

*A Letter to the Secretary*

*From Major Duncan E. Longworth, Sn.C., 1421 SW 8th Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, August 20, 1945*

Dear Tom:

I have just returned from Africa and I think you had better change my address back to 75 Lee Avenue, Rockville Centre, N. Y. It can be forwarded to me from there, wherever I may be.

I had intended to write something for the "Mosquito News" but just never got around to it. I was quite busy the whole time at the Gold Coast. It is a delightful country and really the nicest place I have ever been stationed, the states included. There is plenty of work there for a malariologist, as well as most tropical diseases.

I was appointed malariologist for the African-Middle East Theatre about a month before I left. However, the Pacific intrigued me more and I succeeded in coming on with my unit, the 212th Malaria Survey Det. We are now enjoying our thirty day leaves, and were supposed to go the Pacific at the end thereof. However, we can hope that will be changed with the recent Pacific war news.

We did have a rather unusual steep at Accra,

Gold Coast. An official Inter-allied Malaria Committee was set up with the American, RAF, British Army, and Civilian government as members. We operated as a separate organization and with officers and soldiers from the several outfits working together. My detachment performed all the malaria survey activities for an area of 80 square miles and were in charge of the Laboratory for the Committee. We had upwards of 300 natives on survey work and some 3000 on all activities. The natives are quite intelligent and we trained several as entomological and parasitological technicians, as well as draftsmen, clerks, etc.

Our work included almost everything in the book. We had three cub planes, one Stearman and a C-47 for airplane spraying and observation. We sprayed an average of 25,000 native and European homes a month with DDT. That's just a sample of the amount of work involved.

Please give my best regards to everyone and to yourself.

DUNCAN E. LONGWORTH.

*DDT Conference and Demonstration in New York City*—A conference and demonstration on DDT was held in New York, N. Y. on September 18 and 19, 1945 under the direction of the U. S. Public Health Service, Office of Malaria Control in War Areas. The conference was attended by 51 persons representing public health and allied departments of the City of New York and the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

It was the purpose of this conference to supply these public health workers with reliable and practical information concerning the proper use of this insecticide in the control of insects of public health importance in this area. The agenda for the first day included lectures on the following phases of the problem:

1. Basic principles of DDT Application—Major H. L. Felton.
2. Insects of Public Health Importance—Capt. R. C. Barnes.
3. Preparing DDT mixtures, Solutions and Emulsions—Lt. H. M. Giges.
4. Application of DDT—Major H. L. Felton.

5. Precautions in Handling and Applying DDT—Capt. R. C. Barnes.

All of the lectures were accompanied by appropriate illustrative material including demonstrations of materials and equipment, film strips, and movies.

On the second day, demonstrations of the preparation and application of DDT were presented. Specific demonstrations showed application of the residual spray for control of flies, mosquitoes, bed bugs, and cockroaches, and application of the dust for control of cockroaches. Following these demonstrations each member of the group was given the opportunity to practice the application of the sprays and dusts.

The meetings concluded with a round-table discussion and review.

R. C. BARNES

*National Audubon Society Symposium on DDT and its Relation to Wildlife*—Scientists from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Navy, State Experiment Stations and others discussed experimental work that