

# TURNING WORLD

M A G A Z I N E



## A LINGERING DISEASE

Photographs on Cholera and  
Conditions in Haiti

*by Brad Workman*









# TURNING WORLD

M A G A Z I N E

A non-partisan publication to help document historic social and political change, reveal the causes and consequences of social and political distress, and stimulate related debate.

Published by:  
**Turning World Communications, LLC**  
P.O. Box 18011  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-8011  
Telephone: (1) (561) 309-6887  
<http://www.turningworld.org>

Volume 2, No. 1 - First Quarter, 2012

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A LINGERING DISEASE:  
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# Welcome .

"WELCOME" is one word I will not easily tire of writing to my gracious patron: you. So, welcome. Your interest and attention are significant gifts to me because when giving them you unavoidably become involved with the topics addressed and the people depicted in this *Turning World Magazine*.

Beginning with a victim's case confirmed in October 2010 a cholera epidemic created a new and deadly shaking in the earthquake-strained nation of Haiti. As of March 1, 2012, the total number of *Vibrio cholerae* cases during the epidemic equaled **530,953**, and the total death count equaled **7,040**, according to data reported by the United Nations in the digital document *Haiti: Humanitarian Snapshot (as of March 2012)*.

As compared to when the epidemic began, Haitians are today much more informed about cholera symptoms, about how to help prevent and treat any dehydrating infection from the bacterium, and about the importance of rapidly seeking treatment. Also, a new but limited vaccination program is now planned,



at least. Nevertheless, the harmful cholera bacteria in Haiti today can cause vile and humiliating afflictions. And, the outbreak will probably be reinvigorated by Haiti's approaching rainy season.

The paragraph following this one is my summary of some key probable causes of the outbreak, as gleaned from three digital documents I consider worthy reading: "Final Report of the Independent Panel of Experts on the Cholera Outbreak in Haiti" (for the United Nations); "Understanding the Cholera Epidemic, Haiti" from the journal *Emerging Infectious Diseases*; and "The Origin of the Haitian Cholera Outbreak Strain" from *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

First, human fecal material from a U.N. base in Mirebalais, Haiti, contaminated (via a tributary system) a major and often-used waterway, the Artibonite River, with an imported and highly pathogenic strain of the bacterium. Haitians had no immunity to the strain, and some infected people spread the disease by fleeing outbreak hot spots along the river. Haiti was also not ready to combat the new disease with a proper medical response, and Haiti's inadequate water and sanitation systems helped enable the epidemic.

Given the nature of this magazine it is not enough to merely note using words some probable causes and some known consequences

(however serious) of the cholera epidemic. The photographs within were captured during several visits to Haiti, and the earliest was taken in September 2010 (about a month before the outbreak began). If the images are evidence they are insufficient, but they can serve as a start or an addition to your inquiry on the topic. As is the case concerning all topics covered by *Turning World Magazine*, it is my steadfast opinion that your inquiry should include works by multiple authors working in multiple media (including multimedia works, if possible).

A keen friend in Florida recently told me that she thought *Turning World Magazine* could be at risk of developing a reputation as a publication about Haiti, which she knew would not be by my design.

It is true that the previous two issues also focused on Haiti, but I cannot today say that the next issue will or will not be based on the Caribbean nation. What I can say is that I have found there so much hope and heartache and pain and promise that the country has become for me, though I know not now if I should feel ashamed, almost an addiction. Perhaps it would be wise to stay away for a while.

Finally, I need to clarify/correct the caption that appeared on the bottom of page 15 in the "Fourth Quarter, 2011" issue of *Turning World Magazine*. The caption reads

as if an image on page 14 that it refers to was taken at the sole "mayor's compound" in the Delmas sector of Port-au-Prince. But, when the image was taken there was at least one other 'mayor's compound' in Delmas.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BW", enclosed within a large, loopy circular flourish.

Brad Workman  
*March 27, 2012*

**P.S.** Before you recycle this magazine, put it on a shelf, or pass it along to a friend please do see the "Guide to Images" that starts on page 116. The guide is a critical component of this issue.































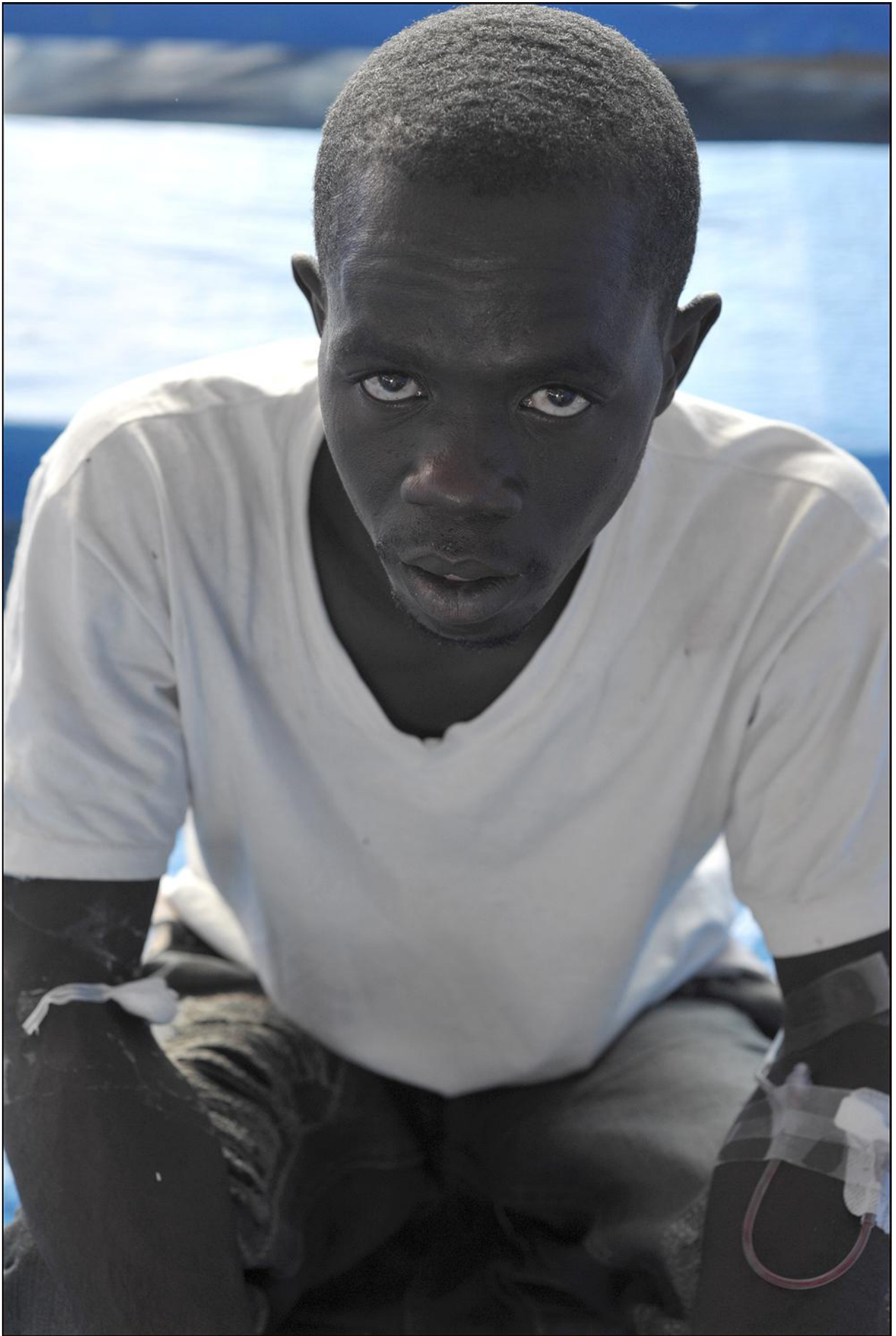




























































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Conditions in Haiti





























































'MINUSTAH (the armed U.N. mission) and Cholera are twins: No to the Occupation!'



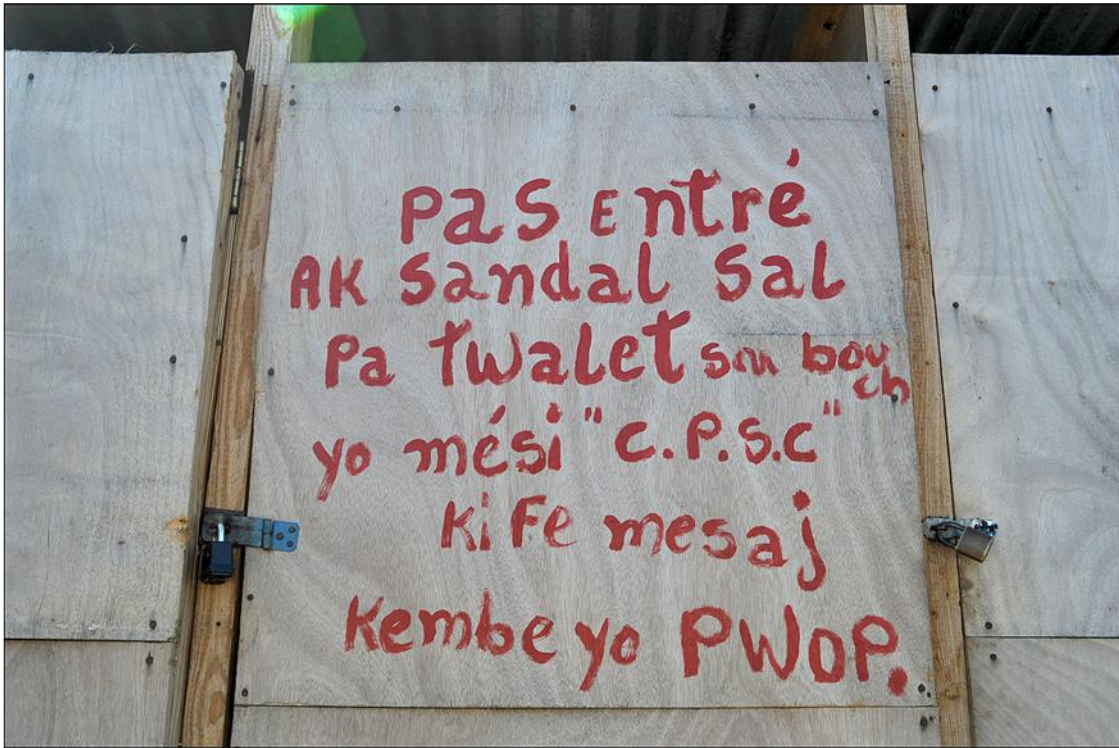


Eric Jean Baptiste *Non a Lokipasyon!*

*Minustha  
ak Kolera  
se marasa*







*Above:* Message about hygiene on a latrine door at Camp Blue in Port-au-Prince.

*Below:* Covered, black latrine tubs holding waste at Camp Blue in Port-au-Prince.





















*Above:* A locked latrine at Camp Caradeux in Port-au-Prince. Such locks have not been uncommon at camps visited in the capital.



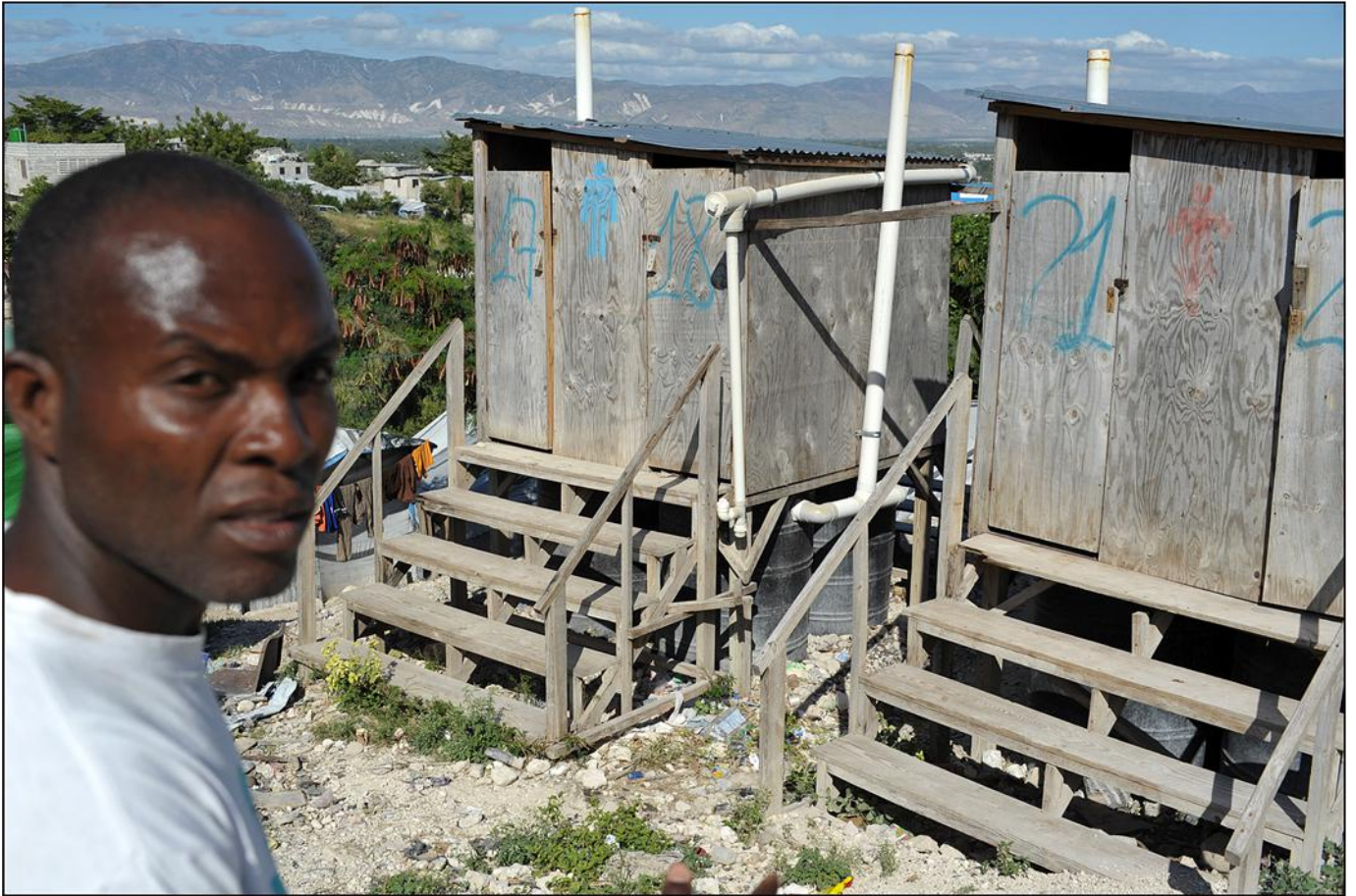










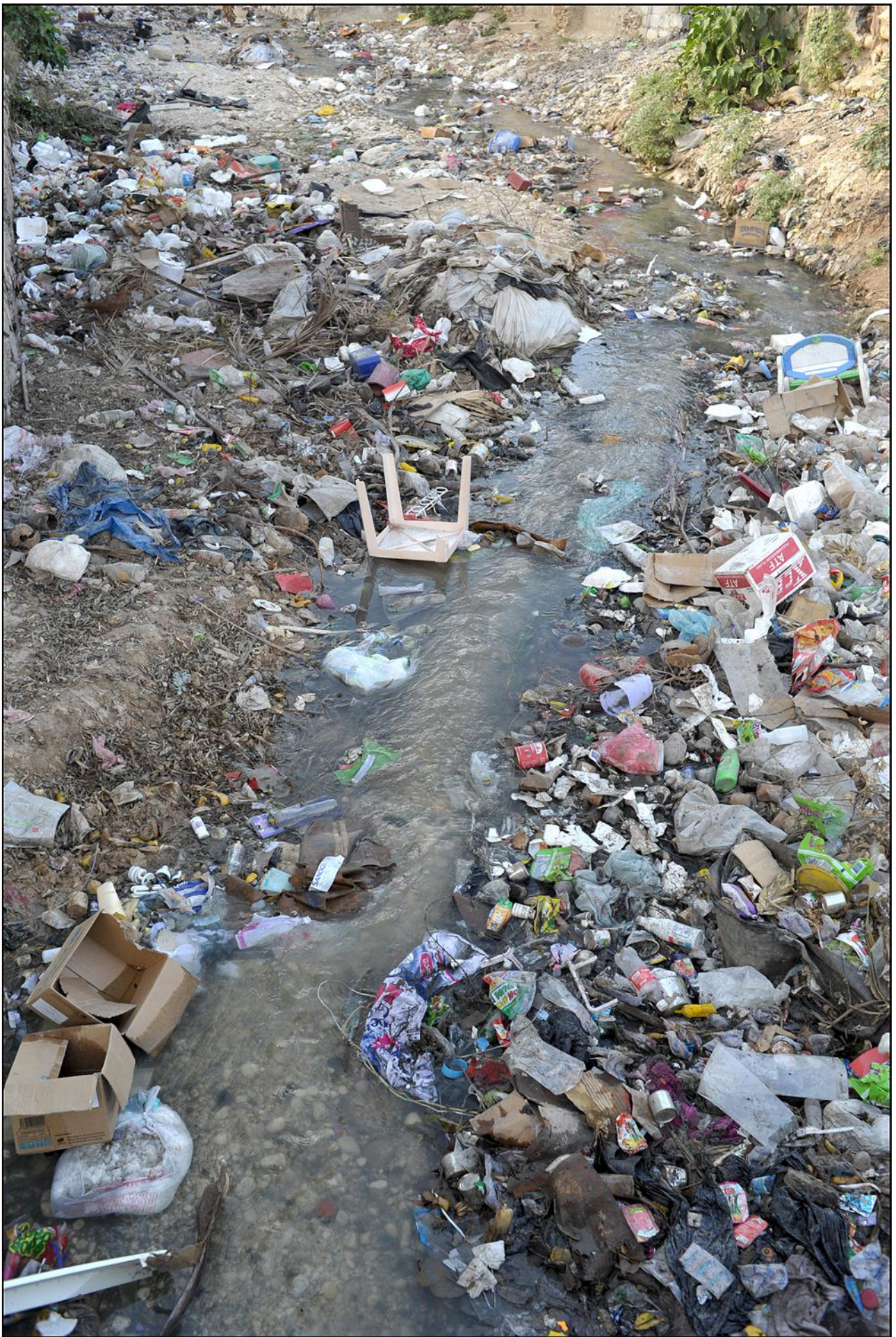








*Opposite Page and Above:* Shower stalls at Camp AFCA in Port-au-Prince.



































A banner in the northwest calling for justice and reparations for all victims of cholera and MINUSTAH (the armed U.N. mission).



# Guide to Images

**NOTES:** Brad Workman made the images in this issue and has transferred no copyrights to them, but he does not, upon publication, claim copyright to the images (or to any translation of text in the images) with corresponding captions that end with a logo-blue dot. Also, 11 images have been digitally retouched (as further noted in the captions) to remove spot-like shapes appearing in areas of relatively uniform color in the sky. The incongruent shapes have been a continuing problem for the magazine but the retouching of them never before documented in it. The shapes were likely caused by dirt, moisture, or other foreign matter inside the camera or on the lens or an attached lens filter. The retouching was done in addition to any typical digital prepress practices like resizing and exposure, sharpness, color, and contrast adjustments. For example, an unretouched part of the image that appears (retouched and fully processed) on page 88 is shown below. Please note the odd, darker spot in the upper-left quadrant. All retouching was done with the intent to more accurately portray the original scene.



*Above: Unretouched spot.*

## **On the Cover**

Dec. 15, 2011 – Hands on spigots at a communal, outdoor water station at Camp AFCA in Port-au-Prince. The camp was home to at least hundreds just weeks before the second anniversary of the January 2010 earthquake, which created massive displacement in and around the capital. Access to potable water, which this may or may not be, has been a common concern for residents of Haiti's post-quake camps. Typically, reservoir tanks or bladders have been filled by aid groups for free or by private companies that require payment, which they might have received from a reseller living in the camp.

## **Inside Cover-1, 2-3**

Sept. 11, 2010 – Barefooted children at a place in Cité Soleil where the ground has been used as an open-air latrine.

## **10-15**

Sept. 11, 2010 – Scenes at a place in Cité Soleil where the ground has been used as an open-air latrine. A digital bulletin on Haiti by the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Humanitarian Bulletin (18 October -17 November 2011)*, states that an Oct. 11, 2011, study report by the Haitian public health ministry and Doctors Without Borders noted that pigs were a risk factor for cholera transmission in the Haitian city Gonaïves. The bulletin also states that, aside from the study, it was already known that the *Vibrio cholerae* bacterium can exist

in pig feces. The sky in the image on page 14 has been retouched in three places (see "NOTES" text on page 116).

### **16-17**

Sept. 11, 2010 – Structures, standing water, and a child in Cité Soleil, which is a vibrant but brutally poor seaside community in Port-au-Prince.

### **18-21, 23-27**

Sept. 12, 2010 – Scenes in Cité Soleil, or *Sun City*. The child on page 18 was carrying water in an industrial-sized bucket, which is a common sight. Pigs and goats, though not ubiquitous, are also common. (For more on pigs and cholera see the above caption to the images on pages 10-15.)

### **28-33**

Dec. 4, 2010 – Inside a Samaritan's Purse cholera treatment clinic in Cité Soleil. Samaritan's Purse is a Christian charity based in North Carolina. Diarrhea and, commonly, companion vomiting are what dehydrate symptomatic cholera victims. Victims with severe cases can die within hours if not properly treated.

### **34**

Nov. 3, 2011 – Road sign close to Mirebalais in Haiti's Centre Department. The sign refers to the nearby military base for a Nepalese battalion of the United Nations



Stabilization Mission in Haiti, or *MINUSTAH*. Human fecal matter from the base was the probable source of the cholera strain at the heart of Haiti's epidemic. •

### 35

Nov. 3, 2011 – True sequence showing, in the background, an entrance to the military base for a Nepalese battalion of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, or *MINUSTAH*. Human fecal matter from the base, near Mirebalais in Haiti's Centre Department, was the probable source of the cholera strain at the heart of Haiti's epidemic.

### 36-37

Nov. 3, 2011 – Flowing waters close to the military base for a Nepalese battalion of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, or *MINUSTAH*, near Mirebalais. The waters, which were being used for washing, are an important part of daily life for many in the area in Haiti's Centre Department. The image on page 37 shows part of the perimeter of the U.N. base. Human fecal matter from the base contaminating flowing waters near the base was a key probable cause of Haiti's cholera epidemic. For more information via World Wide Web, please see:

<<https://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/haiti/UN-cholera-report-final.pdf>>

<<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/17/7/pdfs/11-0059.pdf>>

<<http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMoa1012928>>

### 38-41

Nov. 4, 2011 – At a cholera treatment clinic (run, at least in part, by the Haitian government) in Fontamara, a community on the western edge of Port-au-Prince. The image on page 41 shows a possible victim being carried into the clinic after arriving by ambulance.

**42-49, 51**

Nov. 7, 2011 – At a cholera treatment clinic in the Port-au-Prince community of Wharf Jérémie, a place of oppressive poverty. The clinic was started with the aid of faith-based Global Assistance Partners. The images on page 43 are a true sequence, as are those on page 49.

**52-53**

Nov. 9, 2011 – A possible cholera victim arriving by Haitian Red Cross ambulance at a Doctors Without Borders treatment clinic in Carrefour, a community on the western edge of Port-au-Prince. The ambulance transported the man after picking him up at a dwelling not far from the clinic.

**54-55, 57**

Nov. 10, 2011 – Patients in a Port-au-Prince cholera treatment clinic run, at least in part, by the British Red Cross. The clinic was on the grounds of the substantial, post-quake camp called La Piste. (The flexible medical tubing at the subjects' arms is typically used for intravenous delivery of rehydration fluids, and rehydration is a key to treating cholera.)

## **58-59**

Nov. 12, 2011 – These people were washing beside a street in Cité Soleil using clear-appearing water that was pooling at the edge of some vegetation. The photographer does not know the source of the water. Perhaps the water was coming from a broken pipe at a nearby business or other establishment.

## **60-61**

Nov. 12, 2011 – Debris that had accumulated on the edges of two street markets in Port-au-Prince. The markets are common in the capital, and the conditions can be highly unhygienic.

## **62-63**

Nov. 12, 2011 – Two scenes from one of the Port-au-Prince encampments that arose following the January 2010 earthquake: a boy and dwelling units and temporary toilets; and laundry work. The water for washing clothes was being lifted up in buckets, well- or cistern-like, through several constructed concrete openings. People were also bathing (not shown) with the water. The hauled-up water appeared clear, but was it free of disease?

## **64-65**

Nov. 13, 2011 – Patients at a cholera treatment clinic in La Tremblay (outside of Croix-des-Bouquets of Haiti's Ouest, or *West*, Department). The clinic was being run, at

least in part, by an international medical charity: Merlin.

**66-69, 71, 73**

Nov. 14, 2011 – Views of Camp Accra in Port-au-Prince. The camp arose, as did numerous others in and around the capital, following the momentous January 2010 earthquake. Over time, the larger camps like Accra became more than 'tent camps.' They became, in many ways, shantytowns. The abandoned toilet on page 66 is the same one shown on page 67. (Regarding pigs and cholera please see the above caption to the images on pages 10-15.)

**74-75**

Dec. 4, 2011 – During a working visit to a modest-sized encampment in Port-au-Prince the camp leader pictured was told the photographer was working on a story about cholera and asked if he would show any problematic conditions. In part, he showed the two soiled latrines.

**76-77**

Dec. 8, 2011 – Images from an ambulance trip by the Haitian Red Cross in Port-au-Prince to collect and transfer a possible cholera victim (in white hat). The images are presented chronologically. The final frame was captured during the rapid ride to a cholera treatment clinic at Saint Damien Hospital.

**79**

Dec. 8, 2011 – A billboard in Port-au-Prince that equated the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, or *MINUSTAH*, with the cholera epidemic and protested the U.N. mission as an 'occupation' of Haiti. Human fecal matter from a U.N. base near Mirebalais, Haiti, was the probable source of the cholera strain at the heart of the country's epidemic. MINUSTAH (a French acronym) was first established by the Security Council in 2004 and has continued since then. The mission's maximum permitted number of in-country police and soldiers has fluctuated under different U.N. resolutions. As of the latest document, U.N. Resolution 2012 (2011), the numbers are 3,241 and 7,340, respectively. Resolution 2012 (2011) also extended the mission through mid-October 2012 "with the intention of further renewal." •

## 80-81

Dec. 9, 2011 – In Port-au-Prince, at a large, post-quake encampment known as Accra or as Adoquin and where street-level trash and foul water were not difficult to find. In the camp (but not shown) there were also locked latrines and latrines without doors that were dirty or broken.

## 82 (top)

Dec. 9, 2011 – Message about hygiene on a latrine door at a modest-sized camp in Port-au-Prince: Camp Blue. •

## 82 (bottom), 83

Dec. 9, 2011 – Two views from the modest-sized Camp Blue

in Port-au-Prince. The image on page 82 shows black, covered latrine receptacles holding waste, and the boy was drinking from his hand water that was piped from an on-site, above-ground tank.

### **84-85**

Dec. 10, 2011 – Latrines at two post-quake encampments in Port-au-Prince. The image on page 84 is from a camp on the edge of a larger camp. The larger one, Camp AFCA, is shown on page 85.

### **87**

Dec. 12, 2011 – A patient at a Haitian Red Cross cholera treatment clinic in Port-au-Prince.

### **88-89**

Dec. 12, 2011 – These images were captured in Port-au-Prince during a working tour of the large, post-quake encampment named Villam Betta. Camp leader Joseph Frantz (page 88) demonstrated a water pump that he said, via a translator, produced water that was not potable. The boy was hauling water and may appear to have been crying but likely was not. The sky in the image on page 88 has been retouched in two places (see "NOTES" text on page 116).

### **90-91**

Dec. 12, 2011 – A locked latrine at Camp Caradeux in Port-au-Prince. Such locks have not been uncommon at post-quake

encampments the photographer has visited. And, dog, trash, and pig beside a road traveled while moving away from the large camp. (For more on pigs and cholera see the above caption to the images on pages 10-15.)

### **92-93**

Dec. 13, 2011 – Two patients (who were also partners) at a cholera treatment clinic in Fermathe run by, at least in part, the charity Baptist Haiti Mission.

### **94-99**

Dec. 15, 2011 – These images were captured in Port-au-Prince during a working tour of the large, post-quake encampment called Camp AFCA. Pages 94-95 show a true sequence made when a camp resident who was part of the tour pointed out what he considered to be fecal matter on the ground. Page 96 shows the same resident and some camp latrines and includes a view of him pointing at what turned out to be a soiled latrine without a seat. Page 97 shows trash on the ground, which included a wooden latrine seat. Pages 98-99 show shower stalls. Typically, such stalls are meant to be places where camp residents can wash by pouring water from buckets over their bodies.

### **100-101**

Dec. 15, 2011 – In Port-au-Prince, flowing water and trash visible from a street and a piglet in flowing water beside a street. (For more on pigs and cholera see the above caption to the images on pages 10-15.)

### **102-107**

Dec. 16, 2011 – Patients in a cholera treatment clinic at Saint-Nicolas hospital in Saint-Marc in Haiti's Artibonite Department. The images on pages 104-105 show a true sequence, and those on pages 106-107 are of only one man.

### **108-111**

Dec. 16, 2011 – Staff at the Saint-Nicolas hospital cholera treatment clinic in Saint-Marc where the patients shown on pages 102-107 were receiving care.

### **112-113**

Dec. 16, 2011 – It is proper procedure for people leaving a cholera treatment clinic to wash their hands with and to bathe their feet (or have them sprayed) with chlorinated water. The images on page 112 are a true sequence showing one of the photographer's work companions washing to exit the cholera clinic at Saint-Nicolas hospital in Saint-Marc. Page 113 shows a clinic staffer with his sprayer and shows the photographer's exiting companion being sprayed.

### **114-115**

Dec. 16, 2011 – True sequence showing a banner near Saint-Marc calling for justice and reparations for all victims of cholera and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, or *MINUSTAH*. On Nov. 3, 2011, lawyers from the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti and the



Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (or, BAI) and a Miami firm's attorney, Ira Kurzban, submitted to MINUSTAH a petition seeking payment of at least \$50,000 to each of more than 5,000 cholera victims or their families, according to a redacted digital version of the petition. The BAI and Groupe d'Action pour la Defense des Droits Humains (or, GADH) organized a Dec. 9, 2011, Saint-Marc protest against the U.N. response to cholera victims. For more information via World Wide Web, please see:

<<http://ijdh.org/archives/22916>> and <<http://ijdh.org/archives/23615>>  
The sky in each image has been retouched in as few as three places and in as many as six places (see "NOTES" text on page 116). •

### **128-Inside Back Cover**

Dec. 16, 2011 – The Artibonite River, which has been a provider of life *and* bacterial death, at Pont Sondé (near Saint-Marc). The sky has been retouched in two places (see "NOTES" text on page 116).

### **Back Cover**

Nov. 1, 2011 – A seasonal voodoo ritual in Drouillard cemetery near Cité Soleil in Port-au-Prince. Each year on this day (All Saints Day) and on November 2 Haitian voodooists visit cemeteries and perform various rituals in remembrance of dead loved ones and ancestors as part of the festival of Gede, or Ghede.







Seasonal voodoo ritual in a capital cemetery (Nov. 1, 2011).

## Haiti Cholera Deaths

# 7,040

(As of March 1, 2012, per data reported by the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.)

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