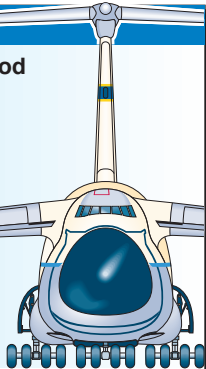


# The price of hope

As 'Operation Provide Hope' airlifts 18,000 tonnes of food and medicine to 20 cities in the former Soviet Union, E.C. food credits worth £1.25bn remain frozen. The Soviet Trade Bank must first guarantee to repay the credits but the entire banking system lacks hard currency and is facing collapse

# БАНК РАБОТАЕТ



**E.C.**

£3.5m of food and medicine supplied since December, £150m additional help allocated



**GERMANY**

£86m of food and medicine donated since 1990 as well as £27bn in overall financial help



**UK**

48 tonnes of babyfood and medicines to be flown to Yekaterinburg, Yeltsin's birthplace



**JAPAN**

12 tonnes of supplies sent as part of £30m aid programme – linked to return of Kurile Islands seized by USSR in 1945



**U.S.**

Supplying £45m of food and medicine left over from Gulf War. £1.2bn credit pledged since August coup

Shipments are monitored by the Salvation Army and Soviet troops to avoid theft by black marketeers

