

Animal Rabies in Thailand :  
Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory Services

Principal Investigators :           John L. Brown, MAJ, VC  
  Kwanyuen Lawhaswasdi, DVM  
  Frank E. Chapple, MAJ, VC  
  William K. Andrews, MSG

OBJECTIVE : To provide rabies diagnostic services to U.S. Military personnel in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific.

METHODS : Every brain submitted was examined by the fluorescent antibody test and confirmed by mouse inoculation.\*

RESULTS : Of 521 brain specimens examined, 221 (42%) were positive (Table 1). Prevalence of rabies in dogs was 48% and in cats 9%.

Following the withdrawal of most U.S. armed forces in July 1976, receipt of rabies specimens from authentic U.S. military sources virtually ceased. In CY 1977 less than one specimen per month has been submitted by a U.S. governmental agency. Presently, practically all work in the rabies laboratory is in support of research activities. Unless circumstances change, this will be the last report of rabies diagnostic laboratory services.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number of Specimen</u>	<u>Number Positive</u>	<u>Percent Positive</u>
Canine	446	215	48
Feline	44	4	9
Non-human primate	8	0	0
Bat	2	0	0
Rodent	16	0	0
Porcine	1	0	0
Human	1	1	100
Bovine	2	1	50
Ovine	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>42</b>

\* As described in Laboratory Techniques in Rabies, Third Edition, WHO Monograph Series No. 23, (1973).