5. Response

Both local and international search and rescue teams were involved in the aftermath of the earthquake. The USA and many countries from Europe including the UK sent teams to aid with the rescue.

Many None Government Organisations (NGO’s), such as The Red Cross provided doctors and nurses. The USA and the UK sent equipment such as heat seeking equipment and sniffer dogs to find the trapped bodies and people.

Mexico used 50,000 troops, police and firemen to help rescue trapped people and put out the fires caused by broken gas pipes. Water, clothing and tents were given to people that were homeless.

The army was also deployed in many parts that were affected by the earthquake to stop people from looting.
1. Introduction

At around 7:19 a.m. on September 19th, 1985, Mexico City, was struck by an earthquake that measured 8.1 on the Richter Scale. This was one of the strongest earthquakes to ever hit the area. The powerful earthquake killed more than 10,000 and left another 30,000 others injured and as many as a quarter of a million people homeless. The quake was centred off the Pacific coast of Michoacán, more than 200 miles west of Mexico City, the nation’s capital. However, much of the damage was in Mexico City. The earthquake was felt as far as California and Texas in the USA.