

"RETURN TO BELOVED HOMELAND OPERATION" - THE RESCUE OF BRAZILIAN PEOPLE EXPOSED TO CORONAVIRUS IN WUHAN, CHINA

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SUMMARY:

The "Return to Beloved Homeland Operation" was the rescue of 34 Brazilian civilians, that were living in Wuhan, China, when the country had forbidden international travel by its residents, due to CoViD-19. The Brazilian Government determined to the Ministry of Defense (MD) to plan, coordinate, and execute the actions, to bring them home, ensuring the conditions to prevent the transmission of the new coronavirus in national territory.

METHODS - RESULTS:

It happened from 02 to 28 February 20, under the coordination of MD. 02 Legacy EMB-145 aircrafts, from Brazilian Air Force, were sent to Wuhan, with a Health Team capable and trained in Biological Defense and equipped with personal protection equipment (PPE), to provide medical assistance during the trip and to ensure the crew safety. In the arrival, the 34 repatriated Brazilians were lodged in Anapolis Air Base, in Goiás State, and remained in total lockdown for 14 days, because they were "exposed to the new virus". That place was classified as "Red or Hot Area", because of contamination danger. In the same Air Base, it was deployed an Army Field Hospital (AFH), considered as "Yellow or Warm Area", which served to provide initial care in case of clinical manifestations of any nature, during the quarantine period. It was an isolated area, with rooms set up for emergency care, including an Intensive Care Unit, with continuous cardiac monitoring and mechanical ventilation, individual wards, laboratory and image exams, and a dental office for acute situations, aiming avoid the remotion of the patients from the Air Base. All military health professionals were trained in clinical emergencies and in the correct use of PPE. There were bubble litters and helicopters ready to do the transportation to Brasília Armed Forces Hospital, 153 km faraway, in case of emergency not well controlled in the AFH.

CONCLUSION:

34 Brazilian civilians, including children, were brought back home by MD, after being exposed to CoViD-19 in Wuhan, China. They remained in lockdown during 14 days in Anapolis Air Base, with all the logistical support for health care, preventing the dissemination of the new virus, and had been tested each 4 days. Nobody was infected and they received medical release in Feb 21. The 1st official CoViD-19 Brazilian case occurred in Feb 26, in São Paulo, in a traveler arrived from Italy.