



Rockefeller Foundation records, Field Offices, Belem, Brazil, RG 6, SG 2

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rockefeller Archive Center

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Summary Information

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Repository: | Rockefeller Archive Center |
| Creator: | Rockefeller Foundation. Belem (Brazil) |
| Creator: | Rockefeller Foundation |
| Title: | Rockefeller Foundation records, field offices, Belem, Brazil, RG 6, SG 2 |
| ID: | FA416 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1954-1970 |
| Date [bulk]: | 1960-1970 |
| Physical Description: | 3.13 Cubic Feet 1 legal document box, 7 letter document boxes. |
| Language of the Material: | Documentation in these files may be written in languages other than english, including primarily portuguese or spanish. |

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Biographical / Historical

The Rockefeller Foundation operated several field laboratories in the 1950s and 1960s, in conjunction with its virus research program centered at the Rockefeller Institute in New York.

The field office in Belem, Brazil, operated from 1954–1971 as a laboratory for the study of arthropod- or insect-borne viruses. Created in collaboration with the Servico Especiales de Saude Publica (Special Service of Public Health), the Belem virus laboratory sought to classify these viruses and examine the way they presented in humans and domesticated animals.

Ottis R. Causey was the first director of the virus laboratory. He and his wife, Calista Eliot Causey, established the laboratory in 1954, and Causey remained director until 1963. Causey received his Doctor of Science degree in entomology, parasitology, and bacteriology from Johns Hopkins University. During his career with the Rockefeller Foundation, Causey devoted himself to the field of arbovirology. Under his tenure, the lab isolated about 1,600 viruses, of which 50 were found to be distinct viruses.

In the mid-1960s, the Rockefeller Foundation began to phase out its virus research program. The New York laboratory was incorporated into the Yale School of Medicine in 1964, becoming the Yale Arbovirus Research Unit, and several of the foundation's field laboratories integrated with universities or government research agencies. Robert E. Shope, M.D., directed the Belem laboratory from 1963 through June 1965, and was succeeded by John P. Woodall, who served until the field office's closing in 1971.

In the course of its existence, the Belem Virus Laboratory was responsible for isolating many viruses. Seeking to determine which viruses were present in their specific region, researchers studied blood samples from monkeys, mice, and humans. This isolation of viruses gave information about the prevalence of certain viruses and the conditions under which they were likely to occur. The laboratory established different methods for rapidly classifying viruses and new ways for monitoring the effects of the viruses on humans and animals. The laboratory made significant contributions to the knowledge of virus activity and lifecycles.

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Scope and Contents

The Belem Field Office records document the activities of the Belem Virus Laboratory from 1954 to 1970. Records consist of administrative and professional correspondence relating to laboratory operations, research activities, and communications and cooperation with researchers at other virus labs and research organizations, particularly in Latin America, Trinidad, and the U.S.

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File Plan

RG 6.2.

Organization of the Foundation's archives:

RG 1 Projects;

RG 2 General Correspondence;

RG 3 Administration, Program and Policy;

RG 4 China Medical Board;

RG 5 International Health Board/Division;

RG 6 Field Offices;

RG 7 Treasurer's Office;

RG 8 Comptroller;

RG 9 Personnel;
RG 10 Fellowships;
RG 11 Information Services;
RG 12 Diaries;
RG 13 Oral Histories;
RG 14 Counsel;
RG 15 Secretary;
RG 16 Minutes and Officers Actions;
RG 17 Dockets;
RG 18 Declinations (100F);
RG 19 Non-textual Materials;
RG 20 Communications Office.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue
Sleepy Hollow 10591

archive@rockarch.org

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

Conditions Governing Access

Records more than 20 years old are open for research with select materials restricted as noted. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) or audiovisual material (audio cassettes, VHS, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of

preservation concerns. To request an access surrogate be made, or if you are unsure if there is an access surrogate, please contact an archivist.

Conditions Governing Use

Reproduction/duplication of archival items is routinely provided in accordance with "fair use". If the RAC does not hold copyright for an archival collection, or items within a collection, it is the users' responsibility to contact the copyright holder, or make a fair effort to do so, prior to publication.

Conditions Governing Use

Rockefeller Foundation retains title, copyright and literary rights to all Rockefeller Foundation records in so far as it holds them.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Belem Field Office records arrived at RAC during the initial transfer of Rockefeller Foundation records to Hillcrest, August 8-18, 1975.

The material was not officially accessioned at the time of transfer, and was retroactively accessioned by RAC as 2012:086.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Virus diseases
- Virology
- Virologists
- Viruses -- Research
- Viruses
- Virus -- Classification

Collection Inventory

Belem Virus Laboratory, 1954-1970 (1960-1970)

Physical Description: 3.52 Cubic Feet 8 document boxes

Arrangement

Series 1 is arranged alphabetically, and primarily further arranged chronologically.

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|--|------------------|-----------|
| Africa | | |
| 1956-1961 | box 1 | folder 1 |
| 1962 | box 1 | folder 2 |
| Brazil except FSEP | | |
| 1954-1957 | box 1 | folder 3 |
| 1958 | box 1 | folder 4 |
| 1961-1962 | box 1 | folder 5 |
| 1963 | box 1 | folder 6 |
| 1964 | box 1 | folder 7 |
| Field Parties, 1959-1965 | box 1 | folder 8 |
| South America | | |
| 1956-1963 | box 1 | folder 9 |
| 1964-1970 | box 1 | folder 10 |
| Anthropod Borne Virus Information Exchange | | |
| 1954-1959 | box 2 | folder 11 |
| 1960-1961 | box 2 | folder 12 |
| 1962-1963 | box 2 | folder 13 |
| 1964 January-February | box 2 | folder 14 |
| 1964 March-July | box 2 | folder 15 |
| 1964 August-December | box 2 | folder 16 |
| 1965 January-March | box 2 | folder 17 |
| 1965 April-December | box 2 | folder 18 |
| Ottis R. Causey | | |
| 1959-1963 | box 3 | folder 19 |
| 1964-1970 | box 3 | folder 20 |
| Cayenne, 1960-1969 | box 3 | folder 21 |
| Contracts, Agreements and Authorizations | box 3 | folder 22 |
| Wilbur G. Downs | | |
| 1960-1962 | box 3 | folder 23 |

| | | |
|--|-------|-----------|
| 1963 | box 3 | folder 24 |
| 1964 | box 3 | folder 25 |
| 1965-1966 | box 3 | folder 26 |
| 1967 | box 3 | folder 27 |
| Grants and Fellowships | | |
| 1959-1964 | box 4 | folder 28 |
| 1965-1970 | box 4 | folder 29 |
| National Institute of Health: Arbovirus Reagents | | |
| 1963-1964 | box 4 | folder 30 |
| 1964 | box 4 | folder 31 |
| 1964 | box 4 | folder 32 |
| Other Countries | | |
| 1956 | box 4 | folder 33 |
| 1962-1966 | box 4 | folder 34 |
| 1967-1970 | box 4 | folder 35 |
| Pan American Sanitary Bureau | | |
| 1954-1960 | box 4 | folder 36 |
| 1961-1970 | box 4 | folder 37 |

Panama - Colombia - MARU - Bethesda

Scope and Contents

MARU refers to the Middle America Research Unit, which was a facility established in the Canal Zone by the National Institutes of Health. The file contains correspondence with researchers in these organizations and countries.

| | | |
|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 1956-1961 | box 4 | folder 38 |
| 1962 | box 5 | folder 39 |
| 1963 | box 5 | folder 40 |
| 1964 | box 5 | folder 41 |
| 1965-1970 | box 5 | folder 42 |
| Personnel | box 5 | folder 43 |

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

Restricted from scholarly access; contains personnel records

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Rio | | |
| 1954-1959 | box 5 | folder 44 |
| 1960-1963 | box 5 | folder 45 |
| Rockefeller Foundation: New York | | |
| 1954-1956 | box 5 | folder 46 |
| 1957-1959 | box 5 | folder 47 |
| 1960-1961 | box 5 | folder 48 |
| 1962-1963 | box 5 | folder 49 |
| 1964-1970 | box 6 | folder 50 |
| Rockefeller Foundation: Virus Labs | | |
| 1954-1956 | box 6 | folder 51 |
| 1957-1959 | box 6 | folder 52 |
| 1960 | box 6 | folder 53 |
| 1961 | box 6 | folder 54 |
| 1962-1963 | box 6 | folder 55 |
| Telegrams | | |
| 1955-1958 | box 6 | folder 56 |
| 1959-1962 | box 6 | folder 57 |
| 1963-1965 | box 6 | folder 58 |
| 1966-1968 | box 6 | folder 59 |
| Trinidad | | |
| 1954-1959 | box 7 | folder 60 |
| 1960 | box 7 | folder 61 |
| 1961 | box 7 | folder 62 |
| 1962 | box 7 | folder 63 |
| 1963-1964 | box 7 | folder 64 |
| 1965-1970 | box 7 | folder 65 |
| USA except Rockefeller Foundation | | |
| 1950-1959 | box 7 | folder 66 |
| 1960-1961 | box 7 | folder 67 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| 1962 | box 7 | folder 68 |
| 1963 | box 8 | folder 69 |
| 1964 | box 8 | folder 70 |
| 1965-1966 | box 8 | folder 71 |
| 1967-1968 | box 8 | folder 72 |
| 1969-1970 | box 8 | folder 73 |
| Visitors | | |
| 1959-1966 | box 8 | folder 74 |
| 1967-1970 | box 8 | folder 75 |
| Yale Arbovirus Research Unit | | |
| 1963-1965 | box 8 | folder 76 |
| 1966-1967 | box 8 | folder 77 |
| 1968-1970 | box 8 | folder 78 |

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