

4. Title: Virus Diseases of Americans in Thailand

- Principal Investigators:
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Objectives:

To determine the etiology and study the epidemiology of viral illnesses in U.S. military and civilian personnel stationed in Thailand.

Description:

Through liaison with dispensaries and hospitals at US military installations in Thailand specimens for virological and serological diagnosis are obtained. Serologic surveys for arbovirus infection are being done in selected units.

Arbovirus Disease. A fatal case of Japanese encephalitis occurred in a member of the 538th Engineering Battalion stationed near Phanomsarakam in Chachoengsao Province. Clinical history and histopathologic finding were compatible with acute viral encephalitis. JE virus was isolated from brain tissue and serologic rises to JE by HI, CF and N tests were demonstrated.

A serologic survey for arbovirus infections in the personnel of the 538th was done. HI test results on serum pairs collected in August and December 1965 are presented below.

Table 21. HI Antibody in 300 Serum Pairs, 538th Engineering Battalion, August-December 1965.

	<u>JE</u>	<u>Dengue</u>	<u>JE + Dengue</u>	<u>Chikungunya</u>
Conversions	5	0	1	0
Positive, Both specimen	7	1	4	0

Respiratory Disease. An outbreak of febrile respiratory disease occurred in U.S. troops in and near Korat during October-November 1965. Serologic studies on 12 hospitalized patients with respiratory disease of suspected viral etiology were done. Of the 12, no diagnosis was made on 3, 4 had rising HI titers to influenza A-2 (including one case of viral pneumonia), 4 had rising CF titers to adenovirus and 1 had a rising HI titer to chikungunya.