



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Iraqi Red Crescent Organization

25 February 2008

Subject: Turkish Military Operation in Kurdistan

Background and current situation

In October 2007, the Turkish military bombarded the border villages with artillery shells for weeks. Thousands of villagers left their homes and migrated to other places for fear of their lives. The Iraqi Red Crescent Organization assisted the displaced families by providing them with food and non food items until they returned to their homes.

In December 2007, the Turkish military bombarded the Iraqi borders again. These military operations caused a lot of damage and destruction and resulted in the displacement of more than 500 families from their homes to other secure places.

Thursday, 21 February 2008, Turkish troops crossed into northern Iraq in their first major ground incursion against Kurdish rebel bases in nearly a decade. Some websites announced the killing of dozens of militants. Heavy fighting and artillery fire continued late into the night on Friday, 22 February 2008. Villagers said that artillery fire could be heard until midnight in the Bamerni area, about 40 Km to the southwest, where the Turkish army has maintained a small base since the 1990s. Turkish army and their helicopters destroyed four bridges (Afamark, Ribikh, Jmjy and Dukiry) in Al-Amadiyah and Sirsank areas.

Overall goal of the Iraqi Red Crescent relief operation in Kurdistan

Increase preparedness to respond to any displacement or population movement and to ensure adequate strategic emergency stock of food and non food items.

Iraqi Red Crescent actions

The Iraqi Red Crescent launched a relief operation in North of Iraq to assist the affected Iraqi Kurdish families by providing them with food and non food items taking into consideration the cold weather in north of Iraq. Eleven families were displaced with their cattle from the border villages (Kafiya, Nibakhy and Pany). The Iraqi Red Crescent branch in Duhok will provide relief assistance to these families through its office in Aqra.

The Iraqi Red Crescent branch in Duhok formed an operations room in cooperation with the Headquarters to mobilize volunteers, carry out a rapid damage assessment, follow-up this crisis, identify needs and prepare for response. The branch is coordinating with governmental institutions to set up camps to shelter displaced families in case needed.

Needs

In case there is a need to set up camps to shelter the displaced families, the following items are needed:

Item	Quantity
1. Tent	500 tents
2. Food parcel	1000 parcels
3. Blanket	2000 blankets
4. Tarpaulin	500 pieces
5. Heater	500 pieces
6. Stove	500 pieces
7. Lantern	500 pieces
8. Kitchen sets	500 kit

For additional information, please contact:

In Iraq:

1. Iraqi Red Crescent Organization, President- Dr. Said Hakki, email: saidhakki@iraqirc.org
2. Iraqi Red Crescent Organization, Vice President- Dr. Al-Jamal Karboli, email: JamalKarboli@iraqirc.org
3. International Relation Department manager ircs_int_dep@yahoo.com;
Mobile phone: +964 7901669159; Telephone: +964 1 5372925/24/23
4. Disaster Management Department manager disastermghq@yahoo.com;
Mobile phone: +964 7703045043; Telephone: +964 1 5372925/24/23

In Jordan: Amman Coordination Office: ircs_amman_office@yahoo.com;

Mobile phone (manager):+962 796484058;

Mobile phone (deputy manager): +962 797180940

Also, visit the Iraqi Red Crescent Organization web site: iraqiredcrescent.org