

Aggie Named CEP Student Of The Month

Allen L. Briscoe of Rosenberg, a junior aerospace engineering major at Texas A&M University, has been named cooperative education Student of the Month at NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston.

The award was announced by J. G. McGuire, A&M assistant engineering dean and director of the cooperative education program in which students alternate between working a semester in industry and attending classes a semester. Briscoe worked during the summer in the advanced operations planning section of NASA's Flight Control Division. His supervisors cited him for "a remarkable degree of initiative and ability to originate action on assignments without being told every detail."

"They said his accomplishments, especially in August, were comparable to the work of more highly trained engineers," McGuire commented.

Briscoe, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Briscoe Jr. of Rosenberg, has a 2.08 grade point ratio on a 3.0 scale at A&M. He has received recognition as a distinguished student.



IT'S A DOG'S LIFE
One way or another, this dog in Northeast Thailand is going to receive its rabies shots. (USAF Photo)

War Against Rabies In Thailand Waged By Capt. Burns, Aggie Vet

ENGLAND AFB, LA. -- England Air Force Base's newly assigned veterinarian, Capt. Lonnie J. Burns, has just returned from Southeast Asia where, through a civic action program, he helped to establish an effective rabies control program in northeast Thailand.

In addition to spending time in Quang Tri, Danang and Phu Cat, Vietnam, he was also assigned to the Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base in northeast Thailand.

Thai public health officials from the Communicable Disease Center in Bangkok and the 606th Air Commando Civic Action Team from the Nokhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB, got together with Capt. Burns at Udorn and worked up a pilot rabies control program for Udorn.

Capt. Burns, native of Port Neches, Texas, and a 1965 graduate of Texas A&M University, told of the serious rabies problem in Thailand, which is a country larger than the state of Texas.

He related that "rabies is a continuing health problem in Thailand, since many rural Thai live a life so isolated from modern medicine that a positive diagnosis of rabies as a cause of

death is not always possible.

"Approximately 300 human deaths are attributed (annually) to rabies and this figure is somewhat low since this determined only from the six major hospitals in Thailand. In fact, this figure has been estimated to represent much less than 25% of the total," Dr. Burns said. He also stated that "a problem of this magnitude definitely needed an effective rabies control program to combat it."

In many ways, the pilot rabies control program was routine and very similar to those conducted in the United States. Dr. Burns related that "the unusual and expected problems are what make pilot programs interesting and challenging."

"The fact that dogs have free run of the streets, are underfed and underfoot, and fight over the scraps of food which fall to the floor in the open air restaurants of up-country Thailand present thought-provoking problems for solutions."

The elimination of these roving, uncared-for strays presented the most difficult obstacle. The idea of eliminating them offended the Buddhist sensitivity to destroying life. It was suggested that bait with poison and bait without poison be offered. In this way, the dog could make the decision and, in essence, decide his own fate. If the dog chose the unpoisoned bait, he would live. This overcame the Buddhist religious objections and was the

course of action followed.

As over 6000 dogs were immunized during the first month, it soon became evident that the people wanted the service. With much interest shown both by the people and by the central government, control programs were planned for other areas.

On August 31, 1967, Captain Burns was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for distinguishing himself by meritorious service as Chief, Veterinary Services, while assigned to the 432d Tactical Dispensary, Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand.

In addition to being a highly skilled veterinarian, Capt. Burns also wears parachutist wings. His hobby is sports parachuting with 67 jumps to his credit.



THAI RABIES CONTROL
Captain Lonnie Burns, a '65 graduate in veterinary medicine, supervises three Thai Army medics in the giving of rabies shots to a mongrel dog. Burns is assigned to the Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base. Rabies is a continuing health problem in Thailand and Captain Burns helped to set up a rabies control program. (USAF Photo)

Price Named To Draft Committee

Dr. Alvin A. Price, dean of veterinary medicine at Texas A&M University, has been appointed by President Johnson to serve on the National Advisory Committee to the Selective Service System.

The dean, who will primarily function in an advisory capacity for selection of physicians, dentists and allied specialists, will attend his first committee meeting next month in Washington.

Dr. Price, who holds three degrees from Texas A&M, joined the faculty in 1949 and was named dean of veterinary medicine in 1957.

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