

Chapter XVI

TECHNICAL DIVIDENDS

During the expanding years of the Malaria Eradication Program (MEP), the Taiwan Provincial Malaria Research Institute (TAMRI) was a proving ground for an unusual number of dedicated, well-rounded specialists in the planning, organizational and operational aspects of antimalaria work. An impressive sequence of directors had both administrative and technical talent, and shared field-oriented skills and capabilities with personnel at all staff levels, many of whom had developed innovative methods of overcoming many obstacles quite commonly found in a truly "grass-roots" campaign.

Map 18

Countries Served by Ex-TAMRI Staff



Well before Taiwan's malaria eradication achievement had been recognized by WHO in 1965, the first veterans of its campaign were being solicited by regional headquarters of that United Nations agency, and by other health organizations, to bring much-needed field experience to malaria and other disease control efforts in many countries. An initial wave of TAMRI veterans recruited by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) -- WHO'S Headquarters for its American Region -- had begun their effective advisory activities in widely-scattered points of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Map 18). Additional TAMRI "graduates" under WHO and other auspices began to share their Taiwan experience and the TAMRI innovations with malaria and other health counterparts in such wide-flung areas as the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Liberia, Bolivia, the United States, and Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, perhaps a bit less adventurous but no less dedicated personnel of TAMRI and their counterpart county and township personnel in the impressive health services of Taiwan at every level continue to serve the needs of the people whom they already freed from one ancient curse - malaria.