



Italian Air Force, race against time: a C-130J of the 46th Air Brigade saves a 6-year-old girl between Bari and Rome

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Once again, the Italian Air Force proves to be a fundamental resource for the country, capable of intervening quickly and effectively even in the most delicate situations. On the evening of **December 27**, a **C-130J aircraft of the 46th Air Brigade of Pisa** carried out an **emergency medical transport** to save the life of a girl just **six years old**, urgently transferred from **Bari to Rome**.

This is the **second medical intervention carried out since the beginning of the Christmas holidays**, confirming the constant operational readiness of the Italian Air Force crews, active 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

A rapid and coordinated intervention

The mission was requested by the **Prefecture of Bari** and was immediately coordinated by the **Top Situations Room of the Air Force Command - 1st Air Region of Milan**, the structure responsible for the operational management of urgent medical flights.

Within minutes, the take-off of one of the operational readiness assets was arranged, with authorization from the **Presidency of the Council of Ministers**, which coordinates the use of state aircraft for such missions.

Given the need to **directly transport an ambulance with the young patient on board**, the **C-130J of the 46th Air Brigade** was employed, the only aircraft capable of guaranteeing this type of load.

From take-off in Pisa to hospitalization at Bambino Gesù

The C-130J took off from the base in **Pisa**, reaching the **Bari-Palese** airport, where it boarded the ambulance with the girl and the medical team.

The flight then continued to **Rome Ciampino**, allowing for a quick and safe transfer. Once landed, the ambulance was able to head immediately to the **Bambino Gesù Pediatric Hospital**, where the girl received the necessary specialized care.

After completing the mission, the aircraft returned to Pisa, becoming immediately available for any further emergencies.

A vital service for the country

This intervention represents the **second emergency medical transport during the Christmas holidays**. Just a few days earlier, a **Gulfstream G650 of the 31st Wing of Ciampino** had transferred a patient from Reggio Calabria to Milan for hospitalization at the Policlinico San Matteo in Pavia.

The **46th Air Brigade of Pisa**, along with the **31st Wing of Ciampino**, the **14th Wing of Pratica di Mare**, and the **15th Wing of Cervia**, ensures the national operational readiness service daily. A fundamental device that allows for the urgent transport of:

- patients in life-threatening conditions
- organs for transplants

- medical teams
- ambulances and medical supplies

even in complex weather conditions.

A concrete example of service to the State

Once again, the Italian Air Force demonstrates what it means to be at the service of the community: **promptness, professionalism, and spirit of sacrifice**, often away from the spotlight, but crucial for saving human lives.

A silent but fundamental commitment, which honors the men and women in uniform engaged every day in protecting citizens.

News link: <https://www.aeronautica.difesa.it/news/soccorso-aereo-un-c-130j-dellaeronautica-militare-ha-trasportato-una-bambina-in-pericolo-di-vita-da-bari-a-roma/>