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Deborah Tyroler

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Update On Cholera Epidemic, January 10-13

by Deborah Tyroler

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Jan. 10: Honduran Health Minister Cesar Castellanos reported that two new cases of cholera had been confirmed. The Salvadoran Health Ministry reported 37 deaths and 2,111 confirmed cases of cholera since August 1991. Panamanian health officials reported the first confirmed case of cholera in Panama City. Since September 1991, 1,211 cases of the disease have been confirmed, and 29 persons have died of cholera. The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) reported 113 deaths and 5,804 confirmed cases of cholera in Central America since July 1991. Jan. 12: Medical officials at Panama City's Victoriano Lorenzo Hospital reported the first cholera death in the capital, a 56 year-old man. Panamanian health officials postponed an agricultural fair in the capital as a cholera-prevention measure. Jan. 13: According to Guatemalan Health Ministry spokespersons, 50 deaths and 1,506 cases of cholera have been confirmed since July 21, 1991. Panamanian Health Minister Guillermo Rolla announced that street vendors are prohibited from selling foodstuffs, and the Panama Bay has been closed to swimmers and fisherfolk. (Basic data from Cerigua Weekly Briefs, 12/22/91-01/04/92; ACAN-EFE, 01/10/92, 01/13/92; Agence France-Presse, 01/10/92, 01/12/92, 01/13/92)

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