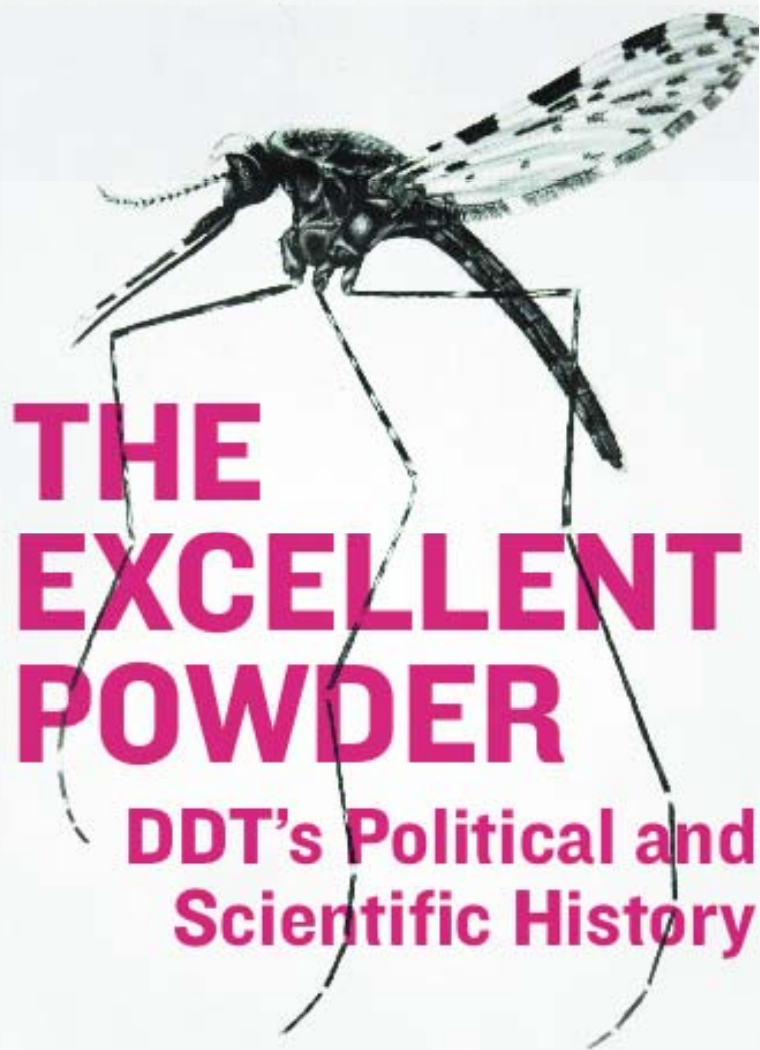


FUTURE PERSPECTIVES FOR MALARIA ELIMINATION & CONTROL

ANTI-INSECTICIDE ACTIVISM & MALARIA CONTROL

Richard Tren
Africa Fighting Malaria

International Malaria Colloquium
Bangkok – December 3, 2010



THE EXCELLENT POWDER

DDT's Political and Scientific History

Donald Roberts, Richard Tren
with Roger Bate and Jennifer Zambone

www.excellentpowder.org

MALARIA AND ANTI-DDT CAMPAIGNS

IMPACT OF ANTI-DDT CAMPAIGNS ON MALARIA CONTROL

Donald R. Roberts, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA describes the successful history of the use of DDT for the eradication of malaria and how single issue anti-DDT campaigners have compromised the success of this programme. Email:droberts@usuhs.mil Contact information: 118 First St, Clifton Forge, VA 24422 USA

Keywords: DDT, DDE, malaria, residual house spraying, anti-DDT campaigns, public health

Introduction

Public health insecticides have greatly improved human welfare. In the past century, insecticides were deployed exten-

and are being enticed by financial mechanisms of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to stop.

WHA resolution 50.13 and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, described above, are only the most recent signs of anti-insecticide groups successfully eliminating disease control programs over the past half century. This progress was achieved by unrestrained use of fear tactics and misinformation by anti-insecticide advocacy. Indeed, the use of fear was, and still is, the sine qua non of the anti-DDT

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

EUROPE

Monday, November 8, 2010

Free the Fight Against Malaria

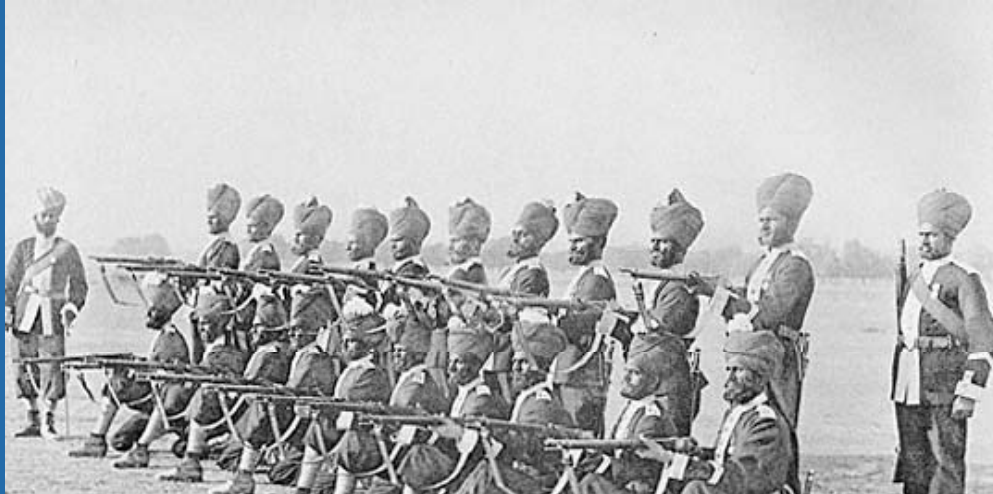
BY RICHARD NCHABI KAMWI

This week southern African countries commemorate Malaria Week, with events to increase awareness of a disease that continues to claim lives and stunt development in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Coincidentally, and perhaps ironically, an expert committee convened by the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is also meeting this week, in Geneva, to discuss dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane or DDT, an anti-malaria insecticide that has been saving lives since 1945. The Geneva

risks will favor DDT.

As for the environment, DDT produces no environmental contamination when sprayed in small quantities inside. Yet even if there were some concerns about environmental harm, we would still place greater value on human life.

Second, DDT is essential for managing insecticide resistance. There are few alternative insecticides suitable for malaria control and approved by the World Health Organization. None equal the efficacy of DDT nor do they work in the same way as DDT, which primarily stops mosquitoes from even entering houses. The well-documented



SCHADAR

(All Hindustani Musicians)
REVIEW ORDER
VOLLEY FIRING

Mian Mir



1997 WHA Resolution 50.13

Promotion of chemical safety, with special attention to persistent organic pollutants

Calls on Member States ...

to take steps to reduce reliance on insecticides for control of vector-borne diseases through promotion of integrated pest-management approaches in accordance with WHO guidelines, and through support for the development and adaptation of viable alternative methods of disease vector control;

Opposition to insecticides for public health

- ▣ Greenpeace circa 1999 “Greenpeace is lobbying against industry plans to exclude products such as DDT from a POPs phase out”
- ▣ Pesticide Action Network 2010 letter to President Obama – “... we are very concerned that the program has shifted its focus from these proven solutions to increased reliance on Indoor Residual Spraying with long-lasting chemicals, including DDT.”

Pesticide Action Network



- ▣ Dar es Salaam Declaration on alternative approaches to DDT use for vector control:

“DDT ... causes reproductive health and neuro developmental disorders, pregnancy wastages and shortened lactation in breast feeding mothers.”

Yet, no studies on DDT & human health satisfy the most basic epidemiologic criteria to prove a cause & effect relationship.

Stockholm Convention



- ❑ Late 1990s, >400 scientists (the industry lobby according to Greenpeace) work to protect DDT for malaria control;
- ❑ DDT permitted until a safe, affordable and effective alternative is available.





GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

- GEF - \$9bn in grants since 1991;
- GEF raised \$40bn from partners;



- GEF raised \$800million on POPs projects;
- \$22million invested in the search for DDT alternatives

DDT alternatives

- ▣ Efforts scaled up after WHO 2006 support for DDT and IRS in malaria control;
- ▣ UNEP & Stockholm Convention Secretariat, draw on WHA Resolution 50.13 set out DDT timetable:
 - ▣ By 2017 – all production of DDT ceases.
 - ▣ By 2020 – all use of DDT ceases, all stocks destroyed.

Institutionalized activism against insecticides



United Nations Environment Programme
environment for development

Dr Jan Betlem.
UNEP/GEF Global DDT program
long term goal is ...



“ to contribute to a re-formulation of the WHO Global Malaria Program to promote global vector borne disease control interventions, while at the same time eliminating the application of DDT and reducing the use of other chemicals.”



- ▣ Stockholm Convention budgets \$150 million to shut down production of DDT in China (already stopped) and India (last remaining producer of DDT)
- ▣ \$150m = 3 x Gates Foundation grant to IVCC
- ▣ \$150m = 7 x GEF investment in 'alternatives to DDT.'

False Reporting on Insecticide-Free Malaria Control

- ▣ GEF funds DDT-free malaria control projects in 8 countries – Mexico & Central America.
- ▣ Interventions include:
 - Mesh on doors, windows, ITNs, neem & oak trees, liming houses;
 - Controlling breeding sites, remove vegetation, stagnant water, use fish & bacteria for larval control;
 - Eliminate places that attract mosquitoes, promote personal hygiene.

Mexico/Central America GEF Project

- ▣ 202 Demonstration areas (pop. 160,000);
- ▣ 51 Control areas selected (pop. 50,000);
- ▣ Project commenced 2003, ended 2008;
- ▣ Project NOT controlled by malaria scientists, but by environment groups;

Independent epidemiologic evaluation finds no difference in malaria rates between demonstration areas and controls. (Montoya A, 2008)

Project's final evaluation recommends experiments be re-done due to 'problems with controls.' (Narvaez Ollala A, 2009)

False Claims about Mexico/Central America GEF Project

- ▣ UNEP/GEF/WHO – project resulted in 63% reduction in malaria cases (presumably vivax) and 86% reduction in falciparum malaria.
- ▣ No peer reviewed studies describe the project.
- ▣ UNEP Executive Director, Achim Steiner “calculated and tested science”



United Nations Environment Programme
environment for development

False Claims ...

- ▣ UNEP/GEF claims ignore experimental controls & are based on comparisons of country-wide malaria cases 2004 – 2007.
- ▣ Reduction in malaria cases achieved – but not through ‘environmental’ controls;
- ▣ Widespread increase in distribution of medicines in '90s & '00s, accounts for reductions;
- ▣ E.g.- by 2004, El Salvador distributed 22,000 pills per malaria case.
- ▣ In 2 countries, % decrease in malaria was higher country-wide than in demonstration areas

CQ/case distributed and changes in cases 1990 to 2004 (source – PAHO)

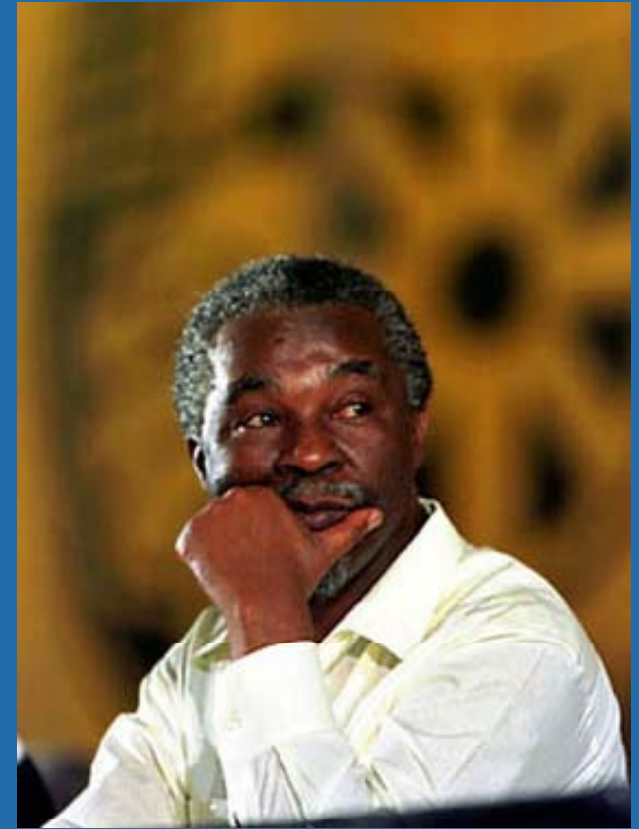
Country	Pills/case in 1990	Pills/case in 2004	% change in pills/case	% change in cases
Mexico	235	2,566	+1092	-1307
Belize	21	82	+390	-287
Costa Rica	653	100	-653	+112
El Salvador	34	22,802	+67064	-8276
Guatemala	38	54	+142	-144
Honduras	30	51	+170	-338
Nicaragua	279	1,319	+473	-519
Panama	202	140	-144	+1337

False Claims ...

- ▣ False claims about insecticides made by numerous activist groups;
- ▣ UN Agencies now responsible for making false & misleading claims.
- ▣ UNEP, GEF, Stockholm Convention seek to wrest control over malaria away from WHO GMP. Use false data & anti-insecticide fears to achieve goals.

Conclusion

▣ False & damaging claims have been made before –
e.g. President Mbeki on HIV/AIDS and anti-retroviral drugs;



- HIV/AIDS community rejected false claims, defend sound science for HIV/AIDS prevention & treatment;
- Malaria community must learn from HIV/AIDS & defend anti-malaria tools, science, reason ...
- Let's not repeat the mistakes of Mian Mir

Conclusion

- ▣ WHO's senior leadership must prioritise needs of malaria programs ahead of political, anti-insecticide campaigns.



Thank you



www.fightingmalaria.org