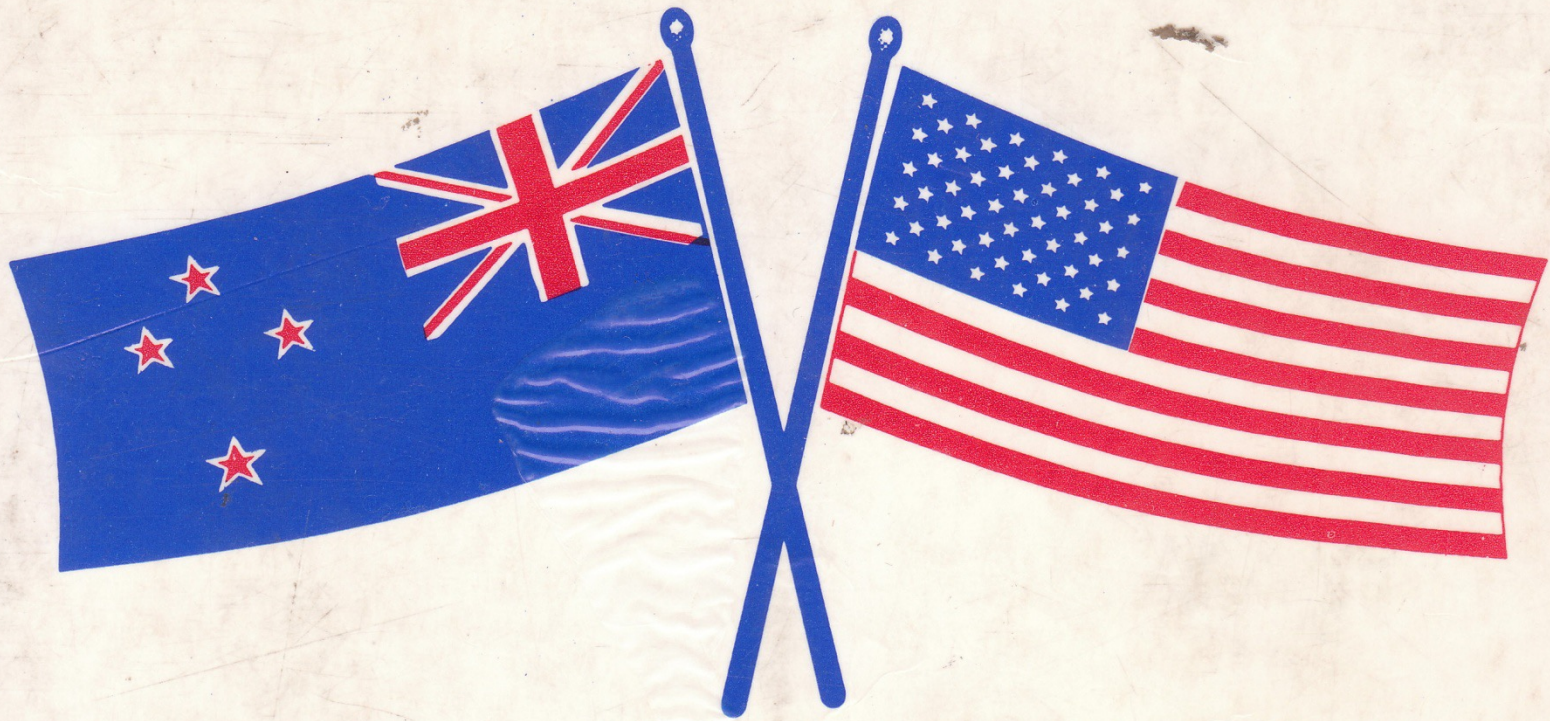


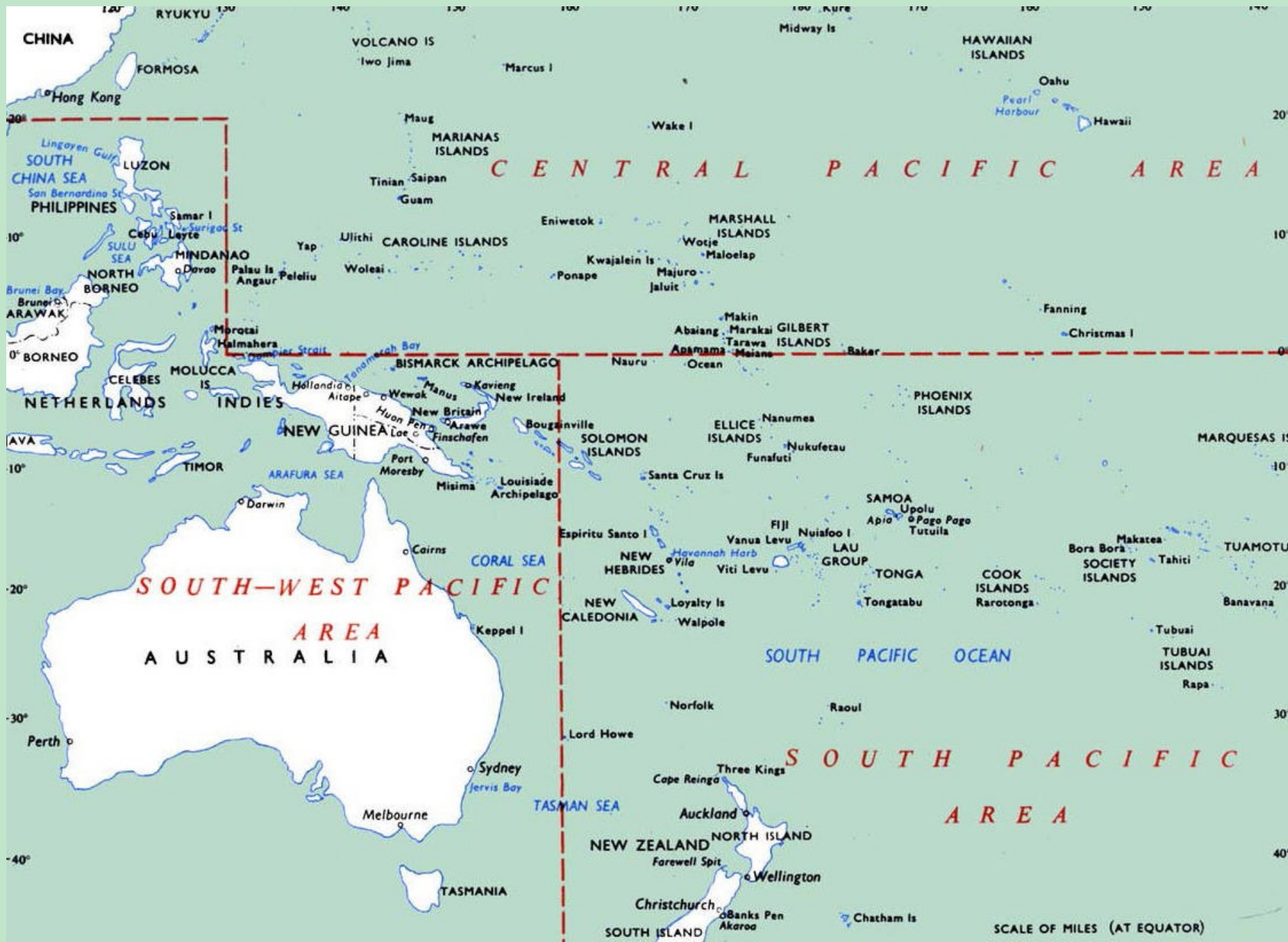


# The 39<sup>th</sup> US General Hospital Auckland WW 2 and Some of the doctors who worked there



**UNITED STATES FORCES  
IN NEW ZEALAND**

**1942 - 1945**





First US troops  
Queen St Auckland  
June 1942

**1940** Yale and US War Dept agreed to  
organise a General Hospital (39<sup>th</sup>)

**1940 Aug** Meeting of doctors to volunteer  
for “Yale Unit”

**1942 July** Unit ordered to mobilise

**1942 Oct 1** Set out

**1942 Nov 22** Arrived in Auckland NZ



**1942 Arrangements were being made in NZ**

**1942 June American Command requested survey NE Cornwall Park**

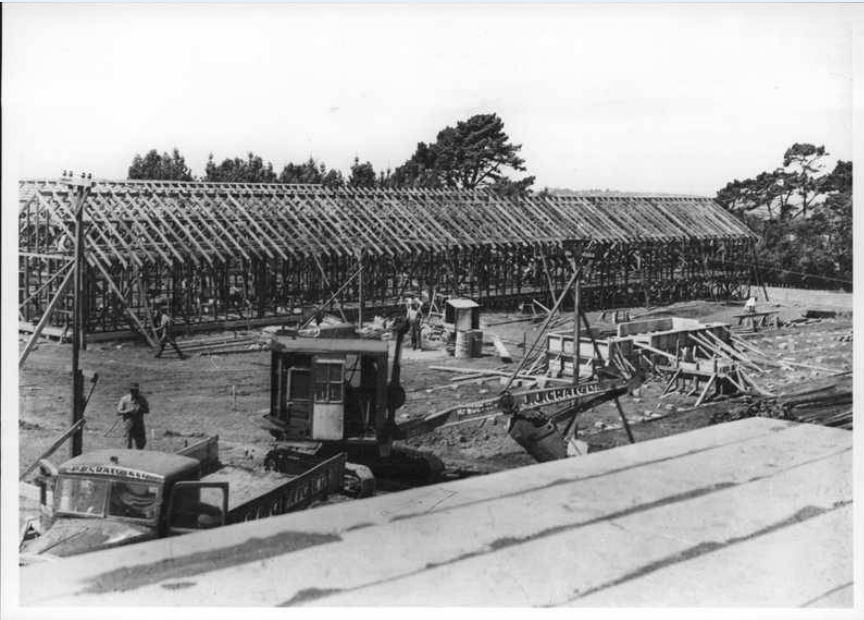
**1942 Oct Under emergency wartime regulations 65 acres of Cornwall Park was handed over to the 39th General US Army Hospital to house soldiers recovering from the war in the Pacific.**

**Plan was for 1,000 bed hospital ->1500 before opening**

**48 wards interconnected by covered ways ~ 800 metres long**

**1942 Oct**

**Foundation stone  
for hospital laid**



**1943 Feb 7**

**Hospital opened**

**164 army patients transferred from Naval (Mob4) hospital at  
Hobson, Auckland**

<b>Medical Practitioners</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Medical Administrators</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Dental Officers</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Nurses</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Enlisted men</b>	<b>497</b>





## **Admitting Officers**

**Boarded hospital Ship with pilot**

**Appraised patients medical condition**

**Tagged**

**Carried in ambulances according to ward assigned**

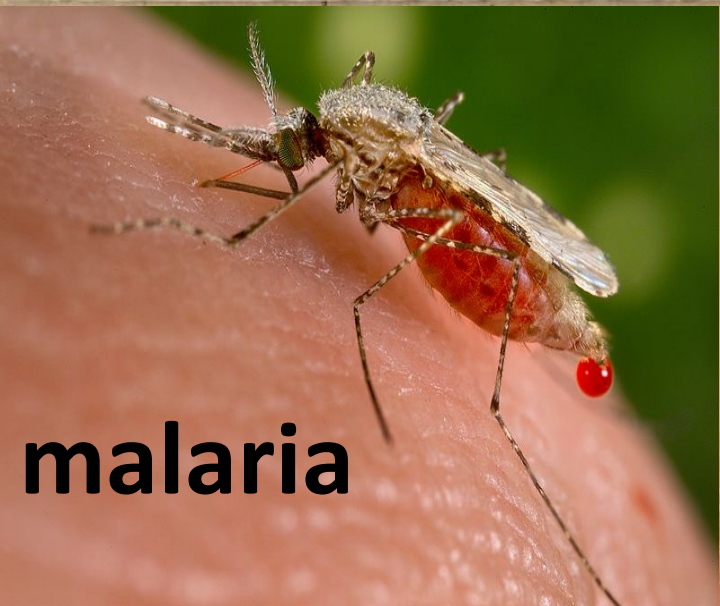
**Maximum number of admissions in one day 922**



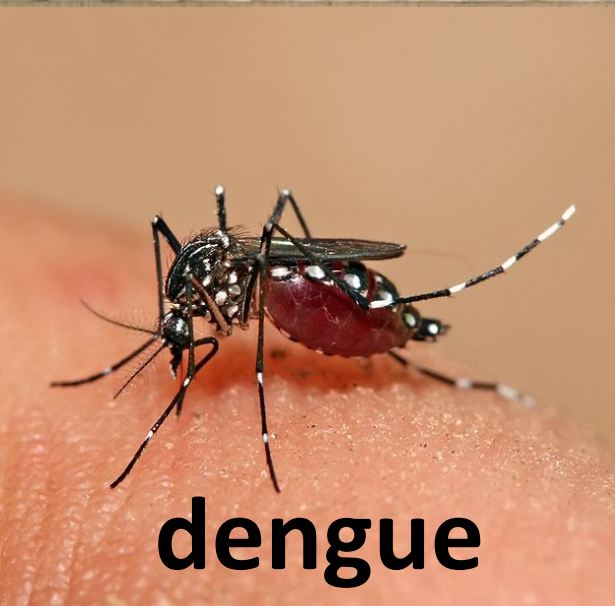
hookworm



roundworm



malaria



dengue



cutaneous

diphtheria

**Physician**

**First to successfully  
use penicillin in USA**



**John Henry BUMSTEAD  
1897-1957**

# **Surgeon**

**Chief of Surgical service and later commander of 39<sup>th</sup> General Hospital.**

**Eventually served as surgical consultant in every major command in the Pacific theatre of war, moving from one key assignment to another.**

**Director of research in Pacific**

**The US Army Medical History Dept used his official wartime diary essentially verbatim for their record.**



**Ashley W Oughterson  
1895-1956**

**Joint Purchasing Board  
Auckland NZ**

**Plastic Surgeon**

**Many military awards**

**Surgeon General  
US Army 1969-73**



**Hal Bruce JENNINGS Jr.  
16.8.1915 - 12.2.2005**

**Medical Officer in US Army  
Studied**

**tropical ulcers  
psychiatric disorders**

**Professorships**

**Psychiatry  
Physiology**

**Neuroscientist**

**brain's control of  
emotion and behaviour**



**Paul MacLEAN  
1913-2007**



**Psychiatrist**

**Volunteered at start of WW 11**  
**Charge in neuropsychiatric dept**  
**Published in NZ whilst there**

**Bronze Star**

**A prolific writer of medical and  
literary works**

**Poet**

**Author of > 50,000 sonnets**

**Austin Merrill MOORE**  
**1903-1957**

**hypergraphia**



**Pathologist**

**Published elegant studies on  
cutaneous diphtheria**

**led to specific treatment**

**Recruited to study effects of  
atomic bomb on Hiroshima**

**Professor at Yale**

**Numerous publications on  
pulmonary pathology**

**Excellent teacher**



**Averill A LIEBOW  
1911-1978**

**Max Taffel**

**Surgeon**

**First to pass**

**American Board of Surgery exam**

**Surgeon at Yale >40yrs**



You are cordially invited to attend the marriage  
of  
Helen Southon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., A. N. C.  
to  
Max Tuffel, Major, M. C.  
at  
The United States Army Chapel,  
Thirty-ninth General Hospital,  
Green Lane, Auckland,  
on  
Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1944,  
at Seven Forty-five p. m.





**U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT**

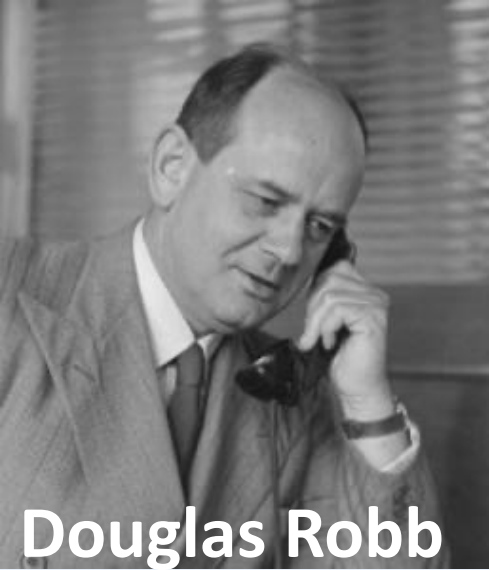
**OFFICE OF MEDICAL HISTORY**



**Rapport between U.S. medical personnel and their New Zealand counterparts was excellent.**

**On numerous occasions, American servicemen were admitted to civilian hospitals and placed under the care of staff physicians.**

**To the great appreciation of the Auckland Hospital Board, seven medical officers served the staff of Auckland City Hospital for about 3 months to help alleviate the shortage of civilian physicians while the 39th General Hospital was awaiting construction of its buildings.**



**Douglas Robb**

**At a meeting of the Auckland Division of BMA on 4 Nov 1942 Douglas Robb drew attention to the presence of US doctors in Auckland at the US Naval Hospital at Hobson and the 39<sup>th</sup> Army General (under construction). Many were leaders in practice and research back in the USA but as yet not fully occupied.**

**He suggested invoking the help of the American visitors to arrange a three-day course in general medicine and surgery with the hope that this would be the fore-runner of a permanent centre for postgraduate medical education in New Zealand.**



## **A post-graduate medical committee was set up**

**Dr W Gilmour**

**Dr F Gwynne**

**DJ Doyle – secretary**

**GD Robb – convenor**

**3 day course Easter 1943 (April)**

**Other 1-3 day courses followed**

**US Doctors attended and contributed to monthly BMA clinical meetings**

**Post-graduate medical education in Auckland thereafter increased and flourished**



**Removed in October 1969 to  
Green Lane Hospital site**



