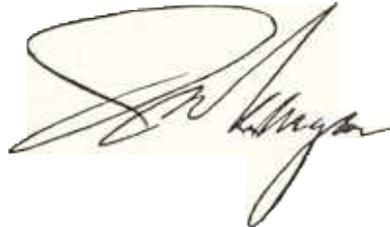


PROLOGUE

Through the unceasing efforts of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory in Bangkok, new knowledge about the many diseases which take their toll of human lives and which cause so much suffering in this part of the world is being gained each year. Both were established many years ago to pursue the interests of the South—East Asia Treaty Organization in promoting the health and well—being of peoples in the region through medical research and clinical studies. They have achieved many successes but the need for sustained effort in the field remains a continuing challenge. Medical research presents real opportunities to achieve tangible results for all mankind.

Any regional study and scientific investigation of disease involves professional dedication, time and money, and the co—operation of different nationalities. The present report is a product of such efforts. It describes the work done by the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory during the past year.

I take great pleasure in commending it, representing as it does another SEATO contribution towards improving the health of the peoples in this area.

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

JESUS VARGAS
SECRETARY—GENERAL
SEATO

The members of staff of the Laboratory continue with their efforts to gain further knowledge with respect to diseases and ill health of importance in this area. The values of the past efforts were well reflected by the support given by the local medical profession and by medical scientists from SEATO member nations as well as those from neighbouring countries at the 1st International Seminar of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory arranged under the auspices of the South East Asia Treaty Organization between 22-25 February 1971. It was quite encouraging indeed.

It is hoped that this report which covers the work done between April 1970 to March 1971 will be as useful as a source of information to those interested as its predecessors.



SAMRIT JATINANDANA
Rear Admiral, MC, RTN
Director General
SEATO Medical Research Project