

ROYAL AIR FORCE

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The aim of this resource is to give students the opportunity to investigate how science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) is used when planning a mission.



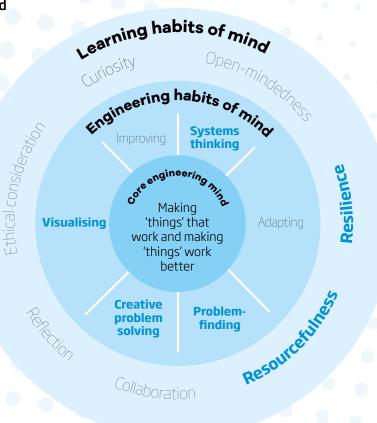
# **Operation Cheshire**

Operation Cheshire, the operation to deliver aid to inhabitants of Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, during the civil war in the early 1990s was the longest running airlift in the RAF's history.

Road and rail networks had been destroyed or cut off by the conflict so delivering aid by air was the only way to ensure it was delivered to those who needed it.

For almost four years the RAF used Hercules C130 aircraft to deliver supplies to those trapped by the fighting.

By the end of the operation the RAF had delivered over 26,000 tonnes of supplies.



# TIME TO PLAN

# You are a logistics team working for the RAF to plan and deliver humanitarian aid to the people of Sarajevo.

You need to use all the information to work out a movement plan that demonstrates how you will deliver all the essential equipment from RAF Leeming to Sarajevo. Delivering humanitarian aid to a war zone requires a different approach to delivering aid in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

To assist with your mission, you have been given access to a Hercules C130s aircraft.

# **Part one**

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One of the key supplies that civilians will need is water. It is currently recommended that a person drinks 1.2 litres of water a day.

- If you are delivering aid for 5,500 people to last 10 days, how much water will you need to deliver?\*
- Step 1: calculate how much water one person will need for 10 days. • •

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tep 2: calculate how much water 5,500 people would need.

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# Part two

This much water will take up too much space on an aircraft, so instead of delivering water the RAF deliver water purification systems.

Next, you must pack your aircraft. You will be delivering emergency lifesaving aid, including food, water purification systems, healthcare and clothes. Complete the table below and use logistics challenge support sheet one to work out the best way to pack your aircraft to make the fewest journeys.

# **Aircraft information**

Flying speed:	330mph			
Maximum load:	20,500kg			
Pallet space:	9 pallets			
Range:	2400 miles			
Time to load:	5 minutes per 1000 kg of weight			
Time to unload:	10 minutes per 1000 kg of weight			
Time to refuel:	2 hours			

# Aid items to be sent:

Item	Quantity to be sent	Number of items per pallet	Number of pallets	Weight per pallet (kg)	Total weight (kg)
Water purification	360	30		3000	
Food	10000	1000		2000	
Medicine	1000	500		1000	
Clothes	500 bags	200 bags		500	

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# **Logistics challenge**





# **Part three**

Now you must work out the time it will take for you to deliver the all equipment and return to base.

The distance from RAF Leeming to Sarajevo is 1155 miles

# Hints:

- *break each stage of the journey down into time to load the aircraft, time to fly and time to unload.*
- >>> do not forget to refuel your aircraft after 2400 miles
- >>> it might be easier to calculate the time to pack the aircraft in minutes first and then convert to time in hours. Remember; there are 60 minutes in an hour.
- to calculate the flight time, use the equation speed = distance ÷ time.

What can you do to reduce the total delivery time?



# **Royal Academy of Engineering**

As the UK's national academy for engineering, we bring together the most successful and talented engineers for a shared purpose: to advance and promote excellence in engineering.

# We have four strategic challenges:

## Make the UK the leading nation for engineering innovation

Supporting the development of successful engineering innovation and businesses in the UK in order to create wealth, employment and benefit for the nation.

# Address the engineering skills crisis

Meeting the UK's needs by inspiring a generation of young people from all backgrounds and equipping them with the high quality skills they need for a rewarding career in engineering.

# Position engineering at the heart of society

Improving public awareness and recognition of the crucial role of engineers everywhere.

## Lead the profession

Harnessing the expertise, energy and capacity of the profession to provide strategic direction for engineering and collaborate on solutions to engineering grand challenges.



The RAF 100 Youth & STEM programme has been designed to engage and inspire young people by building their interest in engineering and technical career pathways.

From cyber specialists to aerospace, aviation, electronics and mechanical disciplines, the RAF is committed to using our centenary celebrations to extend opportunity to all and to encourage greater diversity in this critical area of national skills shortages.



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