

Situation in Puerto Rico

- 1) 3.4 million US citizens live in Puerto Rico, and they are entitled to the same government response as any state. But half of Americans don't even know that.
- 2) Hurricane Maria was like a 50-mile-wide tornado that made a direct hit on the island
- 3) Water, food, and fuel are scarce on the island. The airports are a mess. Power will be out for months in some places.
- 4) Puerto Rico's economy is in shambles, and the storm will make it worse
- 5) Experts believe the death toll could reach into the hundreds
- 6) The US government is responding to the disaster, but it's going slow
- 7) Trump could be doing much more to help

Trump amended the disaster declaration Tuesday, increasing the amount of funds for recovery in Puerto Rico, and authorized the waiver of the Jones Act.

But as first responders on the ground in Puerto Rico told the media, , this isn't enough. Trump should also ask Congress to pass a relief package for Puerto Rico to give FEMA and the island more money to rebuild.

He could deploy more military resources to help with search and rescue operations. The number of troops on the ground should be doubled, as Lt. Gen. Russel Honore, who led the military's disaster efforts during Hurricane Katrina, argued Thursday on NPR.

- 8) Other Caribbean islands are hurting too.

What do we lose when we lose power?

