Jordanian peacekeeping forces

- We have to stay alert, because
sometimes even these kinds of centers
have become a rioting ground.
Demonstrations and violence have
started when some criminals have been
stealing or when they have invented
some other ways to benefit from these
gatherings.

VO NARRATOR
FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 18, 2010.

We still got some interviews and
recorded a couple of stand-uppers
around town before heading to the
airport.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas5 00:16:11-00:16:16

(0:05)

FULL SHOT

Men pointing at a car in front of the airport.

At the airport entrance, we learned that the prices of the cars and drivers were skyrocketing.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas5 00:17:58-00:18:08

(0:10)

CU

Two men hugging each other, other being a foreigner.

One reason was that there were journalists pouring in and the market reacted – the other reason was that the fuel was running out and prices were getting higher by the hour.

VO NARRATOR

23:31:11-23:31:23 (0:06)

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

Small planes on the grass in between the runways.

I was running around the tarmac asking pilots if they were flying to Santo Domingo and if they had vacant seats.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas5 00:27:02-00:27:09

(0:07)

FULL SHOT

Cessna starting up its motors and slowly turning.

The second Cessna did. An orthopedic surgeon from the Dominican Republic was flying back with an empty plane.

VO NARRATOR

STILL SHOT

He had had his flight crew take off the seats of the plane so that he could haul medical supplies to Haiti.

VO NARRATOR

STILL SHOT

It was a trip that he had been doing daily since the quake.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas5 00:19:12-00:19:18
(0:06)

Shot through the window of the plane, plane taking off.

As we took off, the aerial view revealed a city collapsed like a house of cards.

VO NARRATOR

MiniDV Cas5 00:20:43-00:20:59
(0:16)

Aerial view of Port-au-Prince.

The doctor said that the people there needed all the help they can get.

LOS ANGELES SECTION 3

VO NARRATOR

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

USC's Queens Courtyard, a man playing a guitar on the foreground.

After editing a few more stories in Santo Domingo I flew to Los Angeles the next day – feeling quite disgruntled.

VO NARRATOR

FULL SHOT

People walking in the entrance of USC Annenberg. Bicycles locked. Students having conversations and working on their laptops by the tables.

When I got back to my classes on January 19th after having slept one blackout night, many people at USC were interested in what I had experienced in Haiti. As I tried to explain what I had seen my hands were shaking - like they often do after an extended adrenaline peak period.

VO NARRATOR

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 17, 2010.

A serious mistake with my Haiti gig was that I handed the bulk of editorial decisions over to headquarters. Helsinki wanted stories about the relief work from the Finnish angle. That meant hunting down the Finns in Haiti instead of keeping my eyes open for more interesting, and more important, stories. Usually on a crisis assignment I tell the editorial team what's coming up, not the other way around.

VO NARRATOR

FOOTAGE FROM THE MAIN
NEWSCAST OF CHANNEL
FOUR NEWS FINLAND,
JANUARY 17, 2010.

One thing we saw at the airport was western women carrying Haitian babies to the airplanes, but I was too busy tracing the rescuers to ask the women with kids any questions. The phenomenon later turned out to be practically a serial abduction of children.

VO NARRATOR
OPEN FROM MS TO FULL
SHOT
Professor Michael Parks writing
letters on board in front of a class,
then turning around to face the
audience and starting to talk.

The lack of true pro-activity was partly
because of the telephone system
debacle, but also because I was a kind
of a freelancer. I got onto this
assignment from Los Angeles, not
Helsinki. I can only imagine how it
feel for the stringers covering the
news; filling the desires of their head
honchos and not listening to their
instincts – being afraid of being
blamed for not delivering what was
asked for.

VO NARRATOR
MS
People walking past the bulletin
board on West 34th Street next to
USC Norris Dental Center.

I became an advocate of the Haiti
cause and I don't blame myself for
that. Probably the stories about the
Finnish efforts in Haiti motivated
people to donate money to the aid
organizations.

VO NARRATOR
FULL SHOT
Courtyard of the USC School of
Cinematic Arts, people walking by
the Douglas Fairbanks statue.

Being granted a place to sleep, a
generator and two meals, the Red
Cross got my human sympathy, but not
journalistic.

VO NARRATOR
ESTABLISHMENT SHOT
USC Annenberg's lobby, people
watching newscasts on big
televisions attached to the wall.

Journalistically I saw a place, which
was in need of major help and my
stories reflected that. The most obvious
destination for the Finnish donors in
cases like this is the Red Cross – which
happened to get good media coverage.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURES FROM HAITI.

And one lesson learned was the
absolute need for self-sufficiency.
Even the organization of organizations,
the UN, can be lost when the stuff hits
the fan. Even after the 2004 Tsunami
the relief system worked much more
smoothly in the worst hit area – the
Sumatran island in Indonesia.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURES FROM HAITI.

The normally up-to-date professionals
across the board were exceptionally
lost and overextended. They couldn't
provide much information or help.

VO NARRATOR
STILL PICTURES FROM HAITI.

More about self-sufficiency: there are
quite nice solar panels already and
under the scorching sun nothing would
be a more welcomed additional burden
to carry around. Electricity is of vital
need for a reporter. It's not nice to ask
people to borrow their generators all
the time. They are a rare commodity.

VO NARRATOR

ESTABLISHMENT SHOT

Pan from the Pacific Ocean to the Santa Monica beachfront.

I'm charging the batteries in Santa Monica now. It seems like the calm before the storm. I still don't wake up to the minor local quakes - I didn't in Haiti and I haven't in other places either. But this is LA and the big one is unavoidable here. It shouldn't be Haiti again, but it will be heavy lifting. I hope I'll return to California before that call.

VO NARRATOR

FULL SHOT

Shooting downwards from the top end of a set of Santa Monica stairs. People walking up, out of their breath.

In Haiti, five months after the quake now, the hurricane season has entered. People are still living in camps and the aid organizations are trying to be organized.

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