

(Sept. 1946)

Kwajalein Dist.

MEDICAL OFFICER IN COMMAND U.S. NAVAL BASE HOSPITAL #21 MARSHALL AREA
MEDICAL REPORT OF: ENCLOSURE (C)

1. During September the following services to Marshallese performed by Base Hospital #21 are considered of interest.

a. On 17 September a trip was made to Likiep and Wotje. At Likiep the second and final inoculations of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids were given to adults and children respectively. A few who were not vaccinated on the August visit were given this prophylactic measure. The trip to Wotje was to examine the chief of the Ralik tribe, Rodomeing, who was found to be suffering from far advanced pulmonary tuberculosis. He and an eight year old girl, Kelu, were brought to Base Hospital #21.

b. On 20 September a small expedition went to Ujae. There all 130 were given first inoculations of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids. (The child received both), tuberculin and Kahn tests. About 40 were found to have chronic gonococcus infections and were treated with penicillin and sulfathiazole.

c. Base Hospital #21 continued to render both outpatient and inpatient services to natives residing locally, and to those brought here by military government trips. There were 5 deliveries this month.

d. On the return trip from Ujae an advanced leprosy patient, a 20

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year old male, was transferred from Lae here and later taken to the leprosa-
rium at Jaluit with medical escort. The 8 year old girl from Jaluit pre-
viously referred to is believed to have lesions of early leprosy and a re-
quest has been forwarded to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for strepto-
mycin in hopes that preparation will cause quiescence of the disease.

e. Pulmonary tuberculosis is a continuing problem. Rodomeing, the
chief from Wotje previously referred to, died of the disease on 30 Septem-
ber. His widow was present. She and her two children have been observed
and x-rays of the chest taken, but at present they have no signs of active
disease.

f. At Ujae there were several patients with tinea imbricata, a fungus
disease of the skin which forms mosaic whorls all over the body. Three of
these were brought to the hospital in hopes of finding some medicaments
which will clear the condition. These studies will be continued.

g. Medical supplies to native practitioners were forwarded on request
as in the past.

h. The Dental Department performed several extractions as in the
past.

i. Of approximately 120 blood tests drawn at Ujae about 75 were
positive including 52% 4-plus reactions. These of course are due to yaws.

Only 8% were positive on the tuberculin test.

2. Sanitation.

No essential change from previous reports.

3. Medical Education of the Marshallese.

a. The nurses class has been continued. One candidate was added to replace the one sent to Guam. They are now and will become more valuable in the management of the succeeding dispensaries. Besides practical nursing emphasis has been placed on English.

b. One native has been employed in the dental clinic to learn the rudiments of dental technique. He is to be observed and if he proves adaptable will be sent to Guam for further training when the school for native dental practitioners is established.

4. All preliminary arrangements have been completed for the transfer of personnel, division of wards and property to establish the Military Government Dispensary on 1 October. In view of this no recommendations will be offered in this report. Much remains to be accomplished in matters of health and sanitation and future progress should be much more rapid and satisfactory in these matters under the new and augmented Military Govern-

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ment regime. The Marshallese will be most gratified for anything that is done to help them in these problems.

/s/ JULIAN LOVE
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