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From: David J. Garms@Rome@Europe  
Subject: Atwood Visit to Goma, Zaire  
Date: Saturday, July 16, 1994 11:07:42 EDT  
Attach:  
Certify: N  
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I just talked with Catherine Bertini, Executive Director of WFP; Daan Everts, Deputy Executive Director for Operations; and Judith Lewis, Bertini's Special Assistant and thought it might be useful to provide an update on what WFP has done over the last 24-36 hours in response to the recent crisis in Goma, Zaire and what it plans to do over the next few days.

1) It mobilized a rapid response team of seven people -- the leader of the team, Trevor Page, arrives in Nairobi today (Sat, July 16).

2) Since there is only limited quantities of food available in Goma and given that it will take at least 10 days to get food to Goma by road, WFP has organized an airlift to move food to Goma. The first flight, carrying 32 MT, arrives in Goma from Entebbe today; and another flight arrives tomorrow. The airlift will continue until sufficient food is moved to Goma by road. Note: Food will initially be flown from Entebbe but will subsequently come from stocks in Mombasa, Kenya and Angola.

3) Daan Everts, Deputy Director for Operations, leaves Rome today for Nairobi and will be going by light aircraft from Nairobi to Entebbe on Monday July 18 to catch a WFP Ilyushin going to Goma with 32 MT of food. WFP's Information Officer, Brenda Barton, and reportedly some journalists will also be traveling with Everts.

Daan Everts has advised that Mr. Atwood may join him if he would like. As I mentioned on the phone to Rene Bafalis and Russ Porter, if Mr. Atwood would like to join Daan Everts then someone needs to call Dan Everts immediately at his residence in Rome, phone no. 396-578-0484. If there's no answer at this phone no. then call Mr. Romaro Da Silva on 396-0337-804454 (Romaro is WFP's equivalent of Carrie Goux)..

~~Russ Porter asked about the possibility of any press people joining Everts. That may also be coordinated through Romaro Da Silva.~~

Mike Sackett is WFP's senior person in Nairobi. His office phone nos. are: 254-2-217598 or 599. FAX nos. are 254-2-332605 or 254-2-521161.

My home phone no. is 396-855-4567.

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NOTE: Just as I was finishing this e-mail I received word from Romaro Da Silva that the first food (32 MT) to arrive in Goma was via an WFP Iluyshin at about 4:15 p.m. Rome time (2:15 p.m. Zaire time) today.