

interest in the work being done, which is handled through the Division of Housing and Sanitation, chief of which is Mr. Herbert M. Packer. The Department of Public Works, under Director John Neeson operates through the Highway Bureau through the Meadowbanks Division of the Highway Bureau under the direction of Mr. William Doherty, Principal Assistant Engineer of the Highway Bureau. In Delaware County, Mr. Clarence L. Conner, Chairman of the County Commissioners, is providing some prison labor due to the labor shortage for spraying and ditching. A co-operative Committee, representing the top management of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, Baldwin Locomotive Works, Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company and General Steel Castings Company has provided a great deal of help in carrying on the program. Dr. Robert M. Stabler, Assistant Executive Officers and Entomologist in Delaware County, is working on a full time basis during the summer and part time during the rest of the year while he is teaching at the University of Pennsylvania as Professor of Parasitology.

From MAJOR RUSSELL W. GIES.

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A LETTER FROM NEW GUINEA

From Lieutenant Walter Abramitis to Major Russell W. Gies

24 June 1944
New Guinea
APO No. 713, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco.
ASN 0521028

Dear Major Gies:

It has been a long time between letters; however, now that we are more static, I thought I would write you.

By this time I have visited a number of places in New Guinea and at last look forward to staying longer. Packing and unpacking, waiting and travel is a hardship with plenty of rough living and poor food. People that try "C" rations once proclaim its goodness, but a steady diet of it proves otherwise. I'm still not used to eating hash, stew and beans for breakfast! Yet, I've had to eat it on many occasions. "C" rations, bully beef, dehydrated vegetables and canned fruit are the staples here. Whenever we get "fresh" meat or vegetables it is a rare treat. Dietitians who claim dehydrated foods will have a prominent place in the "food for tomorrow" are speaking through their hats -- only the destitute will even consider it.

Many erroneous ideas of the tropics have been disseminated by novels, articles and even explorers — Perhaps it is a jealousy to keep it sounding uninhabitable, mystic, etc. I have found the tropical climate very agreeable. The hot days are easily offset by the pleasantly cool nights that require a blanket or two to keep warm. When it rains it becomes cool also. We have about 190 inches of rain a year so that we do get rain. Much of it falls at night so that by morning it is nearly dry. Wild animals are not near as frequent in the jungles as one is led to believe. In four months, I've only come across two pythons, one 11 feet and the other 8 feet, wild pigs are common, birds rather abundant. However, many times I've tramped the jungles without running across anything significant.

Our present setup is almost ideal. We have wooden floors in our tents and a well constructed and screened-in laboratory in which to perform our work. Literature on Culicines has been scarce and for sometime not able to identify anything other than Anophelines. Fortunately the Aussies have helped us tremendously by giving us a Culicine larval key — it is a very good one at that.

We have been extremely busy in our work with which you are familiar. The days, weeks, and months fly by rapidly and I find it hard to do all I want working seven days a week. I have a few "pet" things I want to do such as repellent testing and insect collecting — if the opportunity presents itself. How are things with you? The Philadelphia Project? How is your new addition to the family? Do you know Dunning's address and Lang's? I've lost track of them and certainly would like to write them. I trust everything is going smoothly with you and that you are enjoying the best of health. Lest I forget to ask — is Major Chapman still at New Orleans?

Write when the opportunity presents itself.

Respectfully,

WALTER.

COPY of a letter received from Lieutenant Walter Abramitis, Sanitary Corps, now on duty in New Guinea. Lieut. Abramitis is a former graduate student of Dr. Headlee at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J. and was on the staff of the survey in 1942 carried on by the U. S. Public Health Service in the Philadelphia area. He would be glad to get letters from anybody in the mosquito control work.

(Major) RUSSELL W. GIES.

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Editor's Note: We are sure that many of the members and readers are receiving interesting letters from their friends in war areas. Such letters having been passed by the Censor, their publication should be permissible; and they would be of much interest to all of us. Copies of such letters appropriate for publication in Mosquito News should be sent to R. D. Glasgow, Editor Mosquito News, New York State Museum, Albany, New York.

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LIEUTENANT COMMANDER A. A. WEATHERS BEE NOW STATIONED AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

Lt. Commander A. A. Weathersbee, formerly of the South Carolina State Board of Health, is now stationed in Norfolk in the Malaria Control unit of the Fifth Naval District. Dr. Weathersbee is being assisted by Lt. (jg) John Rayner, a graduate of the University of California and of Cornell.

From WILLIAM E. BICKLEY, Assistant Sanitarian,
U.S.P.H.S. Malaria Control in War Areas.
Norfolk, Va.

The following personnel are engaged in malaria control work for the U. S. Public Health Service, District No. 1, Malaria Control in War Areas Office:

Baker, W. C.	Riley, T. P.
Barnes, R. C.	Schneider, S.
Berg, M.	Smith, R. E.
Boyers, M.	Sterenberg, L. A.
Fellton, H. L.	Thom, W. (Special Consultant)
Lang, S. L.	Welsh, J. P.
Lyman, F. E.	Wilson, C. A.
Matheson, R. (Special Consultant)	

The New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Dela-