



Figure 11 Royal Air Force Hercules ambulance plane evacuating priority one medical refugees to the United Kingdom.

- Maintaining adequate primary health care within the Macedonian camps until all the refugees are able to return home.

- Maintaining medical supplies (in particular for example insulin, antiepileptic drugs and painkillers) with robust systems to ensure that supplies reach the clinical staff who need them.

- To provide more specialist staff and services including additional support to local hospitals and continuing medical evacuation if needed.

- To ensure effective collaboration between agencies and national delegations in the process of rebuilding capacity in the Kosovan health and healthcare systems.

In the event, the willingness of some countries to continue with their medical evacuations, coupled with appropriate representations to other countries based on the epidemiological analysis of priority medical need, enabled the necessary continuing mobilisation to occur. A typical manifest of evacuees is shown in figure 10.

Three hundred and eleven Priority 1 medical cases may seem a lot to any one health care system, but a problem shared is a problem halved and when many countries agree to play their part it can become readily manageable.

Footnote—living in real time

Public health practice in a humanitarian aid situation is different from the kind of business and planning cycles that characterise large public sector organisations. It is necessary for people to think on their feet and to mobilise resources in timescales of hours and days rather than the customary weeks and years. Yet organisation, planning and continuity are also required. It is a personal view based on my Balkan experience that this kind of work requires public health expertise, systematically applied but in a light footed way. I think though that there is a corollary that entails more living in real time, more hands on in the day to day practice of public health in the UK and elsewhere. I suspect that our predecessors knew this but that it has been lost somewhere as we have developed elaborate bureaucracies, and business planning has become a kind of fetish.

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Balkans briefing number 5. Seeking refuge (Macedonia, 9-25 June 1999): the changing needs of humanitarian aid in the face of the peace

John Ashton

Ekipi Britanik

- "Do te evakuoje refugjatet Kosovare.
 - Asnjeri nuk do te evakuhet kunder deshires se tyre.
 - Bashkesia familjare duhet te ruhet, familjet gjate evakuimeve humane nuk do te ndahen.
 - Prioritet do te kene familjet te cilat kane probleme shendetore.
 - Familjet: me femije te vegjel, me nje prind, antar te moshuar ose me probleme serioze shendetore kane prioritet.
 - Familjet, qe qendrojne "kohe te gjate" ketu do te kene prioritet per evakuim.
 - Ne femi ketu per te ndihmuar."
- (British Team Skopje 1999-Humanitarian Evacuation:
- "We will evacuate refugees from Kosovo.
 - No one will be forced to leave against their will.

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Country	Departures 20 Jun 99	Total departures to date	Scheduled departures 21 Jun 99	Scheduled departures 21-27 Jun	Quotas
Andorra					6-10 cases
Argentina					500
Australia		3,470			4,000
Austria		5,079			5,000
Belgium		1,223			1,200
Brazil					100
Canada	46	5,317			5,000
Chile					500
Croatia		370			5,000
Czech Republic		824			100's
Denmark		2,823			3,000
Estonia					15
Finland		958			1,000
France		5,796	204	612	not available
Germany		14,689			15,000
Greece					5,000
Iceland		70			100
Ireland		1,033			1,000
Israel		206			not available
Italy		6,199			10,000
Lithuania					100
Luxemburg		101			not available
Malta		105			100
Moldova					75
Netherlands		4,067			4,000
New Zealand					1,000
Norway		6,075			6,000
Poland		1,049			1,000
Portugal		1,271			2,000
Romania		41			5,000
Slovakia		90			500
Slovenia		860			1,600
Spain		1,426			1,800
Sweden		3,675		163	5,000
Switzerland		1,687			2,500
Turkey		8,105		736	20,000
United Kingdom		4,191		157	1000's
USA		7,126		832	20,000
Uruguay					not available
TOTAL	46	87,926	204	2,500	

Figure 1 UNHCR/IOM Humanitarian Evacuation Programme (HEP) 21 June 1999.

- Family unity must be preserved. Families will not be separated for humanitarian evacuation.
- Refugees in the most difficult situation because of family situation or health problems will go first.
- Vulnerable families with small children, single parents, elderly persons or family members with serious medical problems are a priority.



Figure 2 Last sight of Macedonia for Kosovar refugees being evacuated from Skopje airport.



Figure 3 The world's media descend on the peace talks at the Kosovo-Macedonia border.

Stenkovec 1 (Brazda)	21,400
Stenkovec 11	20,600
Bojane	3,800
Neprosteno	8,300
Radusa	2,500
Senokos	6,800
Cegrane	41,000
Total	104,000

Figure 4 Refugees in camps in Macedonia (former republic of Yugoslavia) in early June 1999.

