

MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
Venereal Disease Survey

MTQ-122; SO-233.

1. PURPOSE

Survey was conducted at the request of the Theater Surgeon and was designed to obtain information relevant to a venereal disease control program.

Questions bearing directly on the problem covered the following areas:

Frequency and circumstances of sex contacts.

Knowledge and attitudes concerning VD.

Extent of availability and utilization of means of prophylaxis, and reasons for failure to use them.

Background and personality characteristics of the men.

Several of the standard morale items, questions on ways of spending off-duty time, and on the adequacy of recreational facilities were included to serve as controls in the analysis of the questions on VD.

Reports were secured from each unit visited covering VD rates for the months of January through May 1945, the locations of each unit from 1 January 1945 to time of the survey, local recreational facilities, measures being taken other than prophylactics to control VD in the unit, and the CO's ideas on the best way to control VD (see Unit Reports in Section on Miscellaneous Materials). With these data it was hoped to determine the relationship between the VD rate and various unit conditions and practices. However, personnel turnover was so high after VE-Day that this phase of the study was deemed inconclusive. Units that may have had very high or low VD rates just previous to the survey frequently had so few of the men involved left in the organization that comparison between attitudinal data and unit practices were not made.

2. DATE OF ADMINISTRATION

15 June - 4 August 1945.

3. SAMPLE

Cross-section of white enlisted men

Number: 1838

Geographic coverage: Italy

Special notes: Thirty-three units were sampled. These were chosen in such a way as to give proper representation to all arms and services in each of the major commands as well as to the various geographic areas in Italy.

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Cross-section of Negro enlisted men

Number: 847

Geographic coverage: Italy

Special notes: Eighteen units were sampled and were chosen
on the same representative basis as the white units.

4. ANALYSIS MATERIAL AVAILABLE

IBM Punch cards, 1 set.

The two cross-section samples may be separated by sorting
on Col. 1 (see SUPPLEMENTARY CODES)

White cross-section = 1838

Negro cross-section = 847

Total cards = 2685

Supplementary Codes - giving identification of major command,
Negro-white identification, and anything else not covered by
the precodes in the questionnaire.

Sampling Scheme - giving the outfits sampled, their identifi-
cation on Cols. 1 and 2 of the IBM cards, and the number of
cases obtained from each outfit.

Marginals - a copy of the questionnaire giving per cents and
figures for every question for the White and Negro cross-sections
separately.

(Check-list Codes)
(Card-column Numbering Scheme) - the copy of the questionnaire
giving the marginal per cents and figures also gives the codes
for each check-list question (printed digits to the left of
the check-line) and the column to which the question has been
assigned on the IBM card (digits in parentheses to the left
of each question.)

Miscellaneous Materials -

Oral Introduction for Survey

Verbatim Free Comments not elsewhere reported - Negro
and White enlisted men separately.

Notes on Sampling Procedure.

Unit Reports.

5. STUDY ANALYST

Robert N. Ford.

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6. REPORTS PREPARED ON THE DATA

<u>Research Branch No.</u>	<u>MTO No.</u>	
MTO-69	122-M-1	VD Problems of <u>white</u> Enlisted Men in MTOUSA
MTO-70	122-M-2	VD Problems of <u>Negro</u> Enlisted Men in MTOUSA

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