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UU GMW BRJ
MIS:EPIDEMIC
CASES OF EPIDEMIC HEMORRHAGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS REPRTED IN CUBA:
HAVANA, SEPT 8, REUTER -- A HIGHLY INFECTIOUS EYE DESEASE, HEMORRHAGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS HAS APEARED IN THE CUBAN PROVINCES OF HAVANA AND LAS TUNAS AS WELL AS ON THE ISLE OF YOUTH TO THE SOUTH OF THE MAINLAND WHERE THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS FROM AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA STUDY AT CUBAN GOVERNMENT BOARDING SCHOOLS.

TODAY'S OFFICIAL GRANMA CARRIED AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTRY WHICH CALLED FOR THE ISOLATION FOR SEVEN DAYS OF ALL VICTIMS OF THE DESEASE +IN ORDER TO BREAK THE CHAIN OF TRANSMISSION.+ A CUBAN SOURCE SAID THAT STUDENTS AT SEVERAL BOARDING SCHOOLS IN THE CUBAN COUNTRYSIDE HAD BEEN QUARANTINED.

THE EYE DESEASE IS PRODUCED BY A VIRUS, IS SPREAD BY CONTACT, AND USUALLY RUNS ITS COURSE IN FROM ONE TO TWO WEEKS. IT CAUSES PUFFING AND REDDENING OF THE EYES, COPIOUS TEARING AND THE APPEARANCE OF YELLOW PUS IN THE EYES.

WHEN AN EPIDEMIC OF HEMORRHAGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS, UNKNOWN IN CUBA UNTIL THEN, APPEARED IN CUBA IN AUGUST 1981, THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT SAID +IT CONFIRMED OUR MOST PROFOUND SUSPICIONS THAT THE IMPERIALIST GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS USING BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AGAINST US.+

THE HEMORRHAGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS EPIDEMIC OF 1981 CAME ON THE HEELS OF A DENGUE FEVER EPIDEMIC WHICH TOOK A TOLL OF 158 LIVES. AN AFRICAN SWINE FEVER EPIDEMIC WHICH FORCED THE SLAUGHTER OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PIGS AND OF PLAGUES WHICH SERIOUSLY DIMINISHED CUBA'S SUGAR CANE AND TOBACCO HARVESTS.
=REUTER/LEM
NNNN