

**Humanitarian Aid and Rescue Project** 

Operation Iron Shield Location: Vidor, Texas

**Impact Report** 

**Operational Date:** 8/2017 - 9/2017

# Introduction:

On August 19th, 2017, Hurricane Harvey, a Category 4 hurricane, struck Texas and Louisiana, resulting in widespread devastation, catastrophic flooding, and the tragic loss of over 100 lives. In response to this disaster, the Humanitarian Aid and Rescue Project (HARP) launched an essential mission known as "Operation Iron Shield" to the heavily affected area of Vidor, Texas.

The primary focus of this mission was to locate, recover, and rescue civilians who were stranded in floodwaters, ensuring their safety and well-being. HARP also provided security support to local law enforcement and FEMA to help prevent looting and safeguard homes during the evacuations.

# Requests:

In the case of "Operation Iron Shield" during Hurricane Harvey, HARP took the initiative to deploy to Vidor, Texas, without any specific requests received. Once the HARP team arrived in Vidor, they established communication with the Vidor Emergency Operations Center to coordinate their efforts and understand the immediate needs on the ground.

During this briefing, HARP received crucial information regarding the urgent requirements and areas where their expertise could be utilized effectively.

# Methods:

Once HARP assessed the gathered information, they focused on formulating a comprehensive game plan that would effectively address the objectives of the mission and meet the immediate needs of the affected community. This involved analyzing the specific challenges and requirements presented by the situation in Vidor, Texas, and developing a strategic approach to tackle them.

The operational objective involved various components such as search and rescue operations to locate and recover individuals stuck in floodwaters, providing necessary medical assistance to those in need, ensuring the safety and security of the affected area, and supporting evacuation efforts.

### Results:

By the end of the mission, HARP had achieved significant success in providing emergency rescue support on water and land. Their expertise and resources allowed them to effectively navigate the floodwaters and reach individuals stranded or needing assistance. The team's swift and coordinated efforts ensured the safe evacuation and rescue of residents in distress.

In addition to their rescue operations, HARP also played a crucial role in providing additional security for local and state law officials. The absence of homeowners during a disaster can create vulnerabilities, and HARP's presence helped to mitigate potential risks such as looting or unauthorized access to properties. By working closely with law enforcement agencies, HARP contributed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for the affected community.

# Impact:

The combined efforts of HARP in emergency rescue and security support showcased their commitment to the well-being and safety of the residents of Vidor, Texas. Their dedication and expertise played a vital role in mitigating the impact of the disaster and providing essential assistance during a challenging time.

#### **Conclusion:**

HARP demonstrated its ability to provide professional and effective rescue services to the people of Vidor, Texas during the disaster. The team's expertise in water and land rescue allowed them to safely navigate the flooded areas and provide assistance to individuals in need. Their swift response and skilled operations helped to save lives and ensure the well-being of the affected community.

Additionally, HARP played a crucial role in providing security to the homes that were left unattended due to the evacuation of homeowners. Their presence and collaboration with local and state law enforcement agencies helped to deter potential criminal activities and provide peace of mind to the residents. By maintaining a secure environment, HARP contributed to the overall safety and protection of the community during a challenging and vulnerable time.

# **Future Missions - How You Can Help**

You can contribute significantly to the Humanitarian Aid and Rescue Project (HARP) and support their future operations by donating a generous donation today at <a href="https://www.HarpRescue.org">www.HarpRescue.org</a>. Your donation will be crucial in enabling HARP to continue its life-saving work in providing aid and assistance to those in need. Your support will directly impact the lives of individuals affected by conflict, natural disasters, and other challenging circumstances. Visit the website now to make a meaningful difference and join HARP in its mission to bring hope, relief, and a brighter future to those who need it most.