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mission report

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5th MDA in SAMOA

October 2003 – March 2004



Samoa Filariasis team
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MDA TASK FORCE MEETING



Consists of ACEO Preventive Health Services, Principle Environmental Health Officer, Medical Officer Leulumoega Hp., Principle nurse community nursing services, Principle HEAPS, WHO National programme Officer CDC, Transport Officer and Filariasis team. They were deliberating on the most practical approach to implement MDA.

WORKSHOPS FOR THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS AND NURSES



In preparation for the MDA conducted by WHO consultant Dr Kimura from Japan.

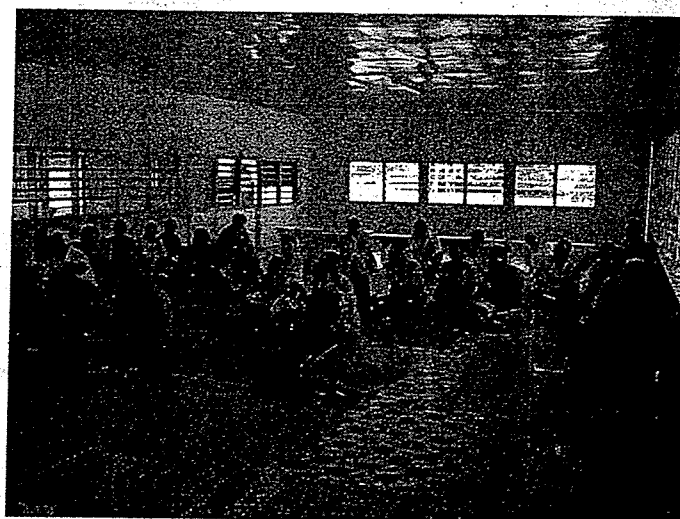
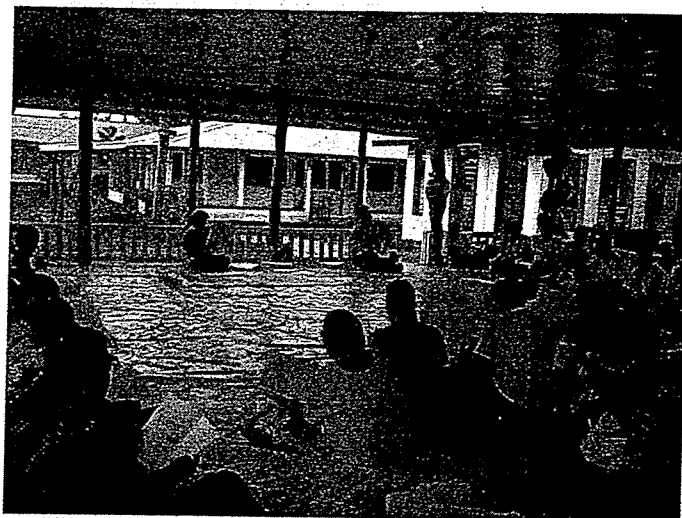
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP FOR THE APIA URBAN AREA



For the drug distributors and supervisors at the Tooa Salamasina Hall at Sogi jointly conducted by the Filariasis team and the HEAPS section of the Ministry of Health.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS FOR THE RURAL AREA IN UPOLU AND SAVAII

For drug distributors and community nurses at 11 District Health Centers and Sub centers conducted by the Filariasis team.



AWARENESS CAMPAIGN(banner, poster, t-shirts, TV, radio)



Consists of this banner being launched in front of the town clock located at the heart of the capital of Apia.



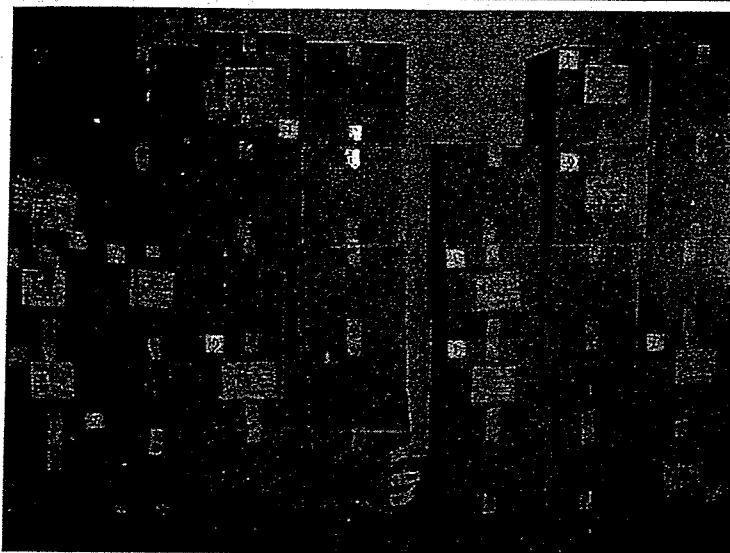
Awareness and promotional activities through wearing this red T-shirt with Samoan logo.

T-shirts kindly donated by JICA.



Awareness programmes carried out by the Filariasis team to schools throughout the country. Posters and pamphlets were also distributed to further promote awareness.

PACKING DRUGS AND NUMBERING OF REGISTRATION BOOKS



Packing by village into plastic bags and then by district in boxes. Number of boxes per district depends on the village population and number of villages in each health district.



Numbering and labeling of registration books and packing for individual villages happily assisted by 7 Japanese students and their teacher. The teacher used to work as a JOCV for the Samoa Filariasis programme. These kind Japanese visitors were on the study trip in Samoa. They sacrificed 2 days to help the Filariasis team with their packing.

DRUG DISTRIBUTION



Some of the MDA teams ready to leave for drug distribution in the Apia Urban Area. All teams are wearing the red T-shirts printed with the Samoan logo donated from JICA.



Filariasis team enjoying the task of explaining and distributing Anti-filarial drugs at the National Hospital Out Patient booth.

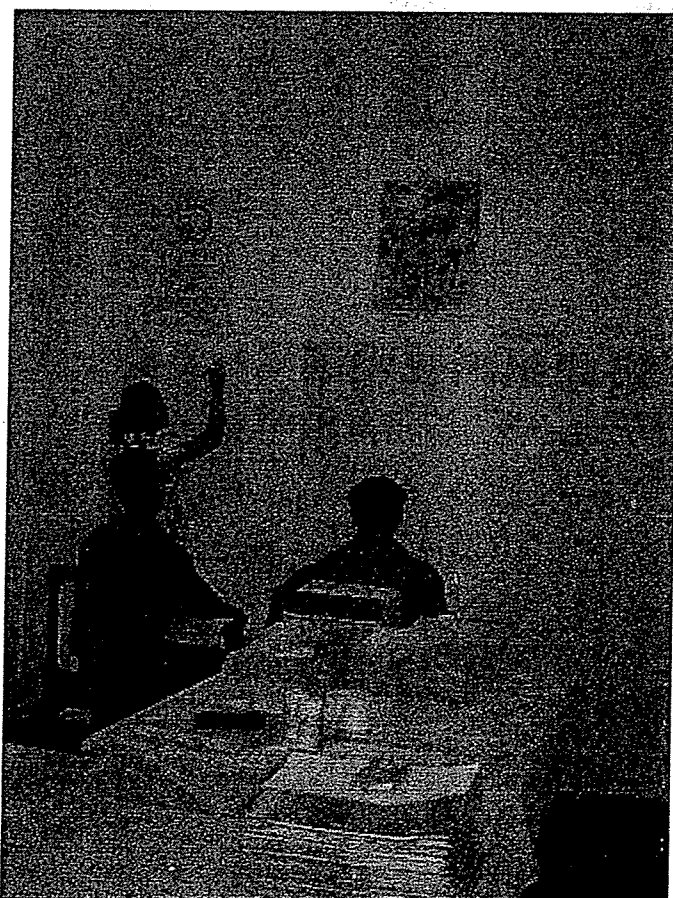


Filariasis team members hard at work registering and distributing drugs at Apolima Island.

CALCULATING RESULTS

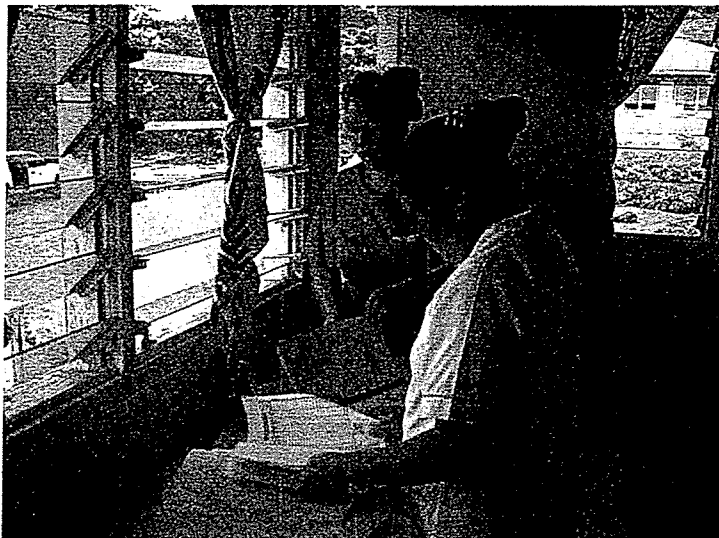


Filariasis team busy at work calculating results from returned registration books, and left over MDA drugs.

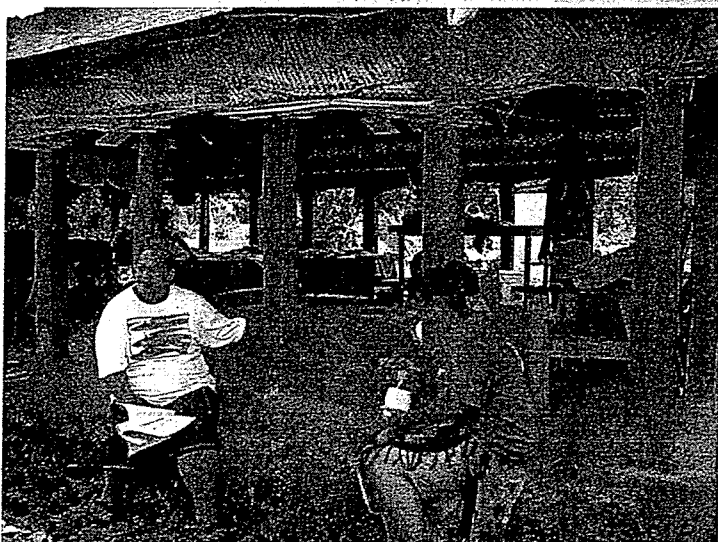


Filariasis team checking and marking returned registration books against the registration numbers of all books that were distributed to each village. Lists as posted on the notice board are organized into health districts with individual villages listed under their respective districts.

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES



Follow up MDA activity at Safotu hospital and collection of registration books. Community nurse discussing population coverage with Filariasis team member.

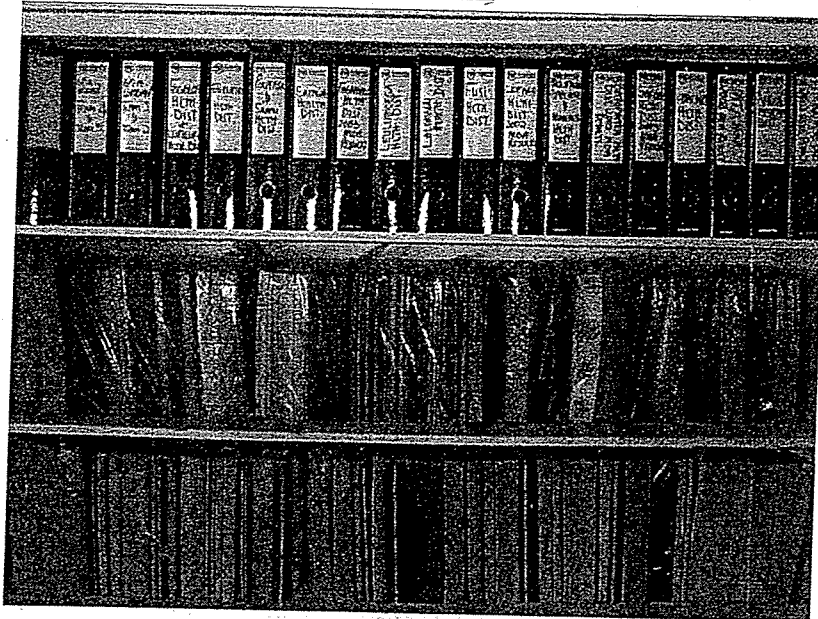


Follow up MDA activity at Siutu in the big island of Savaii. Filariasis team registering and distributing medicine to a family that was missed out by the community drug distributors.



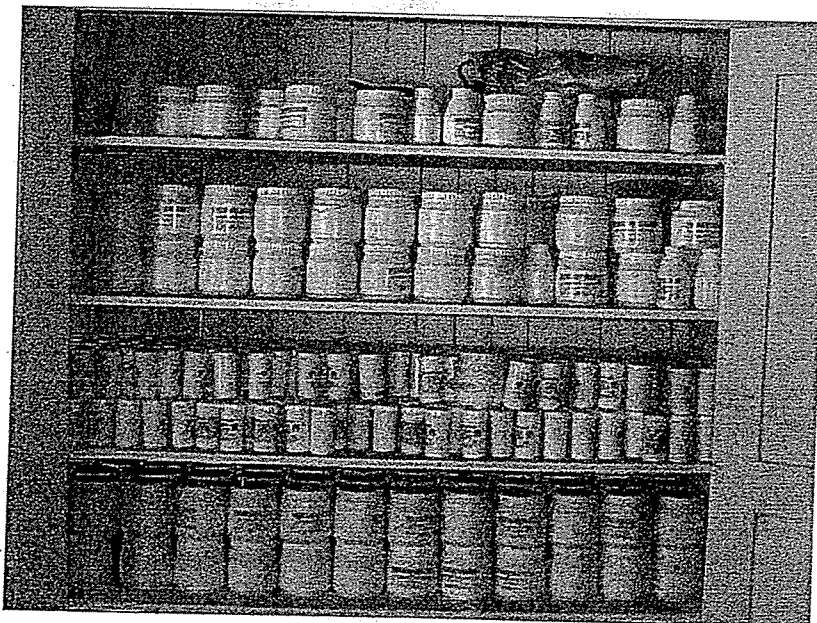
An elderly gentleman at Apolima Island taking his medicine under the supervision and observation of the Filariasis team.

STORAGE OF BOOKS AND DURUGS



MDA results already calculated and analysed and compiled into respective files for each health district.

All returned MDA registration books packed into plastic bags by health district.



All returned MDA drugs collected and stored safely into storage cupboards in the Filariasis office.