

Records of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board

Title: Records of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, 1942-1991

Author/Creator: Armed Forces Epidemiological Board

Collection number: 2

Size: 3 linear feet

Bulk dates: 1948-1954

Inclusive dates: 1942-1991

Repository: Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Archives, Gorgas Memorial Library, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, Telephone: 301-319-9554, Fax: 301-319-9929, Email: gorgasill@amedd.army.mil

Abstract: The records include correspondence, reports, photographs, publications, and memorabilia.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on these records.

Preferred citation: Records of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Archives, Gorgas Memorial Library

Status: This collection is processed.

Historical note:

The Armed Forces Epidemiological Board (AFEB) operated as a research organization from 1941 to 1972. It was established at the recommendation of Brigadier General James S. Simmons, Chief of Preventive Medicine in the Office of the Surgeon General, with the advice of Colonel Stanhope Bayne-Jones, Dr. Francis G. Blake, Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Yale University School of Medicine, and Dr. Colin M. MacLeod, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology at the New York University School of Medicine. The Board was originally named Board for the Investigation and Control of Influenza and Other Epidemic Diseases in the Army. It was reorganized in 1944 as the Army Epidemiological Board and then into the Armed Forced Epidemiological Board in 1949. Members of the Board were to be civilian advisors to the military. This Board differed from other advisory boards in that its members undertook field work, conducted research and attempted to solve medical problems. Its original mission was to investigate and control influenza and other epidemic diseases in the army. There were seven original Commissions. Over the subsequent years new commissions were created or combined as needed. AFEB was sponsored by the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. In 1973 it was reorganized again into a strictly advisory board.

Scope and content of the collection:

The AFEB records include correspondence, reports, laboratory data, reprints, unpublished reports, protocols and procedures, memorabilia, AV material, photographs, and slides. The bulk of the materials

Updated 15 March 2012

are from the Commission on Epidemic Hemorrhagic Fever with the years 1952-1954 most heavily represented; and from the Commission on Immunization, the U.S. Army Scrub Typhus Team, the bulk of which comes from the years 1948-1949.

Custodial History:

The 14 photographs from the Commission on Schistosomiasis, Commission on Tropical Diseases were given to COL Myron G. Radke (then Associate Director of WRAIR) by COL Dale Wykoff in 1984. The slides from the Commission on Schistosomiasis, Commission on Tropical Diseases were donated by COL George W. Hunter III in 1984. The provenance of the remaining records is unknown.

Processing information:

Processed by: Lara D'Agaro

Processing note: Original order was retained wherever possible. Materials were separated by document type and arranged chronologically. Exact duplicates were removed and discarded. Metal staples, paper clips and metal binders were removed. All records have been rehoused in acid-free folders. All of the photographs and slides have been rehoused in Mylar sleeves and most have been separated into their own boxes. Detailed lists attached to groups of correspondence, slides, and reports are retained in the administrative archives records; please contact the archivist for more information.

Arrangement of collection: The collection is organized as 10 series.

Series I: Armed Forces Epidemiological Board

Series II: Commission on Enteric Infections

Series III: Commission on Epidemic Hemorrhagic Fever

Series IV: Commission on Immunization

Series V: Commission on Influenza

Series VI: Commission on Neurotropic Virus Diseases

Series VII: Commission on Pneumonia

Series VIII: Commission on Rickettsial Diseases

Series IX: Commission on Tropical Diseases

Series X: Commission on Virus Diseases

Detailed description of the collection:

Series I: Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, 1943-1991 (9 folders)

This series includes ephemera related to significant AFEB events. The materials are arranged chronologically by document type.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, 1943	
2	Ephemera-Invitation-Dr. Blake's portrait unveiling, 1951	
3	Ephemera-Invitation-25th Anniversary of the Board, 1966	
4	Ephemera-Photographs-30th Anniversary of the Board, 1971	
5	Ephemera-Program-Memorial Service for Colin Munro MacLeod, M.D., C.M., 1972	
6	Ephemera-Program-Golden Anniversary, 1990	
7	Reports-Trip, 1953	
8	Reports-Management Study of the AFEB, 1972, 1975	
9	Reports-Department of Defense overseas infectious diseases research program, 1991	

Series II: Commission on Enteric Infections, 1953, 1965-1966, 1972 and undated (3 folders)

This series includes correspondence and reports. The original correspondence is mainly from Horace M. Gezon; the carbon copies are by Major Robert J.T. Joy and are courtesy thank you letters. The materials are arranged chronologically by document type.

Folder	Title	Date
1	AV Materials-Photograph, 1972	
2	Correspondence, 1965-1966	
3	Reports-Published and unpublished, 1953 and undated	

Series III: Commission on Epidemic Hemorrhagic Fever, 1943-1960 and undated (41 folders)

This series includes correspondence; photographs; some laboratory data; protocols and procedure; reports, including annual, quarterly, published and unpublished, by Commission members and non-affiliated people; and translations of Russian reports. The correspondence is mainly between the Commission Director, Joseph Smadel, and the Field Director in Korea, Marshall Hertig, during the years 1952-1954. The materials are arranged chronologically by document type.

Folder	Title	Date
1	AV Materials-Microfilm reels, 1952-1953 [drawer S07]	
2	AV Materials-Photographs, 1952 and undated	
3	Correspondence, 1952	
4	Correspondence, January-July 1953	
5	Correspondence, August-December 1953	
6	Correspondence, 1954	
7	Correspondence, 1955	
8	Correspondence, 1956	

- 9 Correspondence, 1957-1958
- 10 Ephemera-Script for "Hemorrhagic Fever-Clinical Features," 1953
- 11 Laboratory Data, 1952-1954
- 12 Protocols and Procedures, 1952
- 13 Protocols and Procedures, 1953
- 14 Protocols and Procedures, 1954
- 15 Reports-Annual-First, 1953
- 16 Reports-Annual-First-Dictaphone belts, 1953 [drawer S11]
- 17 Reports-Annual-Second, Part I, 1954
- 18 Reports-Annual-Second, Part II, 1954
- 19 Reports-Annual-Second, Part III, 1954
- 20 Reports-Annual-First, Second, and Third; and Conference on Hemorrhagic Fever-Micro cards, 1952-1955
- 21 Reports-Interim Commission, 1952
- 22 Reports-Interim Commission, 1953
- 23 Reports-Interim Commission, 1954
- 24 Reports-Interim Commission, 1955
- 25 Reports-Interim Commission, 1956
- 26 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1950
- 27 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1951-1952
- 28 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1952
- 29 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1953
- 30 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1953
- 31 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1953
- 32 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1953
- 33 Reports-Published and unpublished, 1954-1959 and undated
- 34 Reports-Russian, 1943-1944
- 35 Reports-Russian, 1945-1946
- 36 Reports-Russian, 1948-1949
- 37 Reports-Russian, 1950-1951
- 38 Reports-Russian, 1953-1954
- 39 Reports-Russian, 1955-1956
- 40 Reports-Russian, 1959-1960 and undated
- 41 Reprints, 1952-1954

Series IV: Commission on Immunization, 1948-1953, 1970 and undated (36 folders)

The Commission on Immunization sponsored many studies of which Joseph E. Smadel's scrub typhus project in Malaysia from 1948-1953 was one. Dr. Joseph Smadel tested the use of Chloramphenicol to treat and prevent scrub typhus in Malaysia. This series includes correspondence, ephemera, reports, laboratory data, financial records, publicity, scripts, and AV materials mostly regarding the scrub typhus project. The bulk of the correspondence is between Commission Director Joseph Smadel and the scrub

typhus field researchers in Malaysia: Charles Bailey, Herbert Ley Jr., Cornelius Philip, Robert Traub; the Institute of Medical Research Director Raymond Lewthwaite; and the acting director for the Division of Virus and Rickettsial Diseases at the Army Medical Department Research and Graduate School Ross Gauld. The final report was written in 1974 by the Commission's last director Abram Benenson. The publicity folders include press releases and newspaper clippings. This series includes the Institute of Medical Research's Medical Circulars nos. 8, 19, 23, 27, and 29. The SoundScriber recordings are not transcribed.

Folder	Title	Date
1	AV Materials-Photographs, 1948, 1951, 1952 and undated	
2	AV Materials-SoundScriber discs, 1947-1948	
3	Correspondence, October-December 1947	
4	Correspondence, January-June 1948	
5	Correspondence, July-September 1948	
6	Correspondence, October-December 1948	
7	Correspondence, January-June 1949	
8	Correspondence, July-December 1949	
9	Correspondence, 1950, 1952, 1970	
10	Ephemera-Citation certificate, 1948	
11	Ephemera-Illustrations, 1948 and undated	
12	Ephemera-Malayan Driving License and Permit to Carry and Use Arms-Smadel, Joseph, 1948	
13	Ephemera-Scripts-Radio and Film, 1949, 1951, 1972	
14	Equipment, 1947-1949 and undated	
15	Finances-Bank Statements, 1948	
16	Finances-Expenses, 1948-1949	
17	Finances-Receipts, 1948	
18	Manuscripts, 1949-1951	
19	Procedures and Protocols, undated	
20	Publicity, 1948	
21	Publicity-Photocopies, 1948	
22	Publicity, 1949	
23	Publicity-Photocopies, 1949	
24	Reports-Annual-Second and Third, 1948-1949	
25	Reports-Annual-Second and Third-photocopies, 1948-1949	
26	Reports-Final, 1974	
27	Reports-Institute of Medical Research-Medical Circulars, 1949-1953	
28	Reports-Interim Commission, 1948-1949	
29	Reports-Japan, 1946, 1949	
30	Reports-Meeting Minutes, 1949	
31	Reports-Plan of study for US Army Research Unit in Malaysia in 1950, 1950	
32	Reports-Quarterly Progress -nos. 4-15, 1948-1951	

- 33 Reports-Quarterly Progress -nos. 4-15-photocopies, 1948-1951
- 34 Reprints, 1948 and undated
- 35 Trial Results, 1948
- 36 Institute of Medical Research-Medical Circulars, nos. 8, 19, 23, 27, 29, 1949-1953

Series V: Commission on Influenza, 1942, 1962 (2 folders)

This series consists of one letter from Thomas Francis to LTC Bayne-Jones and one letter from LTC Bayne-Jones to Mr. H.C. Fritsch, both in 1942; and one letter from Roslyn Q. Robinson to the Commission Director Fred M. Davenport in 1962.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, August 1942	
2	Correspondence, 1962	

Series VI: Commission on Neurotropic Virus Diseases, 1945 (1 folder)

This series consists of one report written in 1945 by the Director John R. Paul, MD.

Folder	Title	Date
1	History of the Commission on Neurotropic Virus Diseases, 1941-1945, 1945	

Series VII: Commission on Pneumonia, 1945 (1 folder)

This series consists of correspondence between Colin M. MacLeod, Francis G. Blake, Stanhope Bayne-Jones, and Oswald T. Avery regarding immunization against pneumonia in the army.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, 1945	

Series VIII: Commission on Rickettsial Diseases, 1971 (1 folder)

This series contains two letters, one from Vichai Sangkasuwan to Bennett Elisberg and the other from Charles Wisseman to Samrit Jatinandana, both regarding attendance at the annual scientific session of the Commission on Rickettsial Diseases.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, 1971	

Series IX: Commission on Tropical Diseases, 1945, 1968 (2 boxes)

The Commission on Tropical Diseases sponsored many studies over the years of which the Commission on Schistosomiasis was one. The Commission conducted its studies in the Philippines, beginning on 18 April 1945 and running to the fall of 1945. CPT George W. Hunter III was the Executive Officer. He was accompanied by Drs. Ernest Carroll Faust, Willard H. Wright, and Donald B. McMullen and SGTs Preston M. Bauman and James W. Ingalls. During their time in the Philippines the doctors made side trips to Japan and Borneo. This series includes 14 photographs taken by Dr. D.B. McMullen in the Philippines and Japan in 1945. There are also 142 slides of the Commission on Schistosomiasis in the Philippines taken in 1945, 66 are in glass cases and 64 are in cardboard sleeves; in addition there are 11 slides from COL George W. Hunter III's return visit to the Davao Penal Colony in 1968. This series also has 3 negatives of Mindoro maps and a chart.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Photographs-Philippines, 1945	
2	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Photographs-Japan, 1945	
3	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Photographs-Borneo, 1945	
4	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Negatives, undated	
5	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Slides-Philippines, 1945, 1968	
6	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Slides-Philippines, 1945	
7	Commission on Schistosomiasis-AV Materials-Slides-Borneo, 1945	

Series X: Commission on Virus Diseases, 1960-1972 (3 folders)

This series includes five Director's Reports and one Summary Report all written by William McD. Hammon.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Reports-Director's Reports, photocopies, 1960-1965	
2	Reports- Summary of Activities and Accomplishments of the Commission on Virus Infection, 1956-1965, photocopy, 1972	
3	Speech-Remarks on the development of measles vaccine, John Enders, undated	

Related Material

For more information, see the Records of the US Army Medical Research Unit-Malaysia, 1952-1987 in the Gorgas Memorial Library, WRAIR; the Records of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, Commission Project and Manuscript files, 1954-1965, at the National Archives; the Papers of Marshall Hertig, 1921-1967, at Harvard University; the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board records, 1946-1990 and the Stanhope Bayne-Jones Papers, 1852-1969, at the National Library of Medicine.