BULGARIAN RED CROSS Weekly 27 October - 2 November 2003

The Refugee-Migrant Service of BgRC Arranged Medical Treatment for Ill Refugees

A health-holiday in the Bulgarian resort Sandansky for 18 elderly and ill refugees was arranged by the Refugee-Migrant Service of BgRC. The people selected for this health-stay suffer from serious illnesses as diabetes, leukemia, mental disorder. There are also deserted mothers with ill children. The group will stay in the sanitarium 10 days starting from 23th of October. During this period adequate medical care will be provided for each of the people.

This is the third initiative of Bulgarian Red Cross of such character. In 2000 group of ill refugees were resting

in Bankia and in 2001 - in Velingrad. The medical treatment stay is part of the RMS longterm Program "Social Integration of Refugees", which is financially supported by the Branch Offi-



ce of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Bulgaria.

The Refugee-Migrant Service of the Bulgarian Red Cross Helps Algerians, Arrested by the Border police

Winter clothes, food and medicines were brought by the RMS staff to 18 Algerians who were arrested last week in attempt to cross illegally the Bulgarian-Serbian border.

The foreign citizens tried to pass the border when their applications for refugee asylum were refused by the state authorities.

The Bulgarian Red Cross will continue to express concern for the conditions of the arrested people and to help them until the arrangement of their deportation.

Red Cross Partners in Action

Regional Branch of BgRC in Montana

A long-term successful cooperation keeps going between the Norwegian Red Cross and the Regional Branch of Bulgarian Red Cross in Montana. Since August of the present year the Norwegian RC Branch of Akershus has been giving support for crucial programs of Montana RC. The first of them is called "Family packets". Within the framework of this program 200 unemployed four-member families living in Montana region were receiving food products during last summer

in the period of three months. The food packets consisted of olio, flour, rice sugar and pasta.

Helping children in need is another priority of the RC partners. Fifty children-orphans and children of deserted mothers were given school aids for the beginning of the new school year.

With the financial support of the Norwegian Red Cross, the regional Branch of BgRC in Montana initiated also a pilot project "Medical Transport of Ill People". Since 15th of September the organization offers specialized transport and medical cares during the transportation.





BgRC - FOTOALBUM



The Bulgarian Red Cross Celebrated 125 years of Its Formation































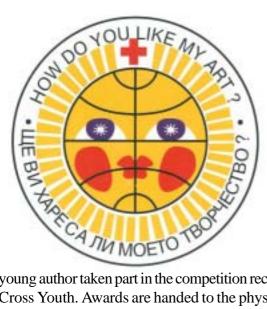








Young Physically and Mentally Disadvantaged Artists from all the World will Present their Art in Bulgaria



The Bulgarian Red Cross Youth starts sending invitations for the 15th International Art Competition and Exhibition "How Do You Like My Art?". The traditional event that use to gather every second year young artists from all the world in Bulgaria will take place again in 2004.

The first competition was organised in 1974 when the Bulgarian Red Cross appealed to all national societies to support this idea. The international exhibition is recognized by IFRCRC. Thousands of children from many parts of the earth have been participated in the exhibition up to present.

A jury of experts evaluates and defines the best drawings and handmade works. During and after the closing of the exhibition an auction is organised for fundraising of Homes for homeless children. Every

young author taken part in the competition receives special gratitude and RC souvenirs from the the Bulgarian Red Cross Youth. Awards are handed to the physically and mentally disadvantaged children whose art is given the highest praise.

The international exhibition and competition aims to help for strengthening the psychological balance of the children-participants, to stimulate their talents and to create friendship between disadvantaged and healthy children.

Published by:
Bulgarian Red Cross, National Committee
Department of Public Relations
materials and graphic design:
Nataliya Dimitrova and Maya Maslinkova
tel.: 865 68 35, e-mail: pressoffice@redcross.bg