

Records of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Thailand

Title: Records of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Thailand, 1955-2013

Author/Creator: SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Thailand

Collection number: 9

Size: 7.5 linear feet

Inclusive dates: 1955-2013

Bulk dates: 1960-1977

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

Abstract: The records include correspondence, reports, AV materials, and ephemera.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on these records.

Preferred citation: Records of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Thailand, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Archives, Gorgas Memorial Library

Status: This collection is processed.

Historical note:

The South East Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO) Cholera Research Laboratory was established in Bangkok, Thailand in December 1959 by an exchange of notes between the Governments of Thailand and the United States. The SEATO Medical Research Laboratory (SMRL) succeeded the Cholera Laboratory on 23 December 1960. A Clinical Research Center was added to the SMRL on 25 April 1963. The SMRL was composed of a Thai component and a U.S. component and was jointly staffed, with visiting scientists from other SEATO nations. The U.S. component was a special activity of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. The Army continued to work in cooperation with Thailand conducting medical research and training for the benefit of all. The Unit was renamed the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) in 1977 when SEATO was disbanded. AFRIMS is still active.

Scope and content of the collection:

The SMRL records include correspondence, reports, unpublished reports, photocopies of agreements and Memorandums of Understanding, protocols and procedures, memorabilia, photographs, and negatives. The bulk of the material is the correspondence.

Processing information:

Processed by: Lara D'Agaro

Original order was retained wherever possible. The bulk of the material was the correspondence and had been placed in folders in chronologic order. In years 1972-1975, telegrams were in separate folders, which are now interfiled with the appropriate year's correspondence. Some correspondence regarding the use and movement of gibbons had been separated from the other correspondence. This order has been maintained. Exact duplicates of any correspondence were removed and discarded. Most metal staples, paper clips and metal binders were removed. All records have been rehoused in acid-free folders.

A photocopy of the chapter Family muridae, rats and mice from the *Mammals of Thailand*, by Bunsong Lēkhakun and Jeffrey A McNeely, pages 395 to 490, published in 1977, was discarded as the book is readily available and there were no annotations. Materials were separated by document type and arranged chronologically. Most of the AV materials had been stored separately from the paper records. Many of the photographs and negatives were labeled and dated and were able to be matched to correspondence or reports for context, however there were some that could not be identified or dated. Please contact the archivist for more information.

Arrangement of collection: The collection is organized as 5 series.

Series I: Agreements and MOUs

Series II: Correspondence

Series III: Publications and Reports

Series IV: Ephemera

Series V: AV Materials

Detailed description of the collection:

Series I: Agreements, 1956-1982

This series includes photocopies of many of the agreements and Memorandums of Understanding that were exchanged between the Thailand government and the US Army.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Agreements, 1956	
2	Agreements, 1960-1965	
3	Agreements, 1970-1979	
4	Agreements, 1980-1982	

Series II: Correspondence, 1955-1998

The bulk of the correspondence is between Unit Directors Oscar Felsenfeld, James Hansen, Stefano Vivona, Leslie Altstatt, Philip Winter, Douglas Beach, and Herbert Segal and the Directors at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research William Tigertt, William Meroney, Edward Buescher, Robert J.T. Joy, and Garrison Rapmund; and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Division Director Philip Russell. SMRL also participated in the Migratory Animal Pathological Survey and there is some correspondence regarding such. There are some quarterly reports and newsletters mixed in with the correspondence when sent as enclosures. The gibbon correspondence is placed at the end of the general correspondence. The materials are arranged chronologically.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, 1955	
2	Correspondence, 1958-1959	
3	Correspondence, January-April 1960	
4	Correspondence, May-August 1960	
5	Correspondence, September-December 1960	
6	Correspondence, January-March 1961	
7	Correspondence, April-June 1961	
8	Correspondence, July-September 1961	
9	Correspondence, October-December 1961	
10	Correspondence, January-March 1962	
11	Correspondence, April-June 1962	
12	Correspondence, July-September 1962	
13	Correspondence, October-December 1962	
14	Correspondence, January-February 1963	
15	Correspondence, March-April 1963	
16	Correspondence, May-June 1963	
17	Correspondence, July 1963	
18	Correspondence, August 1963	
19	Correspondence, September 1963	
20	Correspondence, October 1963	
21	Correspondence, November 1963	
22	Correspondence, December 1963	
23	Correspondence, January-February 1964	
24	Correspondence, March-April 1964	
25	Correspondence, May-June 1964	
26	Correspondence, July-August 1964	
27	Correspondence, September-October 1964	
28	Correspondence, November-December 1964	
29	Correspondence, January-March 1965	
30	Correspondence, April 1965	

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- 31 Correspondence, May-June 1965
- 32 Correspondence, July-August 1965
- 33 Correspondence, September 1965
- 34 Correspondence, October 1965
- 35 Correspondence, November –December 1965
- 36 Correspondence, January-February 1966
- 37 Correspondence, March-April 1966
- 38 Correspondence, May-June 1966
- 39 Correspondence, July-August 1966
- 40 Correspondence, September 1966
- 41 Correspondence, October 1966
- 42 Correspondence, November 1966
- 43 Correspondence, December 1966
- 44 Correspondence, January-February 1967
- 45 Correspondence, March 1967
- 46 Correspondence, April-May 1967
- 47 Correspondence, June-July 1967
- 48 Correspondence, August-September 1967
- 49 Correspondence, October 1967
- 50 Correspondence, November-December 1967
- 51 Correspondence, January-February 1968
- 52 Correspondence, March-June 1968
- 53 Correspondence, July-November 1968
- 54 Correspondence, December 1969
- 55 Correspondence, January-May 1970
- 56 Correspondence, June-December 1970
- 57 Correspondence, January-May 1971
- 58 Correspondence, June-December 1971
- 59 Correspondence, January-March 1972
- 60 Correspondence, April-June 1972
- 61 Correspondence, July-September 1972
- 62 Correspondence, October-December 1972
- 63 Correspondence, January-February 1973
- 64 Correspondence, March-April 1973
- 65 Correspondence, May-June 1973
- 66 Correspondence, July-September 1973
- 67 Correspondence, October-December 1973
- 68 Correspondence, January-March 1974
- 69 Correspondence, April-June 1974
- 70 Correspondence, July-September 1974
- 71 Correspondence, October-December 1974
- 72 Correspondence, January-March 1975

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73	Correspondence, April-June 1975
74	Correspondence, July-September 1975
75	Correspondence, October-December 1975
76	Correspondence, January-March 1976
77	Correspondence, April-June 1976
78	Correspondence, July-December 1976
79	Correspondence, January-April 1977
80	Correspondence, May-June 1977
81	Correspondence, July-December 1977
82	Correspondence, 1978
83	Correspondence, January-June 1979
84	Correspondence, July-September 1979
85	Correspondence, October-December 1979
86	Correspondence, January-February 1980
87	Correspondence, March-April 1980
88	Correspondence, May-June 1980
89	Correspondence, July-August 1980
90	Correspondence, September-October 1980
91	Correspondence, November-December 1980
92	Correspondence, 1981-1982
93	Correspondence, 1997-1998
94	Gibbon correspondence, 1970-1977
95	Gibbon correspondence, 1976-August 1977
96	Gibbon correspondence, September 1977-August 1978

Series III: Publications and Reports, 1962-1990, 2000

This series includes reports and publications. The reports were created mainly for internal use and the publications were made available to the general public. Official annual reports are arranged in the following subseries. The materials are arranged chronologically by type.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Publication-Thai-American Economic and Technical Cooperation,	November 1962
2	Publication-SEATO Report 1962-1963,	1963
3	Publication-SEATO Record,	August 1964
4	Publication-The distribution of <i>Aedes aegypti</i> in Thailand,	John Scanlon, October 1964
5	Publication-SEATO Record,	February 1966
6	Publication-Annual report - Central Coordinating Board for Tropical Medicine and Public Health of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization,	1970
7	Publication-Report of the First International Seminar of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization Medical Research Laboratory,	1971

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- 8 Publication-Bibliography United States Army Medical Component SEATO Medical Research Laboratory 1960-1976, 1976
- 9 Report-Quarterly Research Progress Report 1 April 1964-30 June 1964
- 10 Report-Preliminary Accident report, January 1965
- 11 Report-Final Accident report, April 1965
- 12 Report-Quarterly Research Progress Report 1 July 1965-30 September 1965
- 13 Report-*Cholera and Enterobacteriaceae Study in Chiangmai 1 December 1963-1 April 1966*, undated
- 14 Report-Bibliography 1960-1976, 1976?
- 15 Report-Unit histories and guides, 1976, 1981, 1990, and undated
- 16 Trip Report-GEIS at the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Thailand, 2000

Subseries 1: Annual Reports, 1965-1981 [Grey Filing Cabinet]

This subseries contains the official annual reports published by the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, later renamed the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences. These reports are filed in the grey filing cabinet in the library.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Annual Progress Report-SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Center,	1965
2	Annual Progress Report-SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Center,	1967
3	Annual Progress Report-SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Center,	1968
4	Annual Progress Report-SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Center,	1969
5	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1969 to March 1970,	1970
6	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1970 to March 1971,	1971
7	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1971 to March 1972,	1972
8	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1972 to March 1973,	1973
9	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1973 to March 1974,	1974
10	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1974 to March 1975,	1975
11	The Annual Progress Report of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory April 1975 to March 1976,	1976
12	The Annual Progress Report of the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences April 1976 to September 1977,	1977
13	The Annual Progress Report of the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences October 1977 to September 1978,	1978

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- 14 The Annual Progress Report of the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences October 1980 to September 1981, 1981

Series IV: Ephemera, 1960-1987 and undated

This series includes a clipping, an information packet for new employees, the programs and invitations associated with building dedication ceremonies, and a roadmap. The materials are arranged alphabetically.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Clipping, 1980, undated	
2	Information packet for newcomers/visitors, 1987	
3	Letterhead paper, blank, undated	
4	Roadmap of Thailand, Bangkok and Thonburi, 1960	
5	Stone-laying ceremony, September 1964	
6	Stone-laying ceremony, September 1966	
7	Welcome to Thailand, 1968?	

Series V: AV Materials, 1963-2013 and undated (5 boxes)

This series contains photographs, slides, and negatives taken between 1963 and 2013. Many of the photographs are of the construction of the Clinical Research Center and the Medical Research Laboratory. In addition there are photographs and negatives of student workers in 1963. The AV materials are arranged chronologically.

Box	Title	Date
1.	Photographs and Negatives	
a.	SEATO building and laboratories, 1963	
b.	Stone-laying ceremony for new SEATO Laboratory, 1963	
c.	Summer science training program, photographs and negatives, August 1963	
d.	Surveying and floor plans for SEATO Clinical Research Center , August 1964	
e.	Opening ceremony of the Cardiac Research Laboratory, August 1964	
f.	Stone-laying ceremonies for SEATO Clinical Research Center and the SEATO Headquarters, September 1964	
g.	Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center and SEATO Headquarters, April 1965	
h.	Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center and SEATO Headquarters, May 1965	
i.	Phrabuddhabat facilities, August 1965	
2.	Photographs	
a.	Field test of mosquito repellent, September 1965	
b.	Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, November 1965	

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- c. Phrabuddhabat facilities, November 1965
- d. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, December 1965
- e. General Vargas visit to WRAIR, April 1966
- f. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, May 1966
- g. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, August 1966
3. Photographs
 - a. SEATO Military Medical Conference, August 1966
 - b. Stone-laying ceremony for SEATO Medical Research Laboratory , September 1966
 - c. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, November 1966
 - d. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center and SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, December 1966
4. Photographs
 - a. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, February 1967
 - b. Briefing charts, March 1967
 - c. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center, March 1967
5. Photographs, Slides, and Negatives
 - a. Construction of SEATO Clinical Research Center and SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, July 1967
 - b. Thailand countryside, MAJ Robert Upham, slides, September, December 1968
 - c. SEATO Medical Research Laboratory buildings around Bangkok, 1968?
 - d. Installation of generator, September 1974
 - e. Handing-off of the generator, December 1974
 - f. Construction of [SEATO Medical Research Laboratory], December 1975
 - g. Laboratories, Buildings, Field Work, negatives and slides, 1980?
 - h. Official unit photograph, 1981
 - i. AFRIMS building, exterior and interior, negatives, 1982, 1995 and undated
 - j. Field work, slides, 1985, 1990-1995 and undated
 - k. AFRIMS military staff, 2013
 - l. Animal cages, photographs and slides, undated
 - m. SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, undated

Related Material

For more information, see the Records of the Army Medical Research Program on Malaria, 1963-1979; the Migratory Animal Pathological Survey (MAPS), 1963-1972; the Records of the USAMRT-Vietnam, 1963-1973; the Records of the WRAIR Overseas Laboratories, 1935-1998; the Records of the WRAIR AV Materials; and the Records of USAMRU-Malaysia, 1952-1989 in the Gorgas Memorial Library.