

Records of the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Belem, Brazil

Title: Records of the United States Army Medical Research Unit, Belem, Brazil, 1971-1979

Author/Creator: United States Army Medical Research Unit, Belem, Brazil

Collection number: 14

Size: .5 linear feet

Inclusive dates: 1971-1979

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, and ephemera.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on these records.

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

Status: This collection is processed.

Historical note:

In 1971, the Government of Brazil began building a TransAmazon highway. The resulting disturbance of virtually untouched terrain in the Amazon Basin was deemed equivalent to the disturbance of terrain caused by military actions, therefore the construction of the highway created a unique peacetime opportunity to study the emergence of new diseases and any amplification of existing diseases. The United States Army Medical Research Unit, Belem, Brazil (USAMRU- Belem) began on 2 July 1973 as a sponsored research project under the umbrella of an agreement between the Government of Brazil and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). USAMRU-Belem was a special foreign activity of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and functioned as an element of the Instituto Evandro Chagas (IEC). The Unit was disestablished in 1979.

Scope and content of the collection:

The USAMRU- Belem records include correspondence, agreements, and ephemera. The bulk of the material is the correspondence.

Processing information:

Processed by: Lara D'Agaro

Processing note: Original order was retained wherever possible. Materials had been arranged in reverse chronological order. They are now filed chronologically. Exact duplicates were removed and

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discarded. Most metal staples, paper clips and metal binders were removed. All records have been rehoused in acid-free folders. Detailed lists attached to groups of correspondence are retained in the administrative archives records; please contact the archivist for more information.

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

Series I: Correspondence

Series II: Agreements

Series III: Ephemera

Detailed description of the collection:

Series I: Correspondence, 1972-1979 (15 folders)

The bulk of the correspondence is between Unit Directors Craig Llewellyn and WRAIR Deputy Director Robert J.T. Joy. There are some reports mixed in with the correspondence when sent as enclosures. There was a separate folder regarding the sale of vehicles when the Unit was disestablished. The materials are arranged chronologically.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Correspondence, 1972	
2	Correspondence, 1973	
3	Correspondence, January-March 1974	
4	Correspondence, April-June 1974	
5	Correspondence, July-December 1974	
6	Correspondence, January-June 1975	
7	Correspondence, July-September 1975	
8	Correspondence, October-December 1975	
9	Correspondence, January-June 1976	
10	Correspondence, July-December 1976	
11	Correspondence, January-June 1977	
12	Correspondence, July-December 1977	
13	Correspondence, 1978	
14	Correspondence, 1979	
15	Vehicle Transfer Correspondence, 1979	

Series II: Agreements, 1971, 1973 (1 folder)

This series includes photocopies of the original agreement between the Government of Brazil and the Pan American Health Organization and the subsequent agreement between the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and the Pan American Health Organization.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Agreements, 1971, 1973	

Series III: Ephemera, 1972-1978 and undated (6 folders)

This series consists of clippings and tourist information. The clippings are mainly from the Brazilian newspaper *O Liberal* and are in Portuguese. The brochures and guides to living in Belem were given to new employees or their spouses prior to their arrival. The materials are arranged by type and then chronologically.

Folder	Title	Date
1	Clippings, in Portuguese, 1975-1978 and undated	
2	Clippings, in Portuguese, photocopies, 1975-1978 and undated	
3	Clippings, in English, 1976-1977	
4	Brochures, undated	
5	Guides, 1972, 1975, and undated	
6	Roadmap of the Estado do Pará, with an inset of Belém, 1973 [Drawer S11]	

Related Material

For more information, see the Records of USAMRU-Brasília, 1971-1999; and the Records of USAMRU-Panama, 1959-1976 in the Gorgas Memorial Library.