

## PROLOGUE

Through the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory in Bangkok, the South East Asia Treaty Organization has continued to associate itself with medical research as a field of endeavour designed to alleviate human suffering in South-East Asia.

This is only fitting and proper. The peoples of Asia and the Western Pacific can be happy, secure and stable only in direct proportion to the state of health prevailing in the region or locality. In South-East Asia medical research is as much an act of mercy as it is a challenge.

The Laboratory has worked within the spirit of co-operation of the member governments, and specifically of Thailand and the United States of America. And it has been especially pleasing to note that the research work has been responsive to the particular requirements of South-East Asia.

The present report describes the work of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory during the past year.

I take great pleasure in commending it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesus Vargas', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'V'.

JESUS VARGAS  
SECRETARY-GENERAL  
SEATO

We can hardly conceal a sense of pride on looking back through the years since the establishment of this laboratory ten years ago. During this relatively short space of time a lot of studies have been made with regard to diseases and ill health in this region. Much has been learned but much more remains to be investigated. Untiring efforts have always been made by members of the staff of the laboratory to acquire further useful information. The results of such efforts during the period from April 1969 to March 1970 are being reported in this volume.

It is hoped that the added information outlined in the report will be of benefit to those interested as ever.

*S. Jatinandana*

SAMRIT JATINANDANA  
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