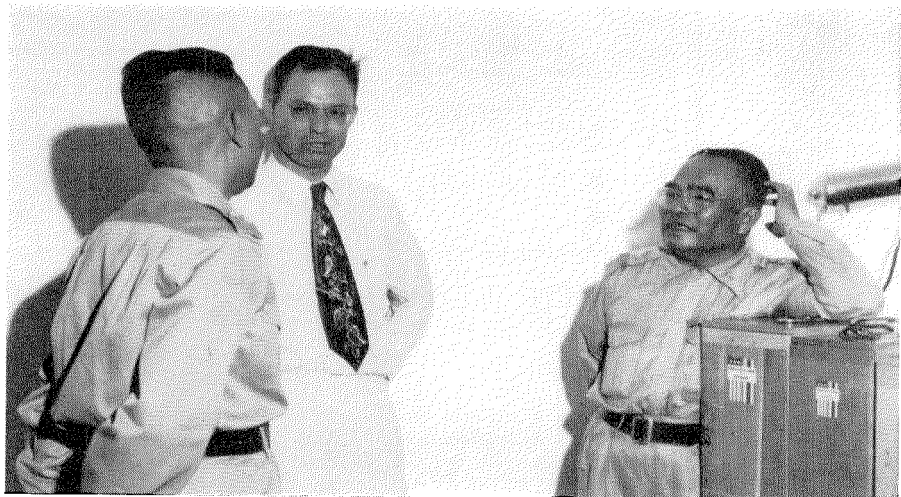


## IN MEMORIAM

DEED CLEVELAND THURMAN, JR.

1921-1953



Deed C. Thurman, Jr., died suddenly in Chingmai, Thailand, April 18, 1953 (Mosquito News, June, 1953, page 167). At the time of his death, he was serving as Malaria Control Advisor for the Northern Region of Thailand, assigned by the United States Public Health Service to the Mutual Security Administration. Both Christian and Buddhist funeral ceremonies were conducted in Thailand.

Captain Thurman majored in entomology at Texas A. and M., and received his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture in 1942. He worked for the State Health Department of Texas from 1942 until 1944 when he was commissioned an officer in the U. S. Public Health Service. He was first assigned to the Office of Malaria Control in War Areas, later, the Communicable Disease Center, where his duties took him from Oklahoma to Georgia, and finally to Florida. In 1949, he was transferred to California, to take charge of the Central Valley Mosquito Control Ecology studies in Turlock. In the same year, he received his degree of Master of Public Health from the University of California.

Modesty, diligence, patience, friendliness, and keen insight, plus a genuine zest for living, endeared him to his fellow workers.

Captain Thurman was assigned the most diffi-

cult task confronting California mosquito control, that of studying and devising economic mosquito control measures for the rapidly expanding irrigated pasture problem with its vast *Aedes nigromaculis*, *A. dorsalis*, and *Culex tarsalis* production. The zeal and thoroughness of his application to the task and the soundness of his plans for investigating the problem, remain as a tribute to his biological genius. Today, the plan conceived largely by him is progressing effectively in the hands of competent former associates who were inspired by his leadership. His work gave rise to the State's Vector Control Field Station, which is devoted to investigation of California vector problems.

Captain Thurman left the United States for Thailand in March, 1951, and was joined approximately two months later by his wife, Ernestine, also a tireless worker in entomology, and his five-month old daughter. The accomplishments of this family and the esteem in which he was held by his Thai workers was attested to in the numerous letters of condolence at the time of his death, and exemplified in the note contributed below by Dr. Udaya Sandhinand, his closest Thai associate during those two years.

In addition to his wife, Captain Thurman is survived by a daughter, Phyllis, a son, Charles, by

a previous marriage, his parents and a sister.

He published over forty papers dealing with insects of medical importance, their epidemiology, disease transmission, and control. He was a member of numerous scientific societies, including the American Mosquito Control Association, American Association of Economic Entomologists, Entomological Society of America, California Mosquito Control Association, Florida Anti-Mosquito Association, Research Society of America, American Public Health Association, American Society of Parasitologists, American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and two scientific groups in Thailand—Richard F. Peters and Helen Louise Trembley.

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Dr. Udaya Sandhinand, one of Captain Thurman's associates in Thailand, writes as follows:

Among the Americans who contributed to the success of the Mutual Security Agency, both technically and diplomatically, in the free countries

of Southeast Asia, especially in Thailand, the late Deed C. Thurman, Jr., is very possibly in the topmost group. . . .

His personality, efficiency, and intelligence soon won the confidence of the local members of the malaria control staff. Through his efforts, and those of other Americans, the technical assistance from the MSA for Thailand has resulted in the greatest extension in the malaria control activities in the history of public health in Thailand by covering six provinces in the northern region, and protecting a population of over 2,000,000 within the third year of assistance. . . .

Captain Thurman disclosed that not less than 134 species of mosquitoes are found in northern Thailand. . . . His work in Thailand for the Thai people will live long and remain forever in their memories.

—UDAYA SANDHINAND, M.D.,  
Chief Malaria Control Officer,  
Northern Provinces, Chiangmai, Thailand

## J. LYELL CLARKE

J. Lyell Clarke, sanitary engineer, in charge of all work for DesPlaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District, Lyons, Illinois, for twenty-seven years, died on May 5, 1953, aged 64 years. His unexpected death ended a distinguished career in his profession and forty years of service in federal, state, and district work of benefit both to the Armed Forces and to a large civilian population. He had gained a national reputation, and was one of the leading spirits in the American Mosquito Control Association.

In addition to his professional interests, he was a popular citizen of Riverside, Illinois, and a member of the Izaak Walton League and other societies designed to promote the common good. His sudden death brought expressions of regret and sympathy from professional associates in all parts of the country.

Mr. Clarke was a native of Richmond, Virginia, and born in a family distinguished in that state for generations. He studied at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Johns Hopkins University. Early in his career he was a partner in the Richmond engineering firm of Bolton, Clarke, and Pratt.

During World War I he was attached to the Army as a member of the U. S. Public Health Service and assigned to mosquito control duties to protect troops. After the war he remained in the service to do research work with the Italian government and for the United States government in Mississippi. Later, he was engaged by Illinois state officials and the International Health Board

to aid in the control of mosquitoes in the southern parts of Illinois.

He was employed by DesPlaines District officials in 1928 to organize abatement measures in the midst of an intolerable mosquito annoyance and potential menace to health. In this he was immensely successful according to officials of the District and of twenty-six municipalities within its boundaries, which comprised a population, in 1953, of 234,000 persons. His study of mosquito flight range by means of powdered dyes is considered one of the outstanding pieces of research in its field. This study and others were reported in news dispatches, articles in *Life*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Popular Mechanics*, and radio. Diligent in keeping up with all developments in his field, he was relied upon by his professional colleagues to add to the knowledge necessary to meet the insect problems that vex and menace all the world.

He and others suspected the mosquito of being the vector of polio. Out of this developed long experiments arranged by Mr. Clarke with Yale University and the Chicago Health Department. No evidence was found to convict the mosquito, but the insect is still suspected in some quarters.

Mr. Clarke was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Western Society of Engineers and the Masonic Lodge.

Members of the Board of Trustees of DesPlaines District share with his family and close friends the loss of so competent a leader.—OTTO McFEELY