



Able Greenspan's Bookshelf

Red Zone: Cuba and the Battle Against Ebola in West Africa

Enrique Ubieta

Pathfinder Press

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Synopsis: In 2014 three West African countries were hit by the largest epidemic on record of the deadly Ebola virus. In response to an international call for help, Cuba's revolutionary socialist government provided what was needed most -- and what no other country even tried to deliver.

In a matter of weeks, more than 250 volunteer Cuban doctors, nurses, technicians, and public health specialists were on the ground providing hands-on care to thousands of desperately ill human beings and their traumatized families and communities.

By mid-2015 the Ebola epidemic in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea had been virtually eradicated. The discipline, courage, sense of humor, and pride of these Cuban volunteers rings throughout the firsthand accounts recorded here. Their actions showed the world the kind of men and women only a deep-going socialist revolution can produce.

Critique: A story that was suppressed and largely unknown by Americans, "Red Zone: Cuba and the Battle Against Ebola in West Africa" showcases one of the benefits of the Cuban government and people have shared with other nations in the world during a threatened pandemic and debunks (after decades of demeaning propaganda about socialized medicine) the image most Americans hold of Cuba's accomplishments in the field of medicine and humanitarian outreach. An inherently interesting read, especially in this current era of a Covid-19 pandemic and the Trump administrations dismal record with respect to it, "Red Zone: Cuba and the Battle Against Ebola in West Africa" is an especially and unreservedly

recommended addition to personal reading lists, as well as community, college, and university library collections.

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Reviewer