

**The Haitian Project, Inc.**  
**Update # 16: Moving Forward (1/22/10)**



*Continuing with recovery efforts, we removed two hazardous wall sections and replaced them with temporary fences. This removes hazard while maintaining the perimeter for security purposes. Cement wall construction will begin next week.*

Reese filled me in on the Board meeting. Both Patrick Brun and I were unable to attend due to the logistics of the arrival on short notice of the engineers who you met in the past update. The fruits of the visit made the assistance we provided more than worth it--but we both regret the unavoidable conflict. Perhaps we can look at a weekly option for these calls--but they would need to be a bit later in the evening.

I have reviewed Reese's notes on the meeting. We will be answering the bulk of the questions in the next few "Board Edition" Emails. In the meantime, I also received the following from Doug:

"During the meeting the news reported that the Haitian government has plans to relocate 400000 Haitians from PAP. The first 100000 are targeted for Croix des Bouquet. The article did not have a time line or a stated plan for the other 300000.

That said, this influx could be very disruptive to THP and the community's recovery and normal operation. Jon Stull suggested that repair of the walls should be a priority. Clearly you know what is most pressing. I was just not sure if you received the news of the Gov't plan."

As you see from the picture, we have already started with perimeter repairs. We have to execute each piece of wall removal very carefully.

As we go, we place temporary perimeter fences [barbwire] in the place of the fallen sections. Where necessary, we also use plywood. For our area, we believe this provides sufficient security given the current situation. To augment the security, we also have round the clock two man watch--this is for both security and in case of seismic activity.

Jack Talbott and Scott Hill are working out the final details on the walls. The plan is to begin permanent wall construction next week.

In terms of camps, I spoke with the head [PJ] of the overall Red Cross action in Haiti. Patrick Brun and I see him on a regular basis since the Red Cross and Federation are housed at Patrick's company. We discussed camps at length. The exact timing and location of the camps remains undetermined. Our school is not actually located in the immediate Croix des Bouquets area. Additionally, several reasons suggest that the camp, if it is placed there, will be on the opposite side of Croix des Bouquets. Patrick Brun, PJ and I agree that the camp is unlikely to pose an issue for the school. I will keep you updated if things change.

Today was another great and productive day. THP students and volunteers served in three off-campus locations: the Missionaries of Charity, Food For The Poor (FFTP) and Batimat [Patrick Brun's] to help prepare for Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Even in the difficult times, LCS continues to adhere to its mission of service and leadership. Tough times call for both; LCS provides them abundantly.

I will be including a Volunteer Reflection with the next several updates. I think you will find them uplifting.

We will receive our first food from CRS tomorrow. Yesterday, we received our first FFTP food since the event.

It is Friday--the usual day for heading home. We have fewer students choosing to stay for the weekend--61. The students are now taking aftershocks in stride. They are amazing.

Next week we will begin home visits, etc. We will continue to let student movement be natural to their needs for a bit; however, the schedule will continue to move back toward normal, at least to the degree that the situation allows. Hubert will work with government officials on the timing of the official re-open of school.

Peace,

Patrick