

MAJOR CURRENT REFUGEE/DISPLACEMENT CRISES		If you wish to help by bombing:	If you wish to help financially or by peaceful means:
AFGHANISTAN	4.4 MILLION: Continued fighting between Taliban forces and other political factions has displaced over 1.2 million Afghans within Afghanistan. Many villagers have been forced out of their homes and herded into Kabul. For many years, Iran and Pakistan have hosted the largest refugee population in the world: the Afghans. Iran provides asylum to over two million Afghans. Most live in urban areas. In Pakistan, however, around 1.2 million Afghan refugees live in camps, villages and settlements. Despite the continued fighting in their homeland and the absence of a central government, more than 2.7 million Afghans repatriated from Pakistan and Iran between 1992 and 1996. UNHCR has facilitated the repatriation of those wishing to go home by providing returnees with cash grants and by undertaking rehabilitation projects in their areas of origin.	Tried & failed	<p>Contact your representatives and ask them to press for US payment of its longstanding debt to the United Nations, to support the worldwide efforts of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR).</p> <p>Contact your representatives and ask them to press for more open asylum policy for the world's tired, poor, huddled masses yearning to breathe free. Be sure you specify that these should include people oppressed by official US allies and clients, and not only those oppressed by official US enemies and independents.</p> <p>Contact your representatives and ask them to stop bombing things.</p> <p>Information: <i>UNHCR (High Commission on Refugees):</i> www.unhcr.ch <i>Interaction:</i> www.interaction.org <i>ReliefWeb:</i> www.notes.reliefweb.int <i>US Committee for Refugees:</i> www.refugees.org</p> <p>Major Int'l Relief Agencies: <i>UNHCR (High Commission on Refugees):</i> www.unhcr.ch <i>Oxfam (specializes in the most pressing need--water and sanitation):</i> www.oxfam.org <i>Red Cross:</i> www.redcross.org <i>Int'l Rescue Committee:</i> www.intrescom.org CARE: www.care.org <i>Doctors Without Borders:</i> www.dwb.org <i>Most major churches also have relief agencies.</i></p> <p>Locally: <i>Muslim Student Association at the University of Michigan is organizing volunteers to help raise funds for Kosovar Albanian refugees.</i> email msa@umich.edu</p>
SUDAN	4.3 MILLION: Sudan is generally acknowledged to have one of the largest internally displaced populations in the world: some four million in total according to many estimates. Originating from the war-torn south of the country, up to two million of this number are thought to have made their way to Khartoum and other parts of the north. Many have been removed from the city and placed in special camps. Uganda has pursued a notably liberal asylum policy in recent years and now has a refugee population of around 265,000 predominantly from southern Sudan. By mid-1997, armed attacks by Ugandan rebels had displaced 30,000 of the refugees and disrupted a UNHCR-financed local settlement program.	Tried & failed	
PALESTINE	3 MILLION: The Palestinian diaspora has spread to practically every corner of the globe, but the largest number—over three million—are still found in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank, and Gaza. It is one of the oldest refugee problems in the world. The fourth generation of refugees is now growing up in camps initially constructed by their great-grandparents. While accurate statistics are difficult to establish, there are thought to be some three million Palestinians who lack an effective nationality, making them the largest group of stateless people in the world. While this problem lies at the heart of the Arab-Israeli dispute, it remains to be properly addressed by the Middle East peace process.	Tel Aviv, Washington	
BOSNIA	2.1 MILLION: Almost half of Bosnia's 4.4 million citizens were uprooted during the 1992-95 war, around one million of them within the country. Many of the internally displaced, particularly Muslims, have been prevented from returning to their homes by the continuing hostility of other communities and the efforts of political leaders to establish ethnically homogenous territories. Many refugees and displaced people are now making their way back to their homes, some voluntarily and others because their countries of asylum have insisted that they repatriate. Reintegration seems certain to be a long and difficult process, given the country's continuing political tensions and economic problems.	Tried & failed	
LIBERIA & SIERRA LEONE	1.6 MILLION: The related armed conflicts in Liberia and Sierra Leone have led to a complex pattern of involuntary migration within and between the two countries. The prospects for Sierra Leone's estimated 800,000 internally displaced people deteriorated sharply in mid-1997, when the country's civilian government was overthrown by armed rebels. The civil war in Liberia, which began at the end of the 1980s, has prompted large numbers of people to take refuge in neighbouring states: around 420,000 in Guinea and up to 300,000 in Ivory Coast. Guinea, one of the poorest countries in the world, has also offered asylum to as many as 250,000 refugees from Sierra Leone.	Already wrecked	
IRAQ	1.6 MILLION: Numbering a million or more, the internally displaced population of Iraq is the product of several different phenomena: fighting between Kurdish parties in the northern 'safe area'; incursions into that area by Turkish, and to a lesser extent, Iranian troops; and the Baghdad government's continued campaign against the Shi'ite population in the southern marshlands. Iran is also host to well over half a million Iraqi refugees.	Tried & failed	
ANGOLA	1.5 MILLION: Despite the establishment of a government of national unity early in 1997, up to 1.2 million people were still displaced within Angola at that time, unable to go home because of insecurity, banditry and the presence of landmines in their home areas. In the central and eastern provinces of the country, war-affected populations continue to depend on international assistance. UNHCR has drawn up several plans for the return and reintegration of Angolan refugees, the largest numbers of whom are to be found in Zaire, Zambia, and Congo Brazzaville. Unfortunately, the continued instability of the country and a shortage of funds has prevented these plans from being implemented.	Already wrecked	
TURKEY	1.25 MILLION: Large numbers of villagers have moved into the towns of southeastern Turkey, where the country's armed forces have been engaged in a protracted conflict with Kurdish rebels. While precise figures are not available, the number of internally displaced people in the country has been estimated at between 500,000 and two million.	Ankara, Washington	
MYANMAR	1.1 MILLION: Up to a million people have been displaced or forcibly relocated in Myanmar, primarily in the east of the country, where the country's armed forces are engaged in a conflict with ethnic minority groups such as the Karen, Karenni and Mon. To escape the forced relocations, over 155,000 members of these ethnic groups also crossed the border into Thailand. While UNHCR monitors their situation by means of regular visits to the border area, assistance is provided by a group of voluntary agencies known as the Burmese Border Consortium. The restrictive nationality laws imposed by Myanmar's military government mean that large numbers of the country's residents are not recognized as full citizens of the country. During the past 20 years, the Rohingyas, a Muslim minority group living in the west of the country, have on two separate occasions fled in large numbers to neighbouring Bangladesh.	Already wrecked	
SRI LANKA	1.1 MILLION: The longstanding war between the Sri Lankan armed forces and Tamil separatists has created one of the largest and most protracted situations of internal displacement anywhere in the world. Many of Sri Lanka's internally displaced people—up to a million in total—enjoy little freedom of movement, particularly those living in the northern Jaffna peninsula. Over 100,000 Sri Lankans have fled to India, but the Indian government has not acceded to the major international refugee laws, nor does it give UNHCR access to some of the refugees on its territory.	Already wrecked	
COLOMBIA	1 MILLION: The number of internally displaced people in Colombia has risen sharply starting in 1996, reaching over 900,000. This massive population displacement is the result of mounting political violence involving the country's armed forces, unofficial militia groups, rebel guerrillas and Colombia's powerful drug cartels.	Bogota, Washington	
BURUNDI	1 MILLION: As many as a million people have moved or been forced into camps in Burundi, where violence continues between the country's two principal ethnic groups. Many of these camps lack the basic necessities of life and are the target of regular attacks by both government forces and by rebel soldiers.	Already wrecked	
USA	1 MILLION: Imprisons more of its citizens than any other nation, some 2 million total. A majority of those imprisoned are for nonviolent offenses, especially possession of those drugs that "happen" to be common in minority racial/ethnic communities.	Washington	
KOSOVO w/ NATO	900,000: With the onset of the NATO bombings, ethnic-Albanian refugees from Kosovo have grown to an estimated 600,000, with an unknown but perhaps comparable number of internally displaced people.	Tried & failed	
AZERBAIJAN	500,000: Schools, hospitals, unused factories and railway coaches have all been used to accommodate the country's half a million internally displaced people. Only a small proportion are accommodated in camps. The displacement is a result of the longstanding armed conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, a largely Armenian-populated enclave within Azerbaijan.	Already wrecked	
SOMALIA	500,000: Ethiopia is host to around 340,000 refugees, including 250,000 from Somalia. Responding to the improved security situation in north-west Somalia, UNHCR launched an organized repatriation programme for the Somali refugees early in 1997.	Already wrecked	
RWANDA	500,000: Some of the largest and most complex population displacements in the past few years have taken place in Zaire. UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies continue to trace the whereabouts of almost a quarter of a million missing Rwandese refugees there. The 1996 crisis in Zaire, which eventually led to the overthrow of the Mobutu government, had many different roots. Not least of these was the question of citizenship. When the regime attempted to strengthen its position by denationalizing and expelling large numbers of ethnic Tutsis (including refugees from Rwanda) in the east of the country, the affected population took up arms against the government and played a major part in its downfall. Rwanda has witnessed a succession of massive repatriation movements in recent years: the return of some 700,000 long-time refugees, primarily from Uganda, following the victory of the Rwandese Patriotic Front in 1994; the repatriation of more than 700,000 refugees from conflict zones in eastern Zaire in 1996; and the return of an additional 600,000 refugees from Tanzania in 1996-97.	Already wrecked	
ERITREA	300,000: Sudan is host to more than 400,000 exiles, predominantly from Eritrea. Around 45% of the refugees in Sudan are from a nomadic background, although many have adopted a more sedentary way of life since leaving their country of origin. The repatriation of Eritrean refugees has been disappointingly slow since the country gained its independence six years ago—largely as a result of the county's economic devastation and disagreements about the level of international support required to return and reintegrate those refugees who remain in Sudan.	Addis Ababa	
KOSOVO w/o NATO	250,000: Before the bombings, the civil war in Kosovo is estimated to have internally displaced roughly 250,000 ethnic Albanians.	Tried & failed	
INDIA	240,000, OR 23 MILLION: Sometimes described as 'stranded Pakistanis', the Biharis are a group of Moslems who moved from India to West Pakistan in the late 1940s, and who subsequently opposed the establishment of an independent Bangladeshi state. Around 240,000 in number, some of the Biharis have waited more than 25 years to take up residence in Pakistan. Also, 23 million Indians are victims of "development-induced displacement", which according to the World Bank affects 90-100 million people displaced by "development" of dams, urban areas, transportation, forestry, mining, game parks, land-use regulations, etc. 40% of such displaced in India are tribal peoples.	World Bank Headquarters, Wall Street	