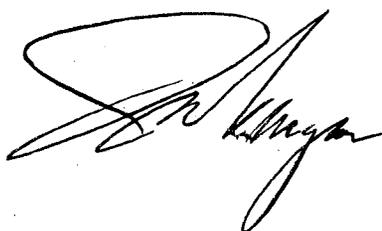


PROLOGUE

I have followed the work of the SEATO Medical Laboratory during my seven years as Secretary-General and I know the results achieved by the Laboratory are already making Southeast Asia a better and more healthy place in which to live.

The work described in this Report is evidence of the skill and professional dedication of the staff at the Laboratory, and is a tribute to the successful cooperation of the different nationalities involved.

This Report is, as always, a visible token of another year of hard work. I take great pleasure in commending the Report and the Laboratory, which has long been associated with SEATO in improving the standard of living of the people of Southeast Asia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesus Vargas', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

JESUS VARGAS
SECRETARY-GENERAL
SEATO

Realizing that however much had been done in the past there still remain many problems of no small magnitude to be studied, members of the staff of the Laboratory spare no efforts to further the knowledge relevant to such problems. The findings contained herein are the products of the work done during the period between April 1971 and March 1972.

It is hoped that the information in this report will be of value to those interested and will help give better insight into certain health problems in this area.

S. Jatinandana

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