

Perspective of a Canadian Military Surgeon in Bosnia

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Ambulance Service Preparation and Response to Hijack Incidents at Stansted Airport

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Stansted Airport is the third London airport, serving approximately 10,000,000 passengers per annum. It is the designated airport for hijacked aircraft requesting landing permission in the UK.

There is an inter-service major incident plan, especially adapted for such situations. Essex Ambulance Service plays an integral part in that plan, being totally responsible for provision of medical care. The Ambulance Service has been responding to such incidents since 1982. These include a 737 Tanzanian aircraft in February 1982 through to the Afghanistan 727 aircraft in February 2000. The authors have been active at both operational and strategic levels, and will describe their experiences and lessons learned.

Keywords: airport; hijacking; medical care; plan; preparedness

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