

# THE QUAKE

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On January 12, 2010, one of the most devastating earthquakes in recorded history leveled Port-au-Prince. Those responsible for handling the catastrophe, including the Haitian government and the United Nations, were among the victims. FRONTLINE correspondent Martin Smith (*The Storm, Obama's War*) bears witness to the scale of the disaster and takes viewers on a searing and intimate journey into the camps, hospitals, and broken neighborhoods of Port-au-Prince. This powerful report features never before seen footage of the moments after the earthquake and draws on interviews with top officials from Port-au-Prince to Washington. *The Quake* ultimately asks how the world will respond.

"Beyond immediate relief efforts, lies a harder task," says FRONTLINE's Martin Smith. "The world has to decide whether to simply patch up Haiti now or to take on the far more ambitious goal of building a functional Haitian state."

Drawing on interviews with U.S. President William Clinton, Special Envoy to Haiti; Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State; Paul Farmer, MD, Deputy Special Envoy to Haiti and co-founder of Partners in Health, among others, *The Quake* explores the recent history of aid efforts in Haiti and the prospects for real change.

Haiti has more NGOs per capita than any other country in the world. For years, foreign assistance bypassed the Haitian government leaving it weak and vulnerable. *The Quake* examines how, this time, things might be done differently.

"This is an opportunity to rethink how aid works and how we, the most powerful country in this part of the world, can work with our oldest neighbor," says Dr. Paul Farmer, Deputy Special Envoy to Haiti, "So I think all that possibility is built into this tragedy."

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CREDITS

*Writers & Producers:* Marcela Gaviria & Martin Smith  
*Series executive producer:* David Fanning

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