**Punlandia**

**General Background**

**Typhoon Maria**

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**Geography**

* Mid-Pacific island nation, 7,000- sq. miles (18,130 sq. km).
* Tropical climate, average temperature 20-25 degrees C.
* Mountain ranges on western and eastern portions; Kamskool Peninsula somewhat isolated by Pali Mountain range.
* Large central plan area southeast of capital (Punahou City); agricultural “heartland.
* Mega resorts in northwest, between capital city and Portlock.
* Nearest geographic neighbour-country of Kamay, 1,500 km to east.

**Hazards**

* Tropical storms, occasional hurricanes, flash floods, tsunamis, earthquakes (5.8 in 2007 latest large earthquake).
* Tropical storm/hurricane season is June through November. There are 2-5 severe tropical storms each year, with high winds and rain causing damage. Injuries, but rarely any lives lost.
* Tsunamis occur every year but most are insignificant (less than .2 meters) and go unnoticed by the general population. The last major tsunami that caused significant damage was in 2005 from an earthquake generated in Chile. The Kamskool Peninsula suffered residential and infrastructure damage.
* Flash flooding often occurs after heavy rainfall, either during major storms or during heavy inundation. Some major roads are rendered impassable for short periods of time.

**Demographics**

* Population: 4.7 million
* 1.7 million: Kamayan/mixed. The Kamayans were the original settlors, migrating from what is now known as the country of Kamay in the fourteenth century.
* 2.3 million: Punahans/mixed. Descendants of European, American and northeast Asian immigrants who arrived starting from the late eighteenth century. Punahans tend to dominate the political, economic and social aspects of the country.
* .7 million: other ethnic groups from the Asia-Pacific region.
* There is a lingering undertone of resentment amongst some of the Kamayans towards the Punahans. The first Punahans migrated in peace and were accepted by the native population, but soon rose to power through cunning, intermarriage, and economic dominance. This resentment is most keenly felt in the Kamskool Peninsula region.

**Economy**

* Agriculture, tourism, light manufacturing –major economic drivers.
* The Punahou Science Academy is world renown for tropical agricultural research and development of alternative energy sources. Currently 90% of power is generated from oil imported from Indonesia.
* GDP per capita is 26, 456 (IMF 2016), ranking the country slightly below Malaysia.

**Government**

* Representative democracy; popularly elected president, bicameral legislature, appointed judges.
* Government is generally perceived as fair, but Kamayans feel some of their needs are not adequately addressed by the central government (see Economy section).
* The country is divided into 5 provinces (one being Kamskool and encompassing the Kamskool Peninsula.
* Punahou City, the capital, is governed as a separate federal city.
* The PNP-Punlandia National Police-provide local law enforcement, but are supported by the Punlandia military, in particular the Army, in several law enforcement functions, including maintenance of public order.

**Military**

* Small but capable military with experience in various peacekeeping operations.
* The Mission of the Punlandia Armed forces is: Protect homeland / territorial integrity; maintain EEZ, support domestic law enforcement when specifically authorized, contribute to world peace keeping operations.
* Military participates in various multilateral military exercises conducted in the Asia-Pacific region; has a strong relationship and bilateral exercises and training with U.S. Pacific Command and other militaries in the region. Senior officers attend service schools in the US and Australia.
* Armed forces leadership and the officer corps are comprised heavily of Punahans, in particular the Navy.
* Army: 40,000 personnel: infantry, light armour (scout vehicles), engineers, supporting branches.
* Air Force: 9,000 personnel: three air wings; one fixed wing (combat), one fixed wing (transport), one rotary wing (transport, reconnaissance, medical).
* Navy: 6,000 personnel: two corvettes, 14 patrol craft (40-80 ft.), three landing craft, support craft and facilities.

**Disaster Response Framework**

* Punlandia NDMO: Punlandia Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), cabinet-level minister reports to president.
* Similar provincial and city EMAs, reporting to the governors and mayors respectively.
* National, provincial and city EMAs have fairly effective disaster response plans; conduct annual exercises and various community capacity building events.
* Disaster response efforts are led by the EMAs, but the military plays a significant role, providing transportation, communications and occasionally security operations. The Army’s engineer units have performed debris clearance and emergency infrastructure repair in past major disasters.

**Punladia Red Cross Society (PRCS)**

* + Auxiliary to the government, main mandate during disasters is providing mass care: shelter, food, water, medical, shelter management / operations.
	+ Large volunteer base, reflecting the demographic composition of the country.
	+ Relations with the military are generally satisfactory, but not entirely satisfactory in Kamskool Peninsula.
	+ Large volunteer base, but with varying degrees of knowledge and capabilities.
	+ ICRC and IFRC, based in Kamay, support PRCS.

**Ethnic tensions:**

* There is resentment amongst some Kamayans towards the Punahans. The first Punahans migrated in peace and were accepted by the native population, but soon rose to power through cunning, intermarriage, and economic dominance. This resentment is most keenly felt in the Kamskool Peninsula region. A “Free Kamskool” movement has gained traction in recent years, building on this resentment and perceived inequalities in treatment of the Kamayan minority, lack of educational and economic opportunity.
* In recent months, more radical Free Kamskool elements have begun pushing for independence. There have been several large-scale demonstrations by the Kamayan community in the Peninsula which have degenerated into violent rioting, as Free Kamskool elements confront police supported by local army units. In the latest riot 2 weeks ago, 5 police officers were seriously injured, and a Free Kamskool demonstrator was shot dead by the army. Subsequently, Free Kamskool issued a statement declaring the military and police to be “puppets of the Punlandia government” and announcing their readiness to continue striving for Kamayan independence by all necessary means.

**Category III Typhoon Maria struck Punlandia from the east, three days ago.**

* The typhoon’s wind, storm surge and downpour inflicted severe damage on the island nation, especially on the Kamskool Peninsula and the eastern coast.

**PEMA reported:**

* Deaths: 113 (as of 24 hours ago)
* Injuries: over 500
* Missing: over 1,500

**Infrastructure damage:**

* Punahou City airport-day operations, limited MOG (Maximum on the ground) capacity
* Main harbor facilities-40% operational
* Alewa (Kamskool Peninsula) devastated-no power, communications, water
* Main roads in/out of Kamskool Peninsula impassible except for the northern road-limited access due to parts of road swept away by storm surge
* Major flooding and wind damage throughout island
* Portlock and resort areas damaged, but most resorts still functioning to limited extent

**Residential damage:**

* PEMA estimates 175,000 IDPS (including those not in shelters) in Kamskool Peninsula
* 25,000 IDPs throughout rest of island

**Punlandia government response:**

* PEMA is providing overall disaster response coordination. Provinces and city DMAs are coordinating local efforts, with support from national authorities
* The army has been mobilized to clear debris, with the priority being the roads into and out of the Kamskool Peninsula
* The military is also providing rotary airlift surveillance and emergency relief supplies, under the direction of the PEMA and provincial and local DMAs. Each province has a specific unit (brigade) coordinating military support to that province. Military medical teams are also providing medical support in or near some of the shelters
* The government has opened 135 shelters and 47 community distribution points have been established. Most of the shelters and some of the community distribution points are being managed and staffed by the Punlandia Red Cross Society.

**International response:**

* Punlandia welcomes international assistance
* UN deployed an UNDAC Team, which has established a HuMOCC adjacent to the PEMA EOC
* Fourteen nations have pledged assistance and relief supplies have started to arrive
* Five (of the fourteen nations) have sent military assets: USA (VH-22 Osprey (vertical fixed wing) and rotary wing support, airport operations support); Singapore (C-130s with relief supplies and a communications unit); Indonesia (C-130s with relief supplies); Japan (medical and engineer teams); Kamay (C-130s with relief supplies). The Punlandia military has established a MNCC (Multinational Military Coordination Centre) to coordinate foreign military assets.

**Punlandia Red Cross Society, IFRC, ICRC**

* + PRCS volunteers manage and staff 105 of the shelters. “Event based volunteers” (spontaneous volunteers) supplement the volunteers. Provincial and municipal employees who have been trained in shelter operations by the PRCS manage and staff the remainder of the shelters.
	+ PRCS manages 22 of the community distribution points
	+ Military transport (trucks and helicopters) deliver relief supplies, including, at times, PRCS relief supplies
	+ The PRCS CMR designated focal point is working in Punlandia Armed Forces HQ. This is a newly created position
	+ IFRC APRO has deployed an operational coordinator and other support. Several regional national societies have offered assistance.
	+ ICRC delegate based in Kamay has deployed to Punlandia.