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Distribution List A

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MALARIA

Reference: A. MBI 142-10.

Introduction

1. Malaria is a widely spread disease carried by mosquitoes, which occurs particularly in tropical and temperate zones. It causes millions of deaths annually and the health of a fifth of the worlds population is affected by it.
2. The effects of malaria on the strength and fighting efficiency of units is so serious that effective control of the disease is essential to the successful conduct of operations in areas where it is present. An example of malaria's capacity to dissapate a force was observed during the Milne Bay Campaign in December 1942. In the third week of that month, 1083 out of a total of 12,000 men in the area contracted malaria; at this rate the force would have fallen to zero in three months through the onset of malaria alone.
3. Modern drugs and methods of malaria control are now readily available. As a result any wastage from malaria would be a reflection on the standard of discipline in 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn. Sub unit commanders are to implement a regular course of instruction in malaria, its causes, its effect on health and the methods by which it may be controlled.

Aim

4. The aim of this instruction is to detail the methods and administrative requirements necessary to ensure adequate control of malaria in 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn.

Responsibilities

5. The responsibility for the control of anti-malaria suppressives and methods is vested in each sub-unit commander. He may delegate some of his responsibilities down to pl comd and pl Sgt level but must check constantly to ensure that these delegated responsibilities are being observed. In the event of small parties or patrols being detached from his unit he is to ensure that the NCO in charge is fully instructed regarding his responsibilities.

Malarious Diseases

6. Under the definitions contained in the reference MBI, South East Asia is a proclaimed malarious area. Service with the 1 ATF requires strict observation of malaria control.

Anti-Malarial Measures

7. The QM 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn is to ensure that the following stores are always readily available for issue to individuals or sub-units:

- a. Nets mosquito.
- b. Mosquito repellent lotion, 2 oz bottles.
- c. Anti-mosquito spray.
- d. Sprayers, hand, small.
- e. Fogging machines and spare parts.

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8. Sub unit commanders are to ensure that one NCO and two privates are trained as an anti-mosquito squad and employed in eliminating possible breeding grounds. The hygiene inspector, in consultation with RMO 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn, is responsible for the supervision of this work, the correct use of fogging machines and knock down type sprays and addition the employment of the hygiene section in anti malaria duties.

Administration of Paludrine and Dapsone.

9. The administration of the malaria suppressives is on a twice daily basis.

10. For the purpose of control one Paludrine tablet is to be taken at the following times daily;

a. At a parade immediately after "stand down" in the morning and,

b. At a parade prior to "stand to" each evening.

11. The administration of dapsone is on a daily basis.

12. For the purpose of control one dapsone tablet is to be taken by all ranks of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn at the following time daily:

a. At a parade immediately after "stand down" in the morning.

13. The delegated officer in each pl, or its equivalent is to personally supervise the issue and consumption of Paludrine and dapsone at the times stipulated.

14. The delegated officer responsible for supervision is to maintain a roll book containing the regt particulars of all personnel under his command. He is to endorse and initial this roll twice daily. The roll book is to be marked as follows:

a. After the morning Paludrine and dapsone parade, with the letter P.

b. After the evening parade the letter P is to be altered to show the letter B thus indicating the second issue of Paludrine.

15. Paludrine and dapsone books are to be checked by sub unit commanders at least once weekly.

16. Personnel of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn who are proceeding on leave in or from the South East Asia area are to be issued with sufficient Paludrine and dapsone to last for the period of leave. The date and quantities are to be endorsed in the remarks column of the sub unit roll book and on the reverse side of the members leave pass.

Personal Anti-Mosquito Measures

17. All members of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn must take stringent precautions against being bitten by mosquitoes. Personal protection measures are protective clothing, use of mosquito lotion repellent and mosquito nets.

18. Long trousers, boots or shoes and a long sleeved shirt buttoned, except at the neck, with sleeves rolled down and buttoned at the wrist must be worn from dusk until sunrise except when protected by a mosquito net. Bathing between dusk and sunrise is forbidden.

19. A container of mosquito repellent is to be carried on the person at all times. Whilst on operations sub unit commanders are to make frequent checks to see that this instruction is enforced.

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20. Mosquito repellent lotion is to be applied to all exposed parts of the body, at sundown, unless under the protection of a mosquito net or in a building efficiently screened against mosquitoes. The lotion is to be reapplied at three hourly intervals between dusk and sunrise.

21. Every member of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn is to be in possession of a mosquito net and is personally responsible for inspecting it daily for holes and keeping it in good repair. Platoon Commanders are to inspect mosquito nets on issue to members at least once weekly and certify in writing to their sub unit commander.

22. For all members of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn, rest or sleep between dusk and sunrise is to be under a properly erected mosquito net. The authority for disposing with mosquito nets, due to operational commitments is vested only in CO 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn. Sub unit commanders are responsible for conducting frequent checks to ensure that nets are in good repair and, when in use are properly erected.

Conclusion

23. The responsibilities, both individually and collectively for the suppression of malaria cannot be stressed enough. The strictest penalties may be incurred against any member of 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn who is negligent in his approach to those responsibilities.

DRB
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