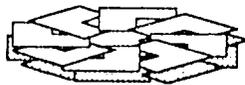


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ISA 77013



ATLANTIC RESOURCES CORPORATION

Malaria Vaccine Development & Research Project
Support Services & Technical Assistance

Project No. 936-5979.03
Contract No. DPE-5979-C-00-0039-00
Progress Report for October 1 - December 31, 1991

This report covers the period of October 1 through December 31, 1991. This time period was notable for several accomplishments. The SCG meeting was successfully completed as scheduled, the malaria portfolio tracking system took form and plans for the upcoming evaluation of Papua New Guinea and Kenya continued. In addition, the October meeting of the Federal Malaria Vaccine Coordinating Committee took place on October 16, 1991. Several monkey protocols were received, reviewed and guidelines for reviewing protocols were developed. Site visits to New York University and Georgetown University were conducted. The second issue of the Malaria Newsletter, the *Update*, to be published in January 1992 was drafted. Plans were initiated for another trip to 3 pharmaceutical companies in Europe. Preliminary dates are set for the week of March 23, 1992. Lastly, this contract moved toward more dedicated staff in that one person who had formerly been shared among two contracts was assigned to the malaria contract only.

The Scientific Consulting Group/Principal Investigators meeting took place from October 7 -9, 1991. The meeting featured presentations by each of the principal investigators involved with the malaria vaccine development program. In addition, special invited speakers, Dr. Ripley Ballou and Dr. David Kaslow made presentations on their work to the assembled group. ARC helped provide slides and overheads for the meeting. Assistance in logistical support was provided throughout the meeting. Some of the activities included rearranging travel schedules, photocopying material, meal planning and obtaining and distributing advance copies of the Institute of Medicines' book on malaria.

One of the meeting outcomes to be acted upon immediately was the planning for an additional meeting in Spring 1992, bringing the number of SCG meetings per year to two. Dr. Robin Powell, the chair of the SCG sent in a draft report of the proceedings. From that, action items were written, the text was edited and formatted for a final report and once reviewed and signed by Dr. Powell, the report will be distributed during the next quarter.

Scheduled site visits were conducted at the Georgetown University on September 19, 1991 and New York University from September 30 to October 1, 1991. These site visits also served as the basis for informational articles for the quarterly malaria vaccine newsletter.

Much of the work for this period centered around the malaria portfolio tracking system. This system came into use during this time frame. The preponderance of data entry and some testing was done. Preliminary work required that all files be copied, this required copies of proposals, contracts, agreements, correspondence, technical and administrative progress reports, evaluations, sub-contracts, travel requests, manuscripts, patents and monkey requests and protocols for 22 projects. The files were organized, available for review and information deemed necessary was culled from the accumulated papers. This required many weeks of labor. Some questions still remain on the preferred format of some of the variables (e.g. collaborators, subcontracts, personnel). Three tracks of information were collected so that reports might be generated. The database was structured in three sections described as follows.

Included in the general information track were details about the institution awarded the cooperative agreement, agreement number, title start and end date, principal investigator and contracting officer, name and addresses, budget, administrative and technical reporting dates, percentage effort in technical research areas, subcontract consultants collaborators, other sources of funding and conflict of interest (goals of agreements to be collected).

Administrative reports included data on reports received, personnel names and level of effort, expenses, equipment purchases, animals, new subcontracts, consultants, facilities and inspection.

The technical series of reports were taken from information collected on publications, presentations, new collaborators and site visits. Within the next quarter, and given the necessary feedback, additional reports will be created as necessary.

As plans continued for the Papua New Guinea and Kenya evaluations, advance preparations took place. Consultants with the proper expertise were chosen through a careful evaluation process. Invitations were extended, alternates were chosen and a team was put together with six members plus two A.I.D. participants. Itineraries were coordinated with a travel agent and since several of the participants were originating from overseas location, pertinent details were tracked daily. Background material was developed for each of the evaluations. In addition to helping write the material, administrative support in the form of copying, velobinding and mailing was provided.

Assistance to the project officer on the writing of a project paper was provided. This support mostly consisted of typing, creating and placing graphics with the manuscript.

The quarterly meeting of the FMVCC took place on October 22, 1992. Dr. Alan Thomas of the University of Maryland presented his research with Pf 83. Dr. Michael Alpers, the Principal Investigator for the Papua New Guinea malaria vaccine field trials also spoke about the status of his project, and reported on baseline information that was being collected from the local population. A questionnaire, developed by Dr. Carter Diggs, was used to lead off discussion about the testing of blood stage vaccines. Minutes of the meeting were written and distributed to members.

A request was made to increase the circulation of the malaria vaccine newsletter, the UPDATE, which was originally developed for the Scientific Consulting Group. In order to broaden the circulation, permission from A.I.D.'s Office of External Affairs was required. The application was drafted and submitted through the appropriate channels. Word on clearance to proceed is expected in the next quarter.

Consultants were utilized during this period to review protocols: Drs. Stephenson, Mannino and Fremount evaluated a protocol on gp-195-based Recombinant Polypeptides and Synthetic Adjuvants as Components of a Human Malaria Vaccine. A second protocol review of randomized Trials to Assess Immunogenicity of a Recombinant Pf Ookinete antigen in *Lotus vociferans* was also conducted by Dr. Bruce Welde, Mary Stevenson and Dr. Ed Stephenson.

Personnel for this contract is shared with another A.I.D. contract within the Office of Health. Discussions between the ARC project manager and the two Cognizant Technical Officers (CTO) took place at weekly meetings convened to share information on common concerns. One result has been a adjusting of the percentage that the malaria contract pays for rent and other expenses (postage, photocopying and other direct costs). Rather the 52-48% split that governed the first year, as of the second contract year, the percentage split became 34-66 percent.

No equipment was purchased during this time period. Work proceeded on establishing a link between Macintosh computers. All Macs have been upgraded to System 7 operating system and the latest versions of all software applications have been installed. This system has allowed all Macs to communicate with each other.

Listed below are additional tasks as they relate to individual categories within the work plan.

Malaria Vaccine Design & Construction

- Continued liaison with NIAID towards development of PASA with A.I.D. and publication of RFP; published and proposal received by NIAID.
- Initiated negotiations for liaison visits to Behringwerke and Hoffman-LaRoche.

Consultants Roster

- Assisted in recruitment of consultants for on site evaluation of PNG and Kenya activities.

Primate Protocol Review

- Reviewed protocol for testing of Chiron *P. falciparum* MSA-1 constructs submitted by University of Hawaii; sent out for review.
- Reviewed protocol for testing of Chiron *P. falciparum* gamete antigen construct Pfs25mut; negotiated modifications with CDC; sent out for review.

Site Visit Support

- Participated in site visits to subprojects at the University of Maryland and New York University.
- Developed draft scopes of work for evaluations of PNG and Kenya projects.

Cooperative Agreement Solicitation

- Reviewed applications for responsiveness.

Subproject Report Tracking

- Prepared document summarizing current status of Cooperative Agreement Portfolio

Malaria Vaccine Development Program Combined Staff Meeting Support

- Contributed meeting input.

Federal Malaria Vaccine Coordinating Committee (FMVCC) meeting Support

- Developed agenda and facilitated October meeting, assisted with developing minutes.

Conference and Meeting Support for SCG

- Assisted in preparation for annual meeting.
- Made presentations at open and closed portions of annual meeting.

Resource Center Maintenance

- Continued development of 1991 Malaria References Database. There are currently 597 citations in the database.

Other:

- Developed, with coworkers, and wrote articles for the second issue of a newsletter, "A.I.D. MVDP UPDATE"
- Completed ISTI questionnaire on malaria portfolio and malaria field site information
- Drafted preliminary responses to renew the Federal Charter of the SCG due to expire March 12, 1992.

**FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF 12/31/91
MALARIA**

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET	BILLED TO DATE	PERCENTAGE BILLED	TOTAL REMAINING
1. Direct Labor	203,615	159,305	78%	44,310
2. Overhead	99,811	82,009	82%	17,802
3. Other				
Consultants	19,173	14,263	74%	4,910
Travel	44,287	63,086	142%	-18,799
Equipment	35,206	40,281	114%	-5,075
Primates	110,000	49,597	45%	60,403
Other direct	72,499	108,955	150%	-36,456
Total Other	281,165	276,182	98%	4,983
4. Subtotal (1,2,3)	584,591	517,496	89%	67,095
5. G&A	87,689	77,624	89%	10,065
6. Fee	52,102	46,122	89%	5,980
7. GRAND TOTAL	724,382	641,242	89%	83,140

* includes:

Delivery	1,414.10
Insurance	1,072.83
Local travel	699.4
Maint./repair	11,292.09
Moving	7,424.17
Photocopies	1,148.70
Postage	446.97
Recruiting	189.81
Rent	55,551.29
Research material	6,764.20
SCG Meeting	3,499.43
Supplies	10,140.29
Telephone	8,261.27
Training	1,050.00
TOTAL	108,954.55