

**TX-TF1 ASSISTS IN SEARCH OF DAMAGED AND DESTROYED BUILDINGS**



Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1) was activated by Gov. Rick Perry at noon on April 24 in anticipation of severe weather conditions across Texas. TX-TF1 staged in College Station and began equipment checks in preparation for a possible deployment. Seven hours later, at 7:01 p.m., a tornado tore through the city of Eagle Pass, TX.



The tornado was rated EF-3 on the enhanced Fujita intensity scale and wreaked destruction with sustained winds up to 150 mph, killing 7 people and injuring 76 more. The tornado was 1/4 mile wide and tore a path 4 miles long. One elementary school, along with 59 manufactured homes and 57 houses, were destroyed.

The Rapid Assessment Team, a smaller component of the TX-TF1, departed for Eagle Pass at midnight on April 24. The rest of the Task Force departed College Station at 8 a.m. on April 25, and arrived in Eagle Pass at noon. They immediately set up a base of operations and began conducting technical and canine searches of three damaged schools and other destroyed structures. Task Force Operations were completed at 7 p.m. on April 25.

*"Texas has much to be proud of but clearly, Texas Task Force 1 is the crown jewel of response."*

*--GDEM Chief Jack Colley, after touring the Eagle Pass disaster site with Gov. Rick Perry on April 25, 2007*

**Deployment Statistics**

- **Rapid Assessment Team deployed for 3 days, followed by a 84 member Type I Task Force**

**Type 1 Task Force**

- 4 rescue squads
- 2 technical search teams
- 4 search canine teams
- Communications personnel and equipment
- Medical personnel and equipment