

Records of the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Kenya

Title: Records of the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Kenya, 1969-1999

Author/Creator: United States Army Medical Research Unit, Kenya

Collection number: 12

Size: 1 linear foot

Inclusive dates: 1969-1999

Bulk Dates: 1973-1980

Repository: Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Archives, Gorgas Memorial Library, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

Abstract: The records include correspondence from the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Kenya and one early report from the unit.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on these records.

Preferred citation: Records of the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Kenya, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Archives, Gorgas Memorial Library

Status: This collection is processed.

Historical note:

In October 1969, Dr. Ishmael E. Muriithi, Director of Veterinary Services of Kenya, proposed forming a joint Kenya/Walter Reed Army Institute of Research group to investigate trypanosomiasis. In January 1970, Dale E. Wykoff, soon followed by Ralph E. Duxbury and Bruce T. Wellde, began a series of temporary duty trips at the Nairobi, Kenya veterinary facility to conduct research on trypanosomiasis. After 2 ½ years of research, and encouraging results of the immunization against *trypanosome rhodesiense* in rodents, cattle, and monkeys, Dr. Muriithi suggested the establishment of a permanent unit of 2-4 American investigators. The United States Army Medical Research Unit (USAMRU)-Kenya began as an association with the Veterinary Research Laboratory in Kabete, Kenya in 1973. It was an investigation into the immune mechanisms of animal trypanosomes. In 1979 WRAIR established a collaborative project in chemotherapy of visceral leishmaniasis with the Clinical Research Center. USAMRU-Kenya is still an active overseas laboratory overseen by WRAIR.

Scope and content of the collection:

The USAMRU-Kenya records include correspondence, photographs, and a report from 1973 through 1980.

Custodial History

Updated 3 October 2013

The files are administrative and came from headquarters, date unknown. The correspondence prior to 1973 and after 1980 was received from headquarters in April 2012.

Processing information:

Processed by: Lara D'Agaro

Processing note: Original order was retained. The records were arranged in reverse chronological order in the correspondence folders. Ingoing and outgoing telegrams were in separate folders, they have been interfiled with the letter correspondence. All correspondence files are now in chronological order. Exact duplicates were removed and discarded. Most metal staples, paper clips and metal binders were removed. All records have been rehoused in acid-free folders.

Encoded by: N/A

Arrangement of collection: The collection is organized as 3 series.

Series I: Reports

Series II: Correspondence

Series III: Photographs

Detailed description of the collection:

Series I: Reports, 1973, 1986, 1993 (3 folders)

This series consists of one report and a photocopy of the report. This report was an historical review for the use of Bruce Wellde until his departure for Kenya in 1973. It was then turned over to the Executive Officer for retention in WRAIR Headquarters' files.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Memoranda of Record-Establishment of the US Army Medical Research Unit (Kenya) in Nairobi, Kenya, 1970-1973, 1973	
2	Memoranda of Record-Establishment of the US Army Medical Research Unit (Kenya) in Nairobi, Kenya, 1970-1973, photocopy, 1973	
3	A History and Bibliography of the US Army Medical Research Unit-Kenya, 1986? and 1993	

Series II: Correspondence, 1969-1999 (24 folders)

The bulk of the correspondence is between Unit Chiefs Dale Wykoff, Robert Kovatch, and Wayne Hockmeyer and the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Directors Edward Buescher, Robert J.T. Joy, and Garrison Rapmund. There are some reports and newsletters mixed in with the correspondence when sent as enclosures. The materials are arranged chronologically.

Folder	Title	Date
--------	-------	------

- 1 Correspondence, 1969-1970
- 2 Correspondence, 1970-1972
- 3 Correspondence, 1973
- 4 Correspondence, January-June 1974
- 5 Correspondence, July-December 1974
- 6 Correspondence, January-June 1975
- 7 Correspondence, July-December 1975
- 8 Correspondence, 1976
- 9 Correspondence, 1977
- 10 Correspondence, 1978
- 11 Correspondence, January-March 1979
- 12 Correspondence, April-June 1979
- 13 Correspondence, July-December 1979
- 14 Correspondence, January-June 1980
- 15 Correspondence, July-December 1980
- 16 Correspondence, 1981
- 17 Correspondence, 1989
- 18 Correspondence, 1993
- 19 Correspondence, 1994
- 20 Correspondence, 1995
- 21 Correspondence, 1996
- 22 Correspondence, 1997
- 23 Correspondence, 1998
- 24 Correspondence, 1999

Series III: Photographs, 1979 (1 box) [S16]

Box	Title	Date
1	Residential section of Nairobi, Kenya,	1979

Related Material

For additional information, see the Records of the USMRDP-Uganda, 1959-1969 in the Gorgas Memorial Library.