

5 (Sanitation)

- (a) See field trip reports.
- (b) No native sanitary inspectors are employed.
- (c) Upkeep and cleanliness of the native cemeteries is taken care of by the local residents
- (d) Pest Control:

(1) Insects: - An increase in the mosquito population and a corresponding increase in the fly population was noted during the months of August and September. This increase was due entirely to the lack of adequate transportation.

The Sanitation Team transport consists normally of the following:

1 - DDT spray truck for insect control

1 - Jeep to transport sanitation crew to areas for hand spraying, trap setting, fish stocking, etc.

1 - Jeep assigned to sanitation officer for inspection of water supply, garbage disposal, village sanitation, labor camps, food supply, food handling establishments, and other general sanitation inspections.

During the months of August and September and DDT truck operated a total of 10 days, the sanitation crew jeep a total of 14 days, and the sanitation officer's jeep 0 days.

During the time transportation was available all permanent water collection points were stocked with gambesia fish. Other water collection points were hand sprayed.

It is anticipated the transportation situation will improve next quarter, a rapid reduction in the insect population will then be possible.

(2) Rodent - Island wide rodent control is neither possible nor practical with the sanitation force and equipment available. Rat trapping is done daily in the habitated areas with an average of 200 rats caught monthly in this manner.

Field trapping using the pre-baiting method with Red Squill as the poison is used to deplete the rat reservoir surrounding the habitated areas. No attempt is made to control

(2) Rodent cont'd...

the large uninhabited areas of sugar cane fields, deserted barracks and buildings, and outdoor storage spaces where ideal conditions for the growth of the rodent population exist. From spot checks of certain areas it is roughly estimated that the rat population of this island is in the neighborhood of 4 to 5 million.

Effective rodent control would require the full time services of a trained rodent control officer authorized in the use of "1080", crew of fifteen men and adequate equipment and transportation.

There is no evidence of plague transmitted by rats.

(3) Other- - Sewage disposal near the native village of Oleai, Susupe and Chalan Kanoa continues to be a problem owing to the accumulation of sludge in the septic tanks. Attempts to remove the sludge by flushing with water from tank type fire trucks has failed. Plans to effect this flushing with sea water are being delayed pending the placing in operation of two salt water pumps.

(e) Potable Water Supply: - The present water main system consists largely of temporary iron pipe construction over three years old and in various stages of deterioration due to extensive rusting. The loss of water from these rusted and leaking lines is excessive and proper chlorination difficult. Replacement of the old temporary lines with permanent or semi-permanent construction is underway. At present this replacement program is moving slowly because of delay in receiving parts.

(f) Violations of Sanitary Regulations: - None.