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On June 15, the state-run TV station reported that in Lima, one child had died, and another 49 have been diagnosed with measles. The victims reside in low-income neighborhoods of the city, characterized by substandard sanitary facilities, and potable water and electricity shortages. Government officials said that a measles vaccination campaign to halt the epidemic was underway. On June 24, Health Ministry officials said they were concerned about the "alarming" increase in measles cases. Since Jan. 1 in Lima alone, 10 people have died from measles, and over 330 cases were diagnosed. Miriam Strul, executive director of the Ministry's national immunization program, said that in the first five months of the year, 980 cases of measles were reported throughout the country. The first confirmed cases were located near the Chilean border. Strul added that the epidemic is concentrated in Cuzco, Moquegua, Puno and Tacna departments. The Chilean Health Ministry recently donated 80,000 measles vaccines for distribution in the border area. Italian Ambassador Bernardino Ossio turned over another 16,000 vaccines to the National Child Institute (Instituto Nacional del Nino-INN). The ambassador said the donated vaccines were provided by the Italian foundation, Juntos por la Paz. INN spokespersons told reporters that physicians receive an average of five patients per day with measles symptoms. Most victims experience complications, result of malnutrition. (Sources: Spanish news service EFE, 06/15/92; Notimex, 06/24/92)

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