



# Miami Medical Team Foundation

Second Trimester 2002

Year XIX, Nº 4

## Flores ask for help to fight dengue

EFE

San Salvador  
June 13, 2002  
The president of El Salvador, Francisco Flores, expressed yesterday his disposition to accept the help of Cuban doctors who live in Miami for the fight of the *dengue* in the country.



President Flores

Flores said in a press conference that he has looked to contact with Cuban doctors' organizations in Miami with that objective.

El Salvador confronts the *dengue* epidemic in the departments of San Salvador, La Libertad, and Santa Ana, in the central and western regions of the country, where 92 percent of the 1,142 confirmed cases of dengue have been registered by the Health Authorities.

Out of all the cases, eight percent is of the type *hemorraico*, of which 4 children have died this year.

Several mayors have requested to the government to ask the Cuban government for doctors.

Flores said that "we recognize that some Cuban doctors can make a contribution, we are looking for organizations in Miami that can come to help us and we would be very happy if they could come here". Under the insistence of journalists, in the sense that the mayors want that collaboration made with Cuba, Flores reiterated that the Cuban doctors resident in Miami are "equally prepared and I believe that they have had the same experience, they are willing to come and I don't see why we should reject them".

The MMTF has been doing humanitarian work during the 1980's, 1990's and continue the help to the need during the first decade of the new Century.

But, not only medical work. The MMTF has been very intense in other disciplines of society such as the arts, the music, publishing and teaching conferences and seminars.

### I. Humanitarian work

#### The 1980's

Nicaragua  
Angola  
Chile, 1985 earthquake  
El Salvador, 1986 earthquake

#### The 1990's

Nicaragua  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Belize  
Costa Rica  
Panamá  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Paraguay  
Rusia  
Rep. Dominicana  
Haití  
Bahamas  
Guantánamo Bay  
South Florida (Huracan Andrew/92)  
Caribbean Islands  
Nigeria



Dr. Alzugaray and the MMTF in the fight against *dengue* in El Salvador

**II. Arts**

Guantánamo Naval Base.  
Cuban Rafters  
Art Display 1995

- 1. Miami Herald Lobby
- 2. Central Library of Miami Dade County



October 1986.  
Militar Camp "Yamales", in Nicaragua.  
Dr. Alzugaray, Guillermo Alvarez Guedes,  
Com. Enrique Bermúdez, Dr. Heriberto Cabada

**III. Music**

- 1. Guillermo Alvarez Guedes (Comedian)

Nicaragua Freedom Fighter's Hospital Presentation. 1985.

- 2. "Noche cubana" (Cuban Musical Nights Production)

- a) Colon Theater, Panamá (1992)
- b) Hotel Intercontinental. Managua, Nicaragua, 1994)
- c) Hotel Radisson. Miami, Florida, 1993)

- 3. Father Manuel Rodríguez (Piano Recital)

Manuel Artime Theater, Miami, Florida, 1993)

- 4. Maggie Carlés Show (Festival)

Theater for the Performing Arts. Miami Beach, Florida, 1996.



Angola, 1988  
Drs. Alzugaray and Soler.  
Nursers are Angolans

**IV. Publishing**

- 1. Book: "Testimonio de Humanidad" (José Albertini) - 1993
- 2. MMTF Bulletin. (Quarterly)
- 3. Aventures of the MMT. Monthly Grafhic Publications in "Agenda Medica"
- 4. Secont MMT book. (Angel De Fana) Actually in press.



Dr. Manuel Alzugaray in Afganistan. 1989

**V. Medical Conferences and Seminars**

- 1. Nicaragua, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988
- 2. Angola, 1987.
- 3. Nicaragua: Arthroscopy (Dr. José Jaen), 1993
- 4. Nicaragua: Multispecialties (Olof Palmer Center, Managua), 1993
- 5. Ecuador: Abdominal Laparoscopy (Dr. Luis Serentil), Hospital Luis Verdaza, Guayaquil, 1999

Panamá. March 1990  
President Guillermo Endara, Dr. Alzugaray, Dr. Mario Soler, Armando Quirantes, Mario Roque de Escobar.



- 6/ Bioterrorism

- a- Coral Gables Hosp. (Dr. Siegelson), Nov. 1999
- b. Koubek Center (Dr. Siegelson), Dec. 2000
- c. Miami Police and MMT (Dr. Siegelson), Dec. 2001



Poland 1991  
Drs. Manuel Alzugaray and Diego Falcón giving a Cuba flag to Poland Foreing Relations Minister



Above: Main entrance and interior street of the Hospital San Bartolo, in the Department of El Salvador.

In many places of the country banners like that of the picture of the right were placed.



Dr. Jorge Beato, Dr. Wilfredo Ventura, Dr. Manuel Alzugaray, Dr. Monzón, Dr. Sadilia García

Children  
Hospital  
Bloom  
San  
Salvador



Dr. Jorge Beato, Dr. Sadilia García, Staff Member Health Department Roland de Céspedes (Nurse), Dr. Monzón, Dr. Manuel Alzugaray, Rolando Gutierrez, (Logistic)

## Dengue epidemic in el Salvador

Wednesday, June 12, 2002, President Francisco Flores of El Salvador asked for medical help from doctors living in Miami.

The MMT notified the General consul Fernando Quiñones the willingness of our group to help. Immediately the MMT contacted other medical organizations in the area, as well as the Cuban Pediatric Association in Exile, the Children Hospital and the Dade County Medical Association in order to coordinate volunteers to travel to El Salvador.

Also, many civic organizations have been contacted to coordinate the specific donations to obtain and deliver to the areas in need.

The first trip was between June 24 and June 27, 2002. The group was formed by:

- Dr. Manuel Alzugaray
- Dr. Jorge Beato (Internal medicine).
- Dr. Julio Monzón (Internist). Involved in dengue epidemics in Matanzas, Cuba, 1982 and 1991.
- Dr. Sadilia García (Pediatrician).. Involved in dengue epidemics in Marianao, Ciudad Habana, Cuba, Maternity and Children Hosp., in 1982 and 1991.
- Dr. Wilfredo Ventura
- Nurse Manuel Pila (Viet Nam War veteran)
- Nurse Roland de Céspedes
- José Carro and Rolando Gutiérrez, in Logistics
- Capt. Amado Cantillo (Mosquito Control Department, Miami Dade County) and Cherner Vázquez (Entomologist)

The Mayor Alex Penelas has agreed to send the above specialists in the mosquito fight, as advisors to the salvadorean technicians

They made a donation of 1500 pounds of medicines.

Number of total cases consulted: 260

40 possible dengue infected patients.

**July, 2002**

**Non-Profit Organization**

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**Dengue Epidemic....**

The second visit was between June 27 and June 30, and the member of the team were:

Dr. Teresa Martínez (Internist)  
Dr. Germán Ayestas (Internist)  
Dr. Laura Alabera (Internist)  
Dr. Sadilia García (Pediatrics)  
Nurse Carmen Sierra and Logistic Arturo Flores

They made a donation of 800 pounds of medicines.

Total consulted cases: 250 with 24 posibles dengue cases.

The third visit extended from July 4 to July 7, 2002 and the group was:

Dr. Mario Soler  
Dr. Eduardo Otero (Pediatician)  
Dr. Jacqueline Salazar (Pediatician)  
Dr. Laura Alabera (Internist)  
Mario Roque de Escobar (Logistic)  
They made a donation of 700 pounds of medicines and 148 mosquito nets for the Saldañas Hospital.

This program to control dengue in El Salvador is well established and the people are cooperating in the killing of mosquitoes and larvae. We hope that in the next few weeks the epidemic will be under full control.

Read in "Agenda Médica"  
every month

**"The Adventures of the  
Miami Medical Team"**

A group of men and women of goodwill offering their services for the cause of health, justice and freedom.

Visit the MMT Web page for information  
[www.mmtf.org](http://www.mmtf.org)

**Letter from Mayor Penelas**

Miami, July 20 the 2002

Dr. Manuel Alzugaray, and Committee of Doctors who are solidary with the Republic of El Salvador.

Dear Dr. Alzugaray:

At all moments, you as Doctors, as human beings, and as Cubans, have known how to respond to the call of solidarity; where it has been necessary your science and your work has been used to benefit those in need. You give prestige not only to the homeland in chains, but to this other small homeland that welcomes us and that which feels proud of having residents as you, doctors that know how to give assistance to their brothers in the whole continent, and not seeking gratitude, but the satisfaction that gives you, the fulfilled duty.

"To give of yourself, before thinking of yourself"; a beautiful phrase said by the International Rotary Club's founder, Paul P. Harris, which you and your colleagues have taken as your principle, without wasting efforts nor time, to give yourselves brotherly to the needy, as today is the case with your mission to the sister Republic of El Salvador. Thanks to you, not only on my behalf, but in that of all the residents of the Miami-Dade county that feel proud, like me, of these Cuban doctors that honor Cuba, Dr. Carlos J. Finlay and this great Nation.

Sincerely,



Alex Penelas  
Mayor of Miami-Dade

**Miami Medical Team  
Foundation**