

**The Haitian Project, Inc. Update #11:**  
*Clean Up Begins!*



Clean-up begins! Today, with the help of some of our volunteers, and two visiting German journalists [Der Spiegel], we carefully began the first removal of “precarious elements” –pieces of structure weakened by the quake that could fall in aftershocks. This has been identified by Scott Hill, THP Board Member and architect along with several expert engineers, including former THP Board Member Jack Talbott. The first item on the list was the railing on the third floor of the old classroom and the boys’ dorm building. The railing had been dislodged, but it remained intact. We carefully removed the railing and roped off the area for safety.

Volunteers and staff, in accord with their own will, participated. It was quite a catharsis. I want to again stress what a simply amazing job the staff and volunteers have done. Having seen the city and the impact of the quake closer to its center, I am even more amazed at their resilience, drive and focus.

Outside the walls of the school, the US Military has taken over responsibility for the airport. We have a widening presence. Secretary Clinton made a visit. I think we can say that we are near and going over the level of troops we have had in the past political issue times. This makes one very reassured.

Peace,  
Patrick

The Haitian Project has operated without interruption for over twenty years. Having worked through boycotts, hurricanes and political upheaval, we know from past experience that the cost of operation will increase greatly during this crisis. We all also know there is no more important time to keep up our mission than now. Whatever the increase in cost, we are committed to continuing to house, feed and educate our 358 students as well as provide direct aid to the hundreds of families who live around our school. We are proud that our students, staff and volunteers are already engaged in the relief effort. More than ever, they need your support.

Donations can be made online at [www.haitianproject.org](http://www.haitianproject.org) or by check mailed to The Haitian Project, P.O. Box 6891, Providence, RI 02940.