

Indeed, they did so before the necessary regulations were implemented, and they have done so at some cost to themselves.

The Government quickly decided to make available humanitarian assistance for the hundreds of thousands of refugees displaced as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

An appeal was received from the Egyptian Red Crescent for milk powder to help feed the Egyptian workers who had been forced to flee from their jobs in Kuwait and return to their own country.

An RNZAF Hercules delivered a load of milk powder to Cairo in response to that request.

The main need of refugees was for onward transport from Jordan to their home countries.

The Government assigned the same Hercules aircraft to carry out three refugee flights from Jordan to Pakistan and the Philippines.

An RNZAF Boeing 727, already in Europe, was diverted from its tasks by the Government to make 11 flights, carrying refugees from Jordan to Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and the Philippines.

At the same time, the Government announced its willingness to send a civilian medical team to Saudi Arabia, under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, if this was acceptable.