

# Corps sends ambulance to Antigua

BY STAFF WRITER

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**GREECE** — The island of Antigua will get only its second ambulance — packed with medical supplies, children's books and toys — courtesy of the Greece Volunteer Ambulance Service and a non-profit organization that collects new and used medical supplies.

The ambulance corps was going to trade in the 1990 vehicle until members learned of the need for one at Holberton Hospital in St. John's, Antigua, in the West Indies, said Bill Joyce, an emergency medical

technician and a 28-year veteran of the corps.

Dr. David Kluge, a local physician involved with Partners of America, which has a "sister city" program with St. John's, told them of the need, Joyce said.

The corps' board of directors approved the donation last fall, but it took several months to work out the details of getting the ambulance flown to Antigua. It will arrive tomorrow, he said.

"This will be state-of-the-art, compared to what they have now," Joyce said. "It gives us a good feeling to know we can contribute to the welfare

of the people and the residents of the island."

More than 30 people, including volunteers from Partners of America, worked to stock the ambulance with supplies. Joyce's wife, Karen, led that effort as director of program development for InterVol, which has been collecting medical supplies from 13 area hospitals since 1992.

More than \$3,000 in supplies, including gauze, stretchers, syringes and Ace bandages, was collected, Karen Joyce said.

Through their work with InterVol, the Joyces, who live in Greece, have traveled to

poor countries and have seen the impact the donations have, she said.

"When you've been to a place, seen it and smelled it and tasted the Third World, you know how great the need is," Karen Joyce said.

An ambulance costs about \$95,000. The one that is being donated has about 100,000 miles on it, and would typically have a trade-in value of about \$10,000.

"It's a good feeling that a piece of equipment . . . can be of use to these people and bring the country into the 1990s, where they belong," Bill Joyce said. □