

kill every mosquito within 150,000 cubic feet in the course of twelve minutes inside a building or outside in still air. It is expected that this invention will be a great boon to civilians after the war. The malaria mosquito is essentially a night biter. In the day time the soldier in the swamps does not have much to fear but it is at night he becomes exposed. He who ignores the medicine, repellants and netting furnished is inviting serious sickness.

PROTRACT VS. PROTECTION

By O. W. Lafferty, Executive-Secretary
Cape May County Mosquito Extermination Commission

The editor of one of our leading newspapers during the early spring of 1943 stated that if county mosquito abaters could show him any proof that the methods of control actually retarded the mosquito menace within areas where work was executed and by submitting authentic proof of a creditable relief over one of annoyance, he would gladly endorse the projecting of sufficient funds (even though his area had to wait a couple of years for the work to reach his city) to start at a practical point of attack and continue the work until the entire areas were under control. I called his attention to successful reports dating up to about 1933, when our former abatement work was suffering for maintenance. He said he had lived through this period but did not think the records of that decade were up to date enough for him to get enthused. "Give us some outstanding feats within a couple of years and I will gladly re-support the cause."

We beg leave to submit the following testimonial of the medical department of the Naval Base at Cape May to substantiate our claim that control is possible. When this work was done, it was not with any thought of proving to this newspaper man that we desired to enter a contest. It was purely within our realm of control endeavors and a section in which for years we desired to try total elimination. So within the said testimonial, we feel the editor and you can find a mirror of success.

"U. S. NAVAL BASE
NAVAL ANNEX, ADMIRAL HOTEL
CAPE MAY, N. J.

USNB Dispensary

23 November, 1943

"Mr. O. W. Lafferty, Executive-Secretary
Cape May Co. Mosquito Exter. Commission
Cape May Court House, New Jersey
Dear Mr. Lafferty:

May I take this opportunity to thank your Commission for the wonderful mosquito abatement work you executed the summer of 1943. I can recall the horrible days and nights we encountered within our section in 1942 due to the pests, but your employees' diligence last season certainly not only won you the praise of the naval personnel and their families, but also that of the entire summer population.

The splendid work carried on by your entomological engineer, Albert Lafferty, in both 1942 and 1943 certainly credits your Commission with success. The joint scientific check and tabulation of your Engineer and the Staff of the Medical Department over a two year period, was not guess work; the number of adult mosquitos taken in our prevalence trap located within the court of our hospital showed an average nightly catch for 1942 of 1295 adult mosquitoes and for 1943 of 9.9 adult mosquitoes. This marked decrease was accomplished by hard effort and capable work.

The project you so well performed, just east of our Base (on Two Mile Beach) and the many thousand feet of mosquito ditches and spraying that were taken care of on this Naval Base by our men under supervision of your Engineer, not only gave the Naval Base area comparative freedom from pests, but Wildwood and

Cape May's population found they did not have to "swat" as in former years.

I sincerely hope that your past cooperation will continue in the future. I shall look forward with gratitude to your help in 1944.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) S. SEGAL, Jr.
Commander MC-V (C) USNR
Senior Medical Officer."

HATS OFF TO THE BOYS BEHIND THE MICROSCOPE

By S/Sgt. Claude R. Strickland
29th Malaria Control Unit

Member Eng. Sec., American Public Health Association
Member Eastern Association of Mosquito Control Workers
V. President, Florida Anti-Mosquito Association

P.S. My 19th consecutive year in the field of Control.C.S.

It was my intention to serve the Ordnance Department thru'out this "Show" but Uncle Sam decreed otherwise.

We had added nothing to our knowledge of control but due to our bouncing around over Africa and our observations of things, places and locations of Camp Sites especially, we have come to appreciate a sister organization, "The Malaria Survey Unit."

Before proceeding, I must state that "I'm in the best Malaria Control Unit with the best Commander in the best Army in the world (soldiers like to brag)"

I dedicate the following article to the silent heroes who sit behind the microscope; that little band of scientists upon whose knowledge we are forced to depend for successful Malaria Control and it is the hope of this writer that the information given therein will serve to clarify the purpose and intent of The Malaria Survey Unit and to furnish inspirational stimuli thereto for the redoubling of its efforts in the reduction of work imposed upon Malaria Control Units:—

"HATS OFF TO THE BOYS BEHIND THE MICROSCOPE"

It is difficult for the mosquito control worker back home to visualize the movement of whole armies in a few hours (not days) the populations of which exceed that of many American cities. It is more difficult for him to picture the problems of housing and feeding these thousands, which, in themselves are staggering; But,—and added to these problems is that ever present threat of Malaria—that silent threat that has rendered whole armies impotent in a short, few days. Casual mention of these things may impress upon the reader that TIME is a most vital factor over here.

It isn't necessary to make comparisons between Army and Civilian methods of Malaria Control. Consult the best Public Health Service treatise on the subject and you have the Army Method first hand. The single exception is army discipline. This does not mean that the absence of vital control material does not often result in substitutions, it does.

Comment on control measures on the firing line, out "where life and death hang poised in the scales that tip with a breath" must be reserved for future discussion. But, behind these areas, thousands upon thousands of Khaki Clad Youths are either stationed or "moving up." Selection of Camp Sites in these "behind the line areas" predetermines the success or failure of your Army Malaria Control Program. And, IF through expediency or lack of Malaria Information, someone stations troops in or near enough to reservoirs of infection—well—the story is tragic. Too, considering the tolerance (not immunity) developed through generations of infection and reinfection by native populations, it is impossible to blunder into success in the selection of Stations or Camps. In these selections, The Malaria Survey Unit MUST have a free hand lest the Control Unit inherits an impossible job. Remember,