

HURRICANE MARIA IMAGERY

4th Edition



**“...A LOT OF PEOPLE GOT TO SEE THE REAL COAST
GUARD DURING THIS INCREDIBLE TROUBLE, AND
ESPECIALLY, I THINK HERE [IN PUERTO RICO] AND
IN TEXAS, WAS INCREDIBLE WHAT THEY DID. SO
THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.”**

—U.S. PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP



U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Heath Ard conducts a vessel assessment to ensure safe removal of damaged, displaced, submerged or sunken vessels as part of the Hurricane Maria ESF 10 PR Unified Command response in Salinas, Puerto Rico, Oct. 12, 2017. The ESF 10 is the framework by which federal support is coordinated with state agencies in response to actual or potential oil spills or hazardous material releases. (Photo by: Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy Tamargo)



Four Coast Guardsmen, including (front left) Chief Petty Officer Dave Warner, from Air Station Borinquen in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, and (front right) Petty Officer 1st Class Shelton Bartlett, from Port Security Unit 308 in Gulfport, Miss., carry a large piece of demolished playground equipment off the property of Hogar de Niños Regazo de Paz, an orphanage in Aguadilla, Oct. 12, 2017. More than a dozen Coast Guardsmen were at the orphanage in Aguadilla, an area hit hard by Hurricane Maria, cutting up trees that fell and disassembling and removing pieces of demolished playground equipment. They also distributed food, water and other aid, both donated and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to local residents. (Photo by: Senior Chief Petty Officer Kyle Niemi)



A U.S. Coast Guard MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter crew lands at a soft ball field at a Coast Guard housing facility in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, Sept. 22, 2017. The housing facility was used for Coast Guard personnel to shelter in place for Hurricane Maria and some operations were based there as damages were repaired to the Coast Guard base Sector San Juan, which is adjacent to San Juan harbor in Puerto Rico. (Photo by: Senior Chief Petty Officer Zach Zubricki)



Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Dave Warner, chief of the Aviation Survival Technician Shop at Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, delivers aid to a family in Aguadilla, Oct. 12, 2017. Warner and more than a dozen other Coast Guardsmen were in Aguadilla, an area hit hard by Hurricane Maria, to distribute food, water and other aid - both donated and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency - to local residents. (Photo by: Senior Chief Petty Officer Kyle Niemi)



Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Nick Rosner from Air Station Borinquen in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, chainsaws a felled tree at Hogar de Niños Regazo de Paz in Aguadilla, Oct. 12, 2017. Rosner and more than a dozen other Coast Guardsmen were at the orphanage in Aguadilla, an area hit hard by Hurricane Maria, to cut up two trees that fell and disassemble and remove a large piece of playground equipment that was demolished. They also distributed food, water and other aid, both donated and from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to local residents. (Photo by: Senior Chief Petty Officer Kyle Niemi)



U.S. Coast Guard CDR Kelly Thorkilson, incident commander for Maria ESF-10 PR Unified Command, speaks with Chief Petty Officer Rich Bassin, a division group supervisor, about work being done to ensure safe removal of damaged, displaced, submerged or sunken vessels from the Puerto Chico Marina in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, Oct. 11, 2017. The ESF 10 is the framework by which federal support is coordinated with state agencies in response to actual or potential oil spills or hazardous material releases. (Photo by: Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy Tamargo)



A Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew takes off from a soccer field in Aguada, Puerto Rico, Oct. 11, 2017, after dropping off food and water from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for survivors of Hurricane Maria. The Coast Guard is helping deliver relief supplies throughout Puerto Rico as part of the Hurricane Maria response. (Photo by: Petty Officer 3rd Class Eric Woodall)



A Coast Guard member deployed to Borinquen, Puerto Rico in support of Hurricane Maria relief efforts delivers a case of water to a resident of Moca, Puerto Rico, Oct. 9, 2017. The Coast Guard and partner agencies have been delivering Federal Emergency Management Agency supplies to people throughout Puerto Rico who have been affected by Hurricane Maria. (Photo by: Petty Officer 3rd Class David Micallef)



LTJG Lucas Taylor, a pilot at Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, delivers food to a resident of Moca, Puerto Rico, Oct. 9, 2017. The Coast Guard and partner agencies have been delivering Federal Emergency Management Agency supplies to people throughout Puerto Rico who have been affected by Hurricane Maria. (Photo by: Petty Officer 3rd Class David Micallef)



Public works department, ZTIAT, and Gobierno Autonomy de Aibonito mayor Willie Alicea - Colon thanks local public works employees for their efforts to restore public infrastructure in the aftermath of hurricane Maria during the FEMA Zone Ten Intergovernmental Affairs Team visit, Oct. 12, 2017. Intergovernmental Outreach Teams have been dispatched across the island to provide direct liaison to each of Puerto Rico's 78 municipalities. (Photo by: U.S. Coast Guard)



Members of the Coast Guard, FEMA, U.S. Army and Puerto Rico “Hacienda” deliver water and meals to local residents of Utuado, Puerto Rico, as part of ongoing Hurricane Maria relief efforts Oct. 12, 2017. Despite the land slides in the area and cut-off road ways, the joint team delivered FEMA relief supplies consisting of five pallets of food and three of water to local residents in the area. (Photo by: Petty Officer 1st Class Jon-Paul Rios)



A child stands in what is left of his house in Utuado, Puerto Rico, which was almost completely destroyed by Hurricane Maria Oct. 12, 2017. Despite the land slides in the area and cut-off road ways, the joint team of Coast Guard, Army, and Puerto Rico "Hacienda" delivered FEMA relief supplies consisting of five pallets of food and three of water to local residents in the area. (Photo by: Petty Officer 1st Class Jon-Paul Rios)



LTJG Lucas Taylor, a pilot at Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, delivers food and water to a young girl in Moca, Puerto Rico, Oct. 9, 2017. The Coast Guard and partner agencies have been delivering Federal Emergency Management Agency supplies to people throughout Puerto Rico who have been affected by Hurricane Maria. (Photo by: Petty Officer 3rd Class David Micallef)



A resident of Moca, Puerto Rico hugs a Coast Guard member after he delivered food and water to the people of Moca, Oct. 9, 2017. The Coast Guard and partner agencies have been delivering Federal Emergency Management Agency supplies to people throughout Puerto Rico who have been affected by Hurricane Maria. (Photo by: Petty Officer 3rd Class David Micallef)



U.S. Coast Guard LT Francisco Muniz Valle, chaplain of Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico, provides religious services to U.S. Marines assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotter Squadron 264 at Rafael Hernandez Airport in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, Oct. 8, 2017. Muniz Valle provided religious services and counseling to Marines and Sailors from VMM-264, deployed to Puerto Rico for Hurricane Maria response and recovery efforts from their home at Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C. (Photo by Senior Chief Petty Officer Kyle Niemi)

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Interesting Facts:

- For all 3 storms, USCG mobilized more than 2,900 people (2,000+ active duty, ~800 reservists, and 150 civilians).
- USCG saved or assisted more than 11,000 lives.
 - Harvey: 34 helos, 7 fixed wing aircraft, 69 shallow water assets
 - Irma: 25 helos, 5 fixed wing aircraft, 55 shallow water assets, and 15 cutters
 - Maria: 7 helos, 17 fixed wing aircraft, and 14 cutters
- Coast Guard helicopters flew ~1,600 hours, which is:
 - more than double the total programmed annual hours for a single MH-60T
 - ~4x the annual programmed hours for a single DOD H-60 series aircraft
- Coast Guard planes flew 1,400+ hours, which is:
 - ~ double the total number of programmed annual hours for a single HC-130J.
- Coast Guard Inland River Tender Fleet operated 600+ hours above programmed hours.

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Interesting Facts:

- Highlighting the capabilities of the National Security Cutters, USCGC JAMES served as Sector San Juan, providing critical tasking and communications to all CG units in the area and maintained vital port and waterway infrastructure controls.
- USCGC HAMILTON, one of the newest NSCs, provided on-site enforcement of the Captain of the Port's waterways controls and provided physical security for Sector Key West. It also provided offshore SAR radio coverage until damaged Rescue 21 capability was restored.
- USCGC FORWARD responded to all three hurricanes. The ship provided command and control while operating off San Juan and USVI; delivered and distributed humanitarian supplies, including various amounts of MREs, water, baby supplies, and baby food to communities in Puerto Rico and USVI; and conducted helicopter operations/refueling point and security as needed. It was initially diverted from a counter-drug patrol to provide post-storm SAR response and damage assessment in support of all three storms. The cutter conducted port assessments in Port Arthur, Texas; assisted personnel in Ft Myers, Florida, with debris removal; provided humanitarian supplies to a shelter in Marathon, Florida, that was running out of food and water; and conducted daily flight operations.
- During one 8.2-hour launch, Air Station Cape Cod's 6026 dodged heavy precipitation and thunderstorms, visibility of less than ¼ mile, and rapidly changing weather conditions. Using street addresses and Google Maps, the crew navigated to survivors and conducted 24 hoists. During several recoveries, the rescue swimmer waded through contaminated waters to assist and carry survivors who were unable to walk or move.

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