



**Hurricane Joaquin Disaster Response
Trip Report: Long Island, Crooked Island and Rum Cay
Submitted: October 13, 2015**

From: Charter President of the Rotary Club of Old Fort Bruce Ferguson, Past President of The Nassau Club
To: RCOB Disaster Relief Committee
Subject: Visit to Long Island, Crooked Island and Rum Cay, 8-12 October, 2015

I was in Long Island for 3 nights, basically to assist our insurance clients with their claims. I also got over to Crooked Island and Rum Cay.

South Long island was very badly affected. Salt water blocking the roads made travelling there from Stella Maris problematic. Power was slowly being restored to the whole island while I was there but was still not on in Deadman's Cay / Clarence Town when I left. I found hot food hard to come by and the mosquitoes were the worst I have ever encountered. Let us hope they do not spread dengue or chikungunya.

Although Long Island is bad, Crooked Island and Rum Cay are worse, the eye of Joaquin having sat on them for about 36 hours. I did not get to San Salvador but was told by the insurance loss adjusters that it is not too bad although the two main employers Club Med and the Riding Rock Inn have been very badly affected.

There was severe flooding from the sea and frankly it is amazing that no one died. I was told a story which sounds far-fetched but is apparently true of a man swimming several miles through the flood waters to higher ground and on the way he saw four people who had taken refuge in a gum elemi tree. When he got to Salt Pond he told the people there what he had seen and they sent out a boat and rescued those people. I was shown the tree they were rescued from.

YiRS,

Bruce

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