

# RESCUE IN EARTHQUAKE DISASTERS

Earthquakes are the most deadly natural disaster. There are several reasons. They occur with virtually no warning, so people have no opportunity to take self-protective action. Older unreinforced masonry buildings are particularly subject to catastrophic failure, with whole buildings collapsing. And even when modern seismic codes have been adopted, lack of enforcement sometimes makes them next to useless. People can survive earthquakes in voids that sometimes occur within the wreckage of downed buildings AND if search and rescue teams have come to save them. Postage stamps record the work of these teams and the gratitude of countries they aid.

## The Earthquake Strikes



Greece 1953



Lebanon 1956



Afghanistan 10-16-1972



Algeria 11-13-1980

## Search & Rescue



Algeria 12-5-1964 first day of issue (reduced) and stamp



Slovenia 6-1-1993



Taiwan 9-21-2000



Iran 2-4-2004 (reduced)

## Thanks for International Help



Peru 2-8-1971



Guatemala 6-4-1976



Turkey 10-15-1999

For additional information on the philately of natural disasters, contact:  
Raymond Burby at [nanandrayburby@earthlink.net](mailto:nanandrayburby@earthlink.net)