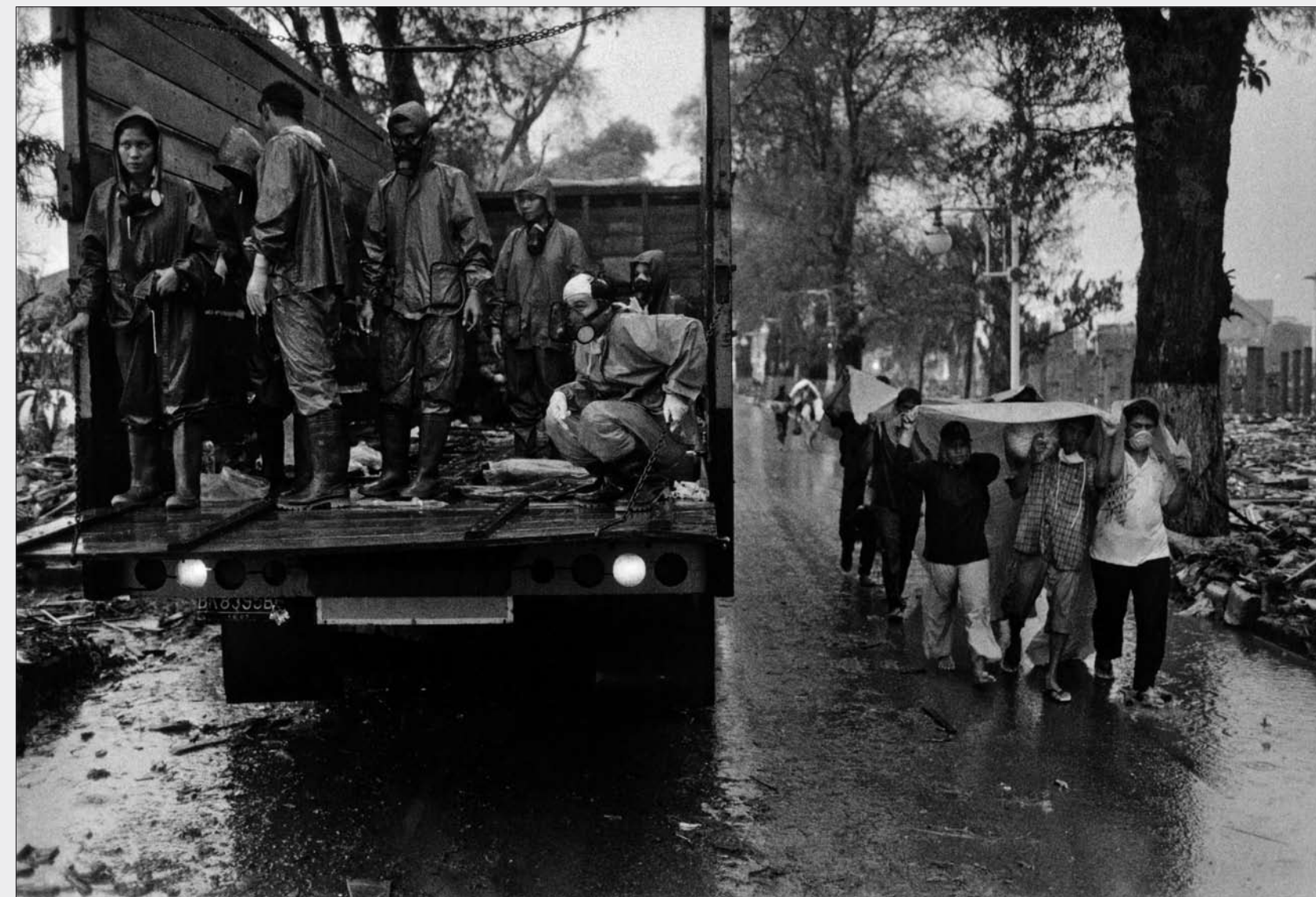


EDUCATION
Institut de Linguistique Generale, Université de Paris III, Sorbonne Nouvelle, Final diploma in Applied Linguistics, University of Warsaw
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
1988-93 - Freelance with The Independent Magazine, London
1988-2005 - with Network Photographers, London
Reportages in Poland, GB, Austria, Switzerland, Egypt, Afghanistan, Russia, Bulgaria, Kazachstan, Tanzania, Italy, Germany and Mongolia
1999 - World Press Photo jury member
2005 - vice-president of the Association of Polish Art Photographers
2006 - Master in the WPP Masterclass, Amsterdam
2007 - teacher at Pahshala, Dhaka, Bangladesh
EXHIBITIONS
1983, 84, 86 - Warsaw
1988 - Freightdoors Gallery, Santa Clara, California, USA
1989 - Photographers Gallery, London (touring till Dec 92)
1992 - Perpignan, with other Network photographers
1997 - Poznań, Gdańsk, Wrocław & 1999 Łódź, Rzeszów – “Pastimes”
1999 - Poznań, Gorzów Wlkp. “After-images from Poland”
2001 - Munich, Köln
2002 - Bielsko-Biała
2006 - Lisbon, Portugal
2007 - Budapest
PUBLICATIONS
Liberation, Globe, Photo Magazine, Das Magazin, Tages Anzeiger, Weltwoche, Merian, Tempo, Stern, Der Spiegel, New Mag, Focus, Mother Jones, Granta, The European, The Observer, The Independent, Reportage, New Yorker, Forbes, Fortune, Facts, NYT, NZZ ...
The Independent Magazine - 18 picture stories published
75 Years of Leica, the Hope Project, the Inferno-Paradiso Project , Magic Moments II - contribution
“Visages de l’Est” - a book published by NATHAN IMAGE, Paris 1991
AWARDS
1992 - World Press Photo - 3rd prize in Daily Life Picture Stories
1994, 95 - Polish Press Photography Contest - 1st prize in Daily Life Stories
1996 - Polish Press Photography Contest - 2nd prize in Daily Life Stories
1997 - Polish Press Photography Contest - 1st and 2nd prize in Daily Life Stories
2000 - Polish Press Photography Contest - 1st prize in Arts and Culture Stories
2001 - The British Design & Art Direction “Yellow Pencil” Award (silver)
2003 - World Press Photo - 3rd prize in Science and Technology Picture Stories
2003 - Polish Press Photography Contest - 2nd prize in Daily Life Stories
2005 - Art & Worship Award, 1st prize, Teheran
2007 - ICRC Award



•BANDA ACEH-TSUNAMI AFTERMATH. •











The water arrived about eight thirty in the morning. By eight forty five the whole city centre and all parts between the canal and the open sea ceased to exist. From 270 000 inhabitants of Banda Aceh, the capital of the Northern province of Sumatra, two thirds went missing. Few cats and chicken were the sole survivors. The world was filled with awe.

In Jakarta the man to be later known as Pa'de was watching speechless a TV screen. He realised it was his duty to go to Banda Aceh to fulfil the only task still left: to remove corpses from the flooded area so they could be provided with a grave. He managed to convince his wife, took all his savings and set on a long bus journey. Pa'de is a man in his sixties, still strong, or so he pretends, who spent all life as a logistics specialist for Petramina, an Indonesian petroleum company. He joined a group of about 20 self-founded volunteers, mostly students from Jakarta in their early twenties who established themselves in the residence of the vice-governor of the region (80, Sudirman Street). Soon, given his age and experience he became an informal group leader, and got his nickname "Uncle" (Pa'de).

The group developed a routine of sorts: lazy morning with a planning and logistics meeting, lunch of boiled rice with vegetables and some proteins of various origins. Half past one everybody was getting ready: long rubber shoes carefully checked, plastic overalls with masks and several pairs of rubber gloves, from thin surgical extravaganza to solid gardener's stuff, depending on the arrival of international help. One day they were issued nice green gloves suitable for housework. Lectured by Pa'de they always put several pairs of them, one over another. In the temperatures reaching 30 degrees Celsius, with 94% humidity searching for dead bodies is a relatively easy task but a very toxic one. All parts of the body must be covered, even the face and eyes (Pa'de was using diver's mask), the breathing air must be filtered, as bacteria travel with smell. The disinfection team was filling a portable spray pump with white smelly liquid; water, stretcher and body bags were carried to a waiting truck. By two o'clock the team was on the move. By half past two, when they were approaching the disaster zone a warm, heavy rain was pouring on everybody, always finding a way to soak through layers of plastic. The team never stopped, nor searched protection from the downpour. They would split into groups of 4 - 5 men rummaging in the rubble. They would follow the smell to locate the body and would think of a way to get it out from under a pile of broken wood, or from inside a car. They would wrap it carefully in a body bag, zip it tightly and would carry it to be deposited on the side of the main street, from where a passing army truck would pick it up. Sometimes they had to give up, for lack of heavy equipment. The most dangerous and most dreaded were nails protruding from the rubble. To puncture a shoe and to get them deep into the flesh was a question of an instant. Immediate action would be taken to clean and disinfect the wound even though everyone had to have an anti-tetanus injection. They would also prey. First before the job, to remind themselves what they are doing and why, then over the collected bodies as kind of religious farewell, the only one ever provided to these people. By five o'clock they were slowing down though and gathered in one spot on the main road, around Pa'de and his bright orange jacket. The truck would arrive at six and bring them home in the falling dusk. The reaction to the long stress would kick in then and the truck would give the impression of happy picnickers returning from a day on the beach. Before entering the veranda with row of sleeping bags they would have to walk through the disinfectant, would discard used masks and gloves and put rubber shoes in one big pile for further disinfection.

Since its creation the team recovered over seven hundred bodies. They seemed to work leisurely. Still they recovered over 700 bodies in two weeks and the damage done to the psyche was such, that every team member was expected to quit and go home. To recover and forget. New, fresh people would come. They would be all funding they own work and survival in the town. They would throw up for the first few days. They would all test their limits.

On the 7th of February 2005 Indonesia claimed 241.687 people dead and most probably 127.774 still missing, to be considered dead after one year. 113 000 were buried. In the town of Banda Aceh alone the bodies searching teams gathered 91,313 corpses, with the daily quota from 900 to 1600 bodies. The estimates proposed by the various media for the loss of life in Indonesia give the most probable number of dead as 400,000.

THE TEAM
NUMBER 20
AGE 20 - 25
TIME 14 DAYS
BODIES FOUND - OVER 700

SUMATRA
DEAD 241,687
BURIED 109,169
MISSING 127,774
HOMELESS 603,518
IN 700 NEIGHBOURHOODS
REFUGEE CAMPS 64

BANDA ACEH
180,000 OUT OF 270,000 KILLED
75% OF INFRASTRUCTURE DESTROYED

1,481 BODIES FOUND ON JAN. 18
1,059 BODIES FOUND ON JAN. 31
897 BODIES FOUND ON FEB. 2
1,634 BODIES FOUND ON FEB. 5
TETANUS 91

FOOD
790,000 IN NEED

DISTRIBUTED
2,052 TONS OF RICE
44.7 TONS OF SALTED FISH
6,070 BOTTLES OF FRYING OIL
2.5 TONS OF SUGAR
45,263 PACKS OF FAST FOOD
95,588 PACKS OF MILK
17,539 PACKS OF CRACKER
4,828 BOTTLES OF MINERAL WATER

NATURE
DESTROYED
25,000 HECTARES OF MANGROVE FOREST
32,000 HECTARES OF CORAL REEFS
120 HECTARES OF SUBMARINE PLANTS

TOTAL COST

1 500 000 000 US\$