



**Press release**

***MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES*  
TO EVACUATE WOUNDED FROM VUKOVAR**

Zagreb, October 18th, 1991

On Saturday 19th in the morning, humanitarian organisation *Médecins Sans Frontières* will send a medical team to besieged Vukovar in eastern Croatia to evacuate the severely wounded.

Five doctors, eight nurses and seven logisticians will drive through several frontlines to try and pick up 160 severely wounded.

The convoy will include eight trucks, four ambulances and two cars, with an overall capacity of 80 patients.

According to the director of Vukovar hospital, more than 300 wounded people are currently in the wards, with 54 thought to be in an appalling condition.

More casualties are reported to arrive at the hospital every night, following heavy shelling in the last four days.

*Médecins Sans Frontières* was allowed to go ahead with the rescue operation after long negotiations with the Yugoslav People's Army and the Croatian authorities.

These negotiations were made particularly difficult by the failure of several previous rescue convoys.

The evacuation operation MSF is now launching is strictly humanitarian. It is jointly organised by all European sections of *Médecins Sans Frontières*, with field monitoring of the European Community.

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