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HEART DOCTORS

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Report

OF THE HEART DOCTORS HUMANITARIAN MISSIONS IN THE YEAR 2002



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Financial Report

During the year 2002, "HEART DOCTORS" accomplished ten missions of humanitarian aid. An approximate number of 64,000 patients have been examined and received free medical treatment. A large number of populations received various types of food aid.

During several missions, members of the Organization faced difficulties in accomplishing their tasks due to weather conditions, internal conflicts, epidemics, bad road conditions. Despite these, the teams managed to reach far located rural areas and deliver their activities. In some of the places visited, the inhabitants did not seem to have met a white colored human being.

The medicaments delivered to the patients during 2002, were derived from donations from the below listed pharmaceutical companies, private donations and mostly from resources of the Organization. At this point we would like to express our thanks to the following companies:

- Alkon Hellas
- Aventis
- Bayer Hellas
- Elpen S.A.
- Janssen Cilag
- Norma Hellas
- Novartis Hellas
- Farmaserv Lilly
- Nycomed
- Pfizer
- Roche Hellas A.E.
- Vianex
- Wyeth Hellas
- Glaxo Smith Kline Beecham

We would like to thank the Greek Parliament for a generous donation which was used to support the construction of a school in the State of "EBONYI" in Nigeria.

We also thank the Hellenic Military Forces for their donation of Medicaments. It is noted that the expenses for traveling, accommodation and food of the members as well as for the acquisition of various types of food to be delivered to the poor, are covered by the members of the missions and resources of the organization.

The distribution of medicines and food is always performed by the staff of the mission personally in order to avoid the frequent phenomenon of selling by the local authorities.

NORTH CAMEROON

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 07.01.2002 - 23.01.2002

PURPOSE: Free medical services to the people of the region of Katrang, Dukula in North Cameroon, 1,500km from the Capital Yaounde.

It is the third mission of "HEART DOCTORS" in this rural area of North Cameroon due to many severe diseases encountered in previous missions. Approximately 10,500 people have been examined and treated. We were very happy to realize improvements in every day habits according to our instructions which in turn results in better health conditions. One purpose of our mission in this specific area is to educate the people to avoid habits which are causing various diseases. We educated them how to clean water, cook their food and take the necessary precautions in sexual contacts.

Prevalent diseases in the area were malaria, tuberculosis, helminthiasis, bronchitis, arthritis, schistosomiasis, sexually transmitted diseases, gastroenteritis, eye problems, filariasis and different musculo-skeletal disorders.



NIGERIA

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 23.01.2002 -17.02.2002

PURPOSE: Free medical services to the people of the Nigerian States IMO, ANAMBRA, EBONYI and NIGER.

This was the fourth mission in Nigeria. This country is separated in 35 different States with its own governments. The team is always working with the collaboration of the Nigerian Government and the local authorities in each State, in order to prepare every day's work and provision of the necessary securities. It is impossible to move around in the main roads of Nigeria without military assistance at any time. During this mission approximately 23,000 people have been examined and treated. Prevalent diseases in these areas were malaria, hypertension, diseases of the eye, diabetes respiratory track infection, musculo-skeletal disorders, helminthiasis, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, schistosomiasis, epilepsy and others.

Members of this mission have met with staff from the local government, established close relations and decided to support the construction of a school in the State of EBONYI. The donation of the Greek Parliament will be used for this purpose. Among the goals of the Organization is to provide the means for a proper education of African people, because this will help them to improve their health conditions.



GHANA

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 17.02.2002-20.02.2002

PURPOSE: Free Medical Services to the people in villages of rural areas around the Capital AKKRA and inauguration of primary schools.

This is the second mission of the Organization in Ghana. Medical Services were delivered to the inhabitants of the villages ANTANTAN and ESSIAMAN. Approximately 2,500 patients were examined and treated. Prevalent diseases were malaria, gastroenteritis, helminthiasis, skin diseases, schistosomiasis, eye problems, endemic goiter, infections of the respiratory and urinary tracts and hypertension.

During our stay in Ghana, the team inaugurated two primary schools constructed with the support of the organization in the villages Antantan and Akropong. The inauguration took place in the presence of the Orthodox bishop of Ghana Panteleimon.



PALESTINE

DURATION OF THE MISSIONS: 01.06.2002 - 03.06.2002
13.06.2002 - 14.06.2002

PURPOSE: Administration of food aid to cities of Palestine

In order to provide Palestinian people with food needed in certain areas at this time, it became necessary to do two missions. In the first, members of the mission explored and registered the needs of the different areas. At the same time, few local people were recruited and agreed to help with the distribution of food in the second mission, because of the difficulties in the movement by the Israeli authorities. Several attempts to approach the cities of Jenin in the Palestinian territory has not been successful. Information gathered at this time was referring to many families in great need for food, especially in children. In the second mission organized soonest possible after the first, thirteen tons of flour and two tons of humus in big trucks have reached the Palestinian territory and distributed to the people after obtaining permissions from the Israelis requested by the local people.



AFGHANISTAN

DURATION: 27.08.2002-30.08.2002

PURPOSE: Provision of food supplies to Afghan refugees who live in refugee settlements in the surrounding area of Kandahar.

Based on the experience gained from the previous mission in November 2001 and having made all the necessary contacts with the local authorities, HEART DOCTORS decided to organize a second food aid mission for the refugees living in southern Afghanistan. More specifically, the mission aimed at giving food (grain) to refugees coming from North Afghanistan living now in the surrounding area of Kandahar near the borders of Pakistan. The team arrived by air in Karachi, the capital of Pakistan, on the 27th of August 2002 . The purpose of the mission was to distribute 20 tons of rice and 10 tons of dhal to Afghan refugees. The food was bought in Karachi and was loaded to a big truck. From Karachi the next day the team traveled to Quetta, then to Chaman (a town situated near the border with Afghanistan); then they crossed the borders and reached the towns of Yaro Kalay and Luy Kalay, about 80 kilometers from Kandahar. The roads in Pakistan are very good and one can quickly travel long distances. This time, refugee camps appeared to be in a better condition than the previous time. There were many tents, but still there was not enough water. However, as we have been told, many people (mostly children) have died during the past months due to starvation. Water supply was insufficient and of bad quality. We wish and hope that the situation will improve and sometime in the near future these refugees will return to their homes and live a peaceful and normal life there.

TANZANIA

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 02.09.2002 -12.09.2002

PURPOSE: Free Medical services to villages around the city of Bukoba in the north of Tanzania.

This is the third mission of the Organization in remote areas around the city of Bukoba. The mission has been organized by the Greek Orthodox bishop of Bukoba IERONIMOS. The team reached Bukoba through Dar Es Salam and Mwanza by plane.

Around three thousand five hundred people have been examined and treated in eight different remote areas of the country site. Prevalent diseases were malaria, fungal skin infections, otitis media, helminthiasis, hypertension, arthritis, gastritis, leprosy and leishmaniasis.

During the visit, the team visited two water tanks the construction of which was supported by donation of "HEART DOCTORS" in the areas named Rukuraijo and Bushangaro. This work will improve the quality of drinking water for people living in large areas surrounding these constructions and therefore health condition.

We were happy to observe improvements in living and health conditions of the population in these districts, which is greatly attributed to the support of the Orthodox Church.



Water tank sponsored by "HEART DOCTORS" in Bushangaro - Tanzania

AFGHANISTAN

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 26.09.2002 - 29.09.2002

PURPOSE: Food aid and blankets to Afghan refugees living in camps close to the border with Pakistan.

This is the third mission of humanitarian aid to the people of Afghanistan. This is because of the great needs for food to refugee camps which was found out in previous missions.

Thirty tons of rice, thirty tons of fava beans and 3,500 blankets were delivered to Afghan citizens living in camps near the Pakistan border.

Members of the mission reached the city of Karatsi by plane, then moved to the city of Koeta also by a local Air company. There, trucks were waiting to load and started moving towards the city of Tsaman at the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Then the mission proceeded to the cities of Giaro-Kalai, Loui-Kalai and other areas with refugee camps where all goods have been distributed.



ZAMBIA

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 09.10.2002 -18.10.2002

PURPOSE: Free medical services to the people of the districts in LUANGWA and MUMBWA.

Following long lasting efforts to obtain permission from the Government of Zambia to deliver humanitarian aid to people in rural areas of the country, it was granted with the assistance of employees of the Greek consulate in the capital Lusaka. All medicaments carried with us, have been checked by the authorities at the airport, and participating doctors had to take examinations in English at the University and subscribe to the Zambian Medical Society before being allowed to start working.

Approximately 4,000 patients have been examined and treated in two areas Luangwa and Mumbwa, 150 klm from the Capital. Medical services were delivered in local medical centers, which were found rather will organized for primary care of patients.

Prevalent diseases were malaria, helminthiasis, HIV-AIDS, hypertension, myalgias and arthralgias.

Government authorities, despite initial reservations, appreciated our work and welcomed future missions.



NIGERIA

DURATION OF THE MISSION: 19.10.2002 -09.11.2002

PURPOSES: Free Medical services to the people on the State of IMO and EBONYI.

This was the fifth mission in Nigeria. Around Twenty thousand patients were examined and treated in the following areas: Ngbo West, Inyaba LGA.HQ, Nwodo Oferekpe, Ikwo East Echialike, Unity Square, Amasin in Amoha LGA and Okposi. Prevalent diseases were mainly malaria, hypertension , eye problems , diabetes, musculo-skeletal disorders, infection of the urinary track, typhoid fever, taberculosis, goiter, epilepsy, schistosomiasis, HIV-AIDS, avitaminosis, filariasis, skin injuries and infections.



