



Emergency Flight from Pantelleria: Man Saved Thanks to the Italian Air Force

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Late on the evening of Friday, December 19, a delicate emergency medical transport operation was successfully completed by **a crew from the 31° Stormo of the Italian Air Force**, using a **Gulfstream G650 aircraft**. The mission enabled the immediate transfer of a man from the island of Pantelleria to Palermo, ensuring him access to specialized care not available on the island, in a situation of imminent life-threatening danger.

Mission Activation and Patient Transfer

The intervention was activated at the request of the **Prefecture of Trapani**, following the urgent need to transfer a patient previously hospitalized on the island of **Pantelleria**. The clinical conditions required rapid dispatch to a more specialized center, identified as the **Civic Hospital of Palermo**.

The aircraft took off from Pantelleria airport at 9:20 PM. Throughout the journey, the patient was constantly assisted by a specialized medical team. The landing in **Palermo** occurred shortly after 10:00 PM, after about an hour of flight, allowing for immediate ambulance transfer to the destination hospital facility.

Operational Coordination and Authorizations

The operation was coordinated by the **Top Situations Room of the Air Force Command**, the operational room of the Italian Air Force responsible for planning and managing missions in favor of the population. As provided for this type of intervention, the flight was authorized by the **Presidency of the Council of Ministers**, which oversees the use of the state aircraft fleet.

An Essential Service for Citizens

The crews and transport aircraft of the Italian Air Force operate **24 hours a day, 365 days a year**, ready to intervene in extremely short times for urgent medical transports, organs, medical teams, or patients in critical conditions. An essential service that ensures continuity of care and the right to health even in the most remote areas of the country.

In addition to the 31° Stormo of Ciampino, the national air rescue system also relies on the **14° Stormo** of Pratica di Mare and the **46ª Brigata Aerea** of Pisa, assets constantly ready to intervene to ensure rapid, professional, and highly specialized rescue in any circumstance.

News link: <https://www.aeronautica.difesa.it/news/soccorso-aereo-trasporto-sanitario-durgenza-da-pantelleria-a-palermo-per-un-uomo/>