

11-7-1991

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Khol, Barbara. "Bolivia: Malaria Epidemic." (1991). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur/7580>

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Bolivia: Malaria Epidemic

by Barbara Khol

Category/Department: General

Published: Thursday, November 7, 1991

On Nov. 3, the Health Ministry reported that a malaria epidemic has spread to 70% of the nation's territory. The ministry bulletin stated that the epidemic is largely the result of conditions of extreme poverty and malnutrition. Malaria victims are concentrated in the highland departments of Oruro and Potosi. Since 1979, 401 persons have died of malaria in Bolivia. In the first half of 1991, of 63,390 persons tested for the disease, results were positive in over 9,000 cases. (Basic data from EFE, 11/03/91)

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