



People sit under makeshift tents across the street near the presidential palace while James Girly, 64, of the US is brought out from destroyed Montana Hotel building in Port-au-Prince on Thursday where he was trapped for 50 hours (Inset). French rescuers pulled seven Americans and one Haitian survivor from the building.



PHOTO: AFP

# Quake aid trickles thru' Haiti's cramped airport

AP, Port-au-Prince

US military air traffic controllers are scrambling to keep earthquake aid flowing into the Haitian capital without the use of a control tower or radar, and amid struggles over fuel, tarmac space and even staircases to access planes.

With all the hurdles facing relief and relief efforts in this shattered city, it appears the first to overcome are at its major entry point for supplies. US federal officials halted nonmilitary flights for eight hours Thursday at the request of the Haitian government, leaving dozens of planes circling.

The Haitian government said that there was no room on ramps for planes to unload their cargo and that some planes on the ground didn't have enough fuel to leave.

Overhead, two dozen planes circled for more than two hours, and many of them were diverted to Santo Domingo or Florida.

On the ground, 23 combat controllers working out of a vacant hangar on laptops guided aircraft into the cramped airstrip. Planes were parked with their wing tips overlapping. Helicopters and small propeller planes sat on the grass.

"There's only so much concrete," US Air Force Col. Bruce Elton said. "It's a constant

puzzle of trying to move aircraft in and out." Elton said he counted 120 takeoffs and landings by late afternoon. He said commercial charters used to haul aid supplies were causing holdups because, unlike military planes, they take a long time to unload.

Thursday's arrivals were dominated by rescue crews leading search dogs and military operations toting supplies and communications equipment.

The aid group Doctors Without Borders was able to bring in medical supplies and a pallet of body bags. But other groups had no luck.

# Quake makes 300,000 homeless

AFP, Geneva

An estimated 300,000 people have been left homeless in the devastation wrought by the unprecedented earthquake in Haiti, with one in 10 homes in the capital destroyed, the UN said yesterday.

A helicopter assessment by the UN mission in Haiti found that some areas around Port-au-Prince suffered "50 percent destruction," as aid workers struggled to rush help into the debris ridden area.

cent of the housing in Port-au-Prince has been destroyed, which roughly translates to about 300,000 people left homeless," said Elisabeth Byrs, spokeswoman of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Another UN body estimated that 30 percent of buildings had collapsed or been affected after the capital and surrounding areas were hit by an earthquake that had no historical precedent in the region.

"We're talking definitely about an earthquake which probably has a recur-

rence period of several hundred years," said Andrew Maskrey, a specialist at the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

An OCHA situation report said some 3.5 million people live in areas hit by "strong shaking" from the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that flattened much of Haitian capital Port-au-Prince this week.

Besides Port-au-Prince, Jacmel -- an area south of the capital and Carrefour -- a nearby suburb closer to the epicentre were also affected, according to the UN.

# Cries grow faint under rubble

AFP, Port-au-Prince

Almost 48 hours after the shattered concrete ceiling of her cousin's dress store crashed down upon her, Maryse's faltering cries galvanized a crowd of rescuers digging through the rubble.

Young men -- bystanders and volunteers -- began to scabble ineffectually at the twisted but still massive net of concrete chunks and steel reinforcement rods trapping Maryse and the corpses of her friends and neighbours.

International aid flights had begun to arrive at Port-au-Prince's airport, but on Thursday, two days after Haiti's most disastrous earthquake, most citizens of its devastated capital could rely on no-one but themselves.

Signs of life from Maryse and at least one more young woman spurred a group of volunteers to action in one city centre street, but without heavy lifting gear and trained rescue teams they had little

hope of success.

"They're going to die. They're going to die," spat 30-year-old accountancy student Jean Rald Rocher, fiddling with the paper face mask that was his only protective gear as he dug for rotting corpses under reinforced concrete.

Rocher's cousin, Ruth Esperance, was killed in the quake, and now he works with the disorganised gangs of young men hunting through the rubble.

He and others howled with impotent rage as four-by-four trucks with diplomats and aid workers rode past without stopping, neither to help free Maryse nor to gather up the rotting body of her friend, Line Louis-Pierre.

According to the owner of the house that plunged into the store, 52-year-old teacher Domeck Mathurin, at least three more women and girls lay dead in the wreckage and AFP reporters at the scene heard faint cries.

It's the tragedy of one street, in a ruined city where every street has its own row of fly-blown corpses and crowds of wandering refugees, seeking a place to lie down for the night with their few remaining possessions.

The International Red Cross said the quake has killed between 40,000 and 50,000 people, while Haitian officials have warned the overall death toll may top 100,000.

As of late Thursday about 7,000 bodies had already been buried in mass graves, according to Peruvian Prime Minister Velasquez Quesquen, who is in Port-au-Prince supervising Peru's relief effort and met with Haitian President Rene Preval.

Haiti is often cited as the western hemisphere's poorest country, but even amid such misery there were pockets of relative wealth. These neighbourhoods, with their multi-story concrete blocks, were hit hard.

# Cuba allows US to use airspace for quake aid

AFP, Washington

The United States said yesterday it had been granted rare permission to use Cuban airspace for aid and evacuation flights in the wake of Haiti's devastating earthquake.

"We have coordinated with the Cuban government for authorization to fly medical evacuation flights from the US Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to Miami, Florida through Cuban airspace, cutting 90 minutes off one-way flight time," the White House said in a statement.

The deal will allow US planes to overfly Cuba en route to and from Guantanamo, which is perched on the communist island's southeastern tip.

The agreement puts aside decades of Cold War animosity between Washington and Havana in the midst of global efforts to help the ranks of injured and estimated 300,000 Haitians made homeless by the massive 7.0 magnitude quake.

The United States has used the base -- which became notorious as an internment camp for "war on terror" suspects -- to give Haiti evacuees medical treatment.

There are an estimated 45,000 Americans in Haiti, some of whom were injured in the disaster.

Some 160 US citizens were evacuated earlier Thursday with about 370 more slated to be flown out later in the day, the State Department said.

Friday's announcement could provide an air bridge to ease logistical bottlenecks in Port-au-Prince, which have caused Haitians to receive just a trickle of aid as they face a fourth day of the crisis.



Iraqi shopkeepers clear the debris in the Shia Muslim shrine city of Najaf 150km south of Baghdad yesterday following several bombs that detonated Thursday night. As many as 15 people were killed and dozens more were wounded when three bombs exploded simultaneously in a rare attack in Najaf.

PHOTO: AFP



Supporters of Sri Lanka's main opposition presidential candidate and former army chief General Sarath Fonseka attend a political rally in the Colombo suburb of Moratuwa on Thursday. The recently retired top military commander is challenging President Mahinda Rajapakse in the January 26 elections.

# US warns of terrorist attacks in Malaysia

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

The United States embassy in Malaysia issued a warning yesterday that criminal and terrorist groups are planning attacks against foreigners in Sabah state on Borneo island.

The embassy said there was "present concern" over resorts in isolated areas in eastern Sabah including the diving island of Sipadan, where foreign hostages were snatched in 2000.

"There are indications that both criminal and terrorist groups are planning or intend acts of violence against foreigners in eastern Sabah," the embassy said in a warden notice on its website.

# 500 candidates barred from polls in Iraq

AP, Baghdad

Iraq's electoral commission on Thursday barred 500 candidates from running in March's parliamentary election, including a prominent Sunni lawmaker, in a decision that is sure to deepen Iraq's sectarian divides.

Hamdia al-Hussaini, a commissioner on the Independent High Electoral Commission, said the commission made the decision after receiving the list from a parliament committee that vets candidates for ties to Saddam Hussein's outlawed Baath party.

The decision to bar the candidates most of whom are believed to be Sunni potentially threatens the country's fragile security because it risks leaving Sunni voters feeling targeted and disenfranchised. The Sunni boycott in a January 2005 election is considered one of the key factors that deepened the insurgency.

The candidates have three days to appeal, al-Hussaini said. Among those barred is prominent Sunni leader Saleh al-Mutlaq, a strident critic of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. Al-Mutlaq has already said he would appeal any ruling against him.

Former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, speaking before the decision was announced Thursday, described the effort to bar the candidates as intimidation.

Allawi and al-Mutlaq are political allies in the Iraqi National Movement, a coalition challenging al-Maliki in the vote.

"This is a process of severe intimidation and threats," Allawi said in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's clear that they want to get rid of their opponents."

# Japan ends Afghan refuelling mission

AP, Tokyo

November, Japan pledged \$5 billion in fresh aid to help Afghanistan strengthen its police force, for agriculture and other infrastructure projects.

In announcing the withdrawal, however, Hatoyama said Japan will continue its support for international peace.

"We will continue to act positively and proactively to contribute to international efforts against terrorism," Hatoyama said in a statement.

During the mission that started in November 2001, Japan provided about 137 million gallons (520 million liters) of oil, as well as 11,000 tons of water, to vessels and aircraft from about a dozen countries, including the US, Pakistan, France, Britain and Germany, according to the Defence Ministry.

Japan spent more than 10 billion yen (\$110 million) for the operation in the last two years alone, the ministry said.

**পরিচালকের কার্যালয়**  
**ঢাকা ন্যাশনাল মেডিক্যাল ইনস্টিটিউট হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।**  
 ৫০/১, জনসন রোড, ঢাকা-১১০০।  
 তারিখঃ ১৪/০১/২০১০ ইং

স্মারক নং- পরি/চাঃ ন্যাঃ মেঃ ইঃ হাঃ/প্রশাঃ-বাসংসরিক দরপত্র/০৯-১০/৬১/০৩

**পুনঃ দরপত্র আহ্বান বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

গণশ্রম সঙ্ঘে প্রবিধানমালা (পি.পি.আর.)-২০০৮ ইং অনুযায়ী ২০০৯-১০ অর্থ বৎসরে অত্র হাসপাতালের রুগীদের খাদ্য সামগ্রী, ইলেকট্রিক দ্রব্যাদি ও বিবিধ (Miscellaneous) দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহ করার জন্য প্রকৃত ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠান/ঠিকাদার/ সরবরাহকারী/আমদানীকারী/প্রস্তুতকারীরা নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

১. মন্ত্রণালয় / বিভাগ	ঃ	স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।												
২. সংগ্রাহক সত্ত্বার নাম	ঃ	পরিচালক, ঢাকা ন্যাশনাল মেডিক্যাল ইনস্টিটিউট হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা												
৩. সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি।	ঃ	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।												
৪. বাজেট এন্ড সোর্স অব ফান্ড	ঃ	হাসপাতালের নিজস্ব তহবিল ও সরকারী অনুদান।												
৫. দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	ঃ	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>গ্রুপ নং</th> <th>গ্রুপের নাম</th> <th>দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য</th> </tr> <tr> <td>"এ"</td> <td>চাল, ডাল, তৈল, পেয়াজ, রসুন ইত্যাদি</td> <td>১,০০০/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"ই"</td> <td>ইলেকট্রিক দ্রব্যাদি</td> <td>৫০০/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"এফ"</td> <td>বিবিধ (Miscellaneous) দ্রব্যাদি</td> <td>৫০০/-</td> </tr> </table>	গ্রুপ নং	গ্রুপের নাম	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	"এ"	চাল, ডাল, তৈল, পেয়াজ, রসুন ইত্যাদি	১,০০০/-	"ই"	ইলেকট্রিক দ্রব্যাদি	৫০০/-	"এফ"	বিবিধ (Miscellaneous) দ্রব্যাদি	৫০০/-
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দরপত্র আগামী ৩১/০১/২০১০ খ্রিঃ রোজ বুধবার পর্যন্ত পূর্বলী ব্যাংক লিঃ, জনসন রোড, ঢাকা, শাখা হইতে অফিস চলাকালিন সময়ে নগদ মূল্যে পাওয়া যাইবে।														
৬. দরপত্র জ্ঞানসত্ত্বা/আবেদনকারীর পরিমাণ।	ঃ	দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ করা হইয়াছে।												
৭. দরপত্র দাখিলের বিধিগত/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঃ	১। পূর্বলী ব্যাংক লিঃ, জনসন রোড, ঢাকা, শাখা।												
৮. দরপত্র দাখিলের প্রার্থনাকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঃ	১। পরিচালকের কার্যালয়, ঢাকা ন্যাশনাল মেডিক্যাল ইনস্টিটিউট হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা												
৯. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	৩১/০১/২০১০ খ্রিঃ (অফিস চলাকালিন সময় পর্যন্ত)												
১০. দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	০১/০২/২০১০ খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।												
১১. দরপত্র যাত্রা বোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	ঃ	০১/০২/২০১০ খ্রিঃ বেলা ১২-৩০ মিনিট। পরিচালকের কার্যালয়, ঢাকা ন্যাশনাল মেডিক্যাল ইনস্টিটিউট হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা।												
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১৩. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী সত্ত্বার নাম	ঃ	প্রফেসর এম, আর, আজাদ												
১৪. দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী সত্ত্বার পদবী	ঃ	পরিচালক												
১৫. অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী	ঃ	দরপত্রের যাবতীয় শর্তাবলী দরপত্র সিডিউলের সহিত সংযুক্ত করা হয়েছে। যদি কোন ঠিকাদারের কোন ব্যাখ্যা বুঝতে অসুবিধা হয়: তাহলে দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্বে নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে কর্মরত সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীর নিকট থেকে জানা যাইবে।												
১৬. নির্দেশনা	ঃ	ক) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ কিংবা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন। খ) অনিবার্ণ কারণ বশতঃ নির্ধারিত তারিখে দরপত্র বিক্রি, গ্রহণ ও খোলা সম্ভব না হইলে পরবর্তী কার্য দিবসে তাহা প্রযোজ্য হইবে। গ) দরপত্রদাতা কর্তৃক দরপত্র সিডিউল পরিবর্তন/পরিবর্তন করা যাইবে না।												

(প্রফেসর এম, আর, আজাদ)  
 পরিচালক  
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