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Cuba reports 3 deaths in Ecuador earthquake

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Cuba's Health Ministry said Monday that the nation's three doctors died in the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Ecuador on Saturday.

The three Cubans died when the building in which they stayed collapsed in the Pedernales municipality, Manabi province. Their bodies were found and preserved to be sent to their families, local NTV news reported.

According to the Ecuadoran Ministry of Security Coordination, the quake, the strongest to hit Ecuador since 1979, has claimed 413 lives, injured more than 2,000 others, and cost millions of dollars in material losses.

Over 700 Cuban health specialists are serving in Ecuador in line with bilateral agreements. It has been like this since 2013. Cuban authorities say the health specialists remain in good health, are continuing their daily work of offering help in the disaster-hit regions

On Monday, Cuba sent another team of medical workers and rescue experts specialized in disaster relief and epidemics treatment to help the quake victims in Ecuador.

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