

# Eradicating Foot and Mouth Disease in North America, 1946 - 1954

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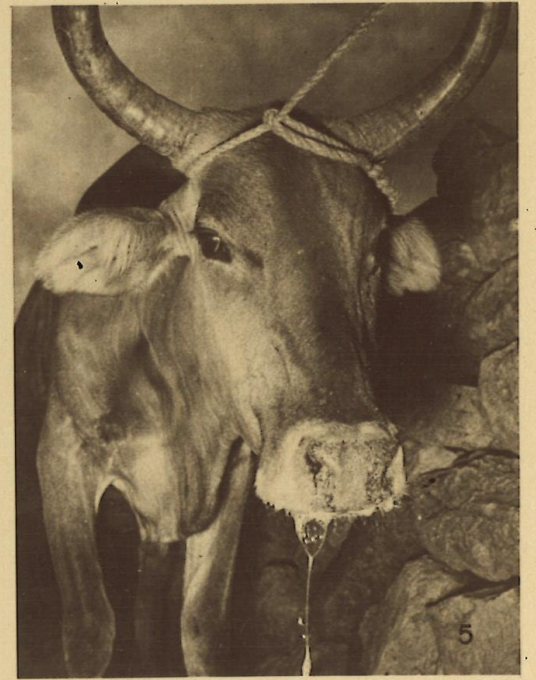
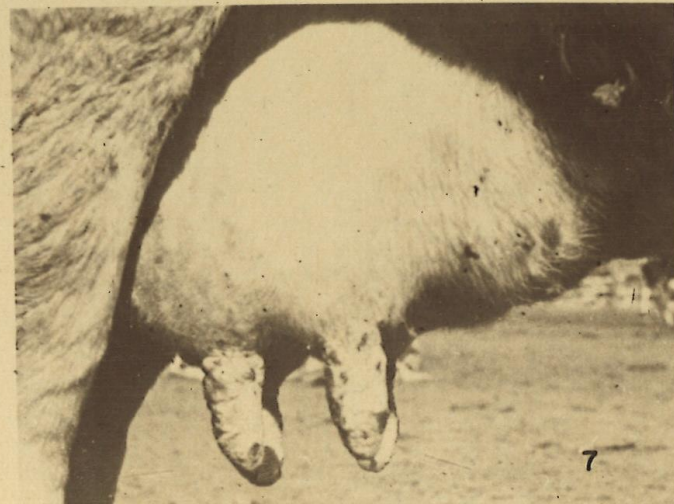
AFTOSA REUNION

January 13, 14, 15, 1984

EL PASO, TEXAS

Cover of Aftosa Reunion 1984. Donald L. Williams  
Papers, National Agriculture Library Special Collections.







# FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAKS IN NORTH AMERICA



United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service. *Foot-and-Mouth Disease . . . A Menace to North America*. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1967.

# Eradication Strategy in North America

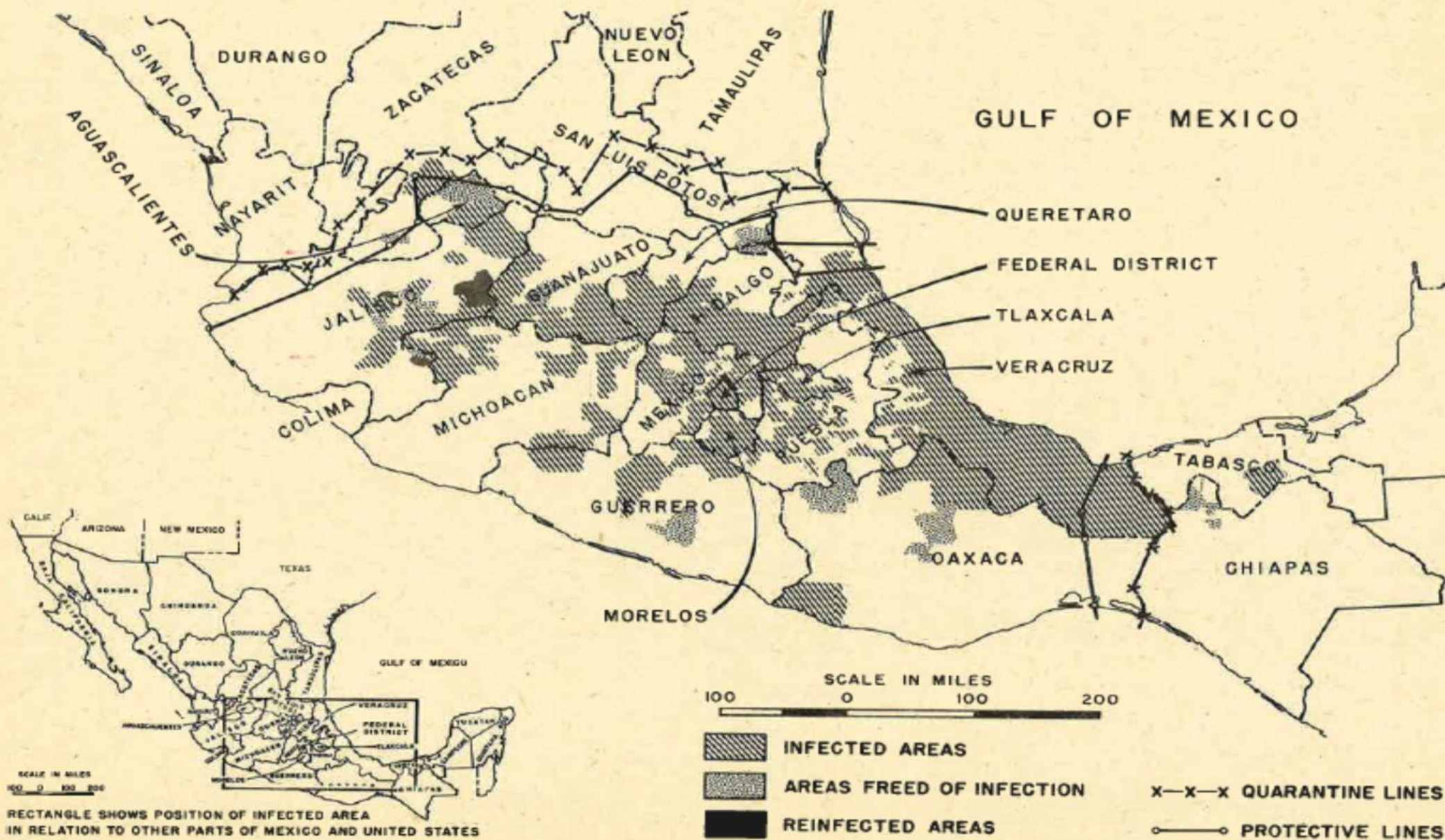
- Report
- Quarantine
- Slaughter
- Disinfect





# THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE SITUATION IN MEXICO, DEC. 26, 1947

BASED ON REPORTS RECEIVED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE







“Last Meeting of Dist. V Employees 20 Aug. 1952.” Aftosa International Roundup. Donald L. Williams Papers, National Agriculture Library Special Collections.



From United Fruit and Major General Henry H. Johnson, co-directors of the post-war campaign to eradicate foot-and-mouth, plus their secretary. The song shows the background. “Change is the name in which one revolution has been made, from the two of them, each while the Game was still possible.”

*Collier's August 1949*

# CRUSADE In Mexico

By FRANCIS SILL WICKWARE

Nearly 4,000 Americans and Mexicans are waging a winning war against the foot-and-mouth epidemic that once threatened our own great cattle industry. The hard fight has greatly improved U.S.-Mexican relations

**O**FTENTIMES a sick cow doesn't seem like much of a symbol for international collaboration. You'd be more likely to select a pair of striped horns, or a dove with an olive branch. In fact, on some other farm the cow is a symbol of a long way forward in relations between the United States and Mexico, and a unique international partnership without precedent in world history.

The secret partnership was born of a bitter struggle against a common enemy, foot-and-mouth disease. At a cost of \$300,000,000, the United States has not only been helped but the disease has been pushed back more than 100 miles from the border.

Why should Uncle Sam be spending so much money a week south of the border for the victory over foot-and-mouth? Why should Mexico do the fighting?

Why? Because if Mexico's three-year-old border of foot-and-mouth disease ever got to the border into the United States, it would cost Uncle Sam \$10,000,000 a week to defeat it.

The epidemic threat caused Uncle Sam to make a decision: Money would be well spent if he could stop the disease where south of the Rio Grande. So he made a deal with Mexico, two and a half years ago, to go after a life-and-death battle with the deadly ruminant infection, which the Mexican allies.

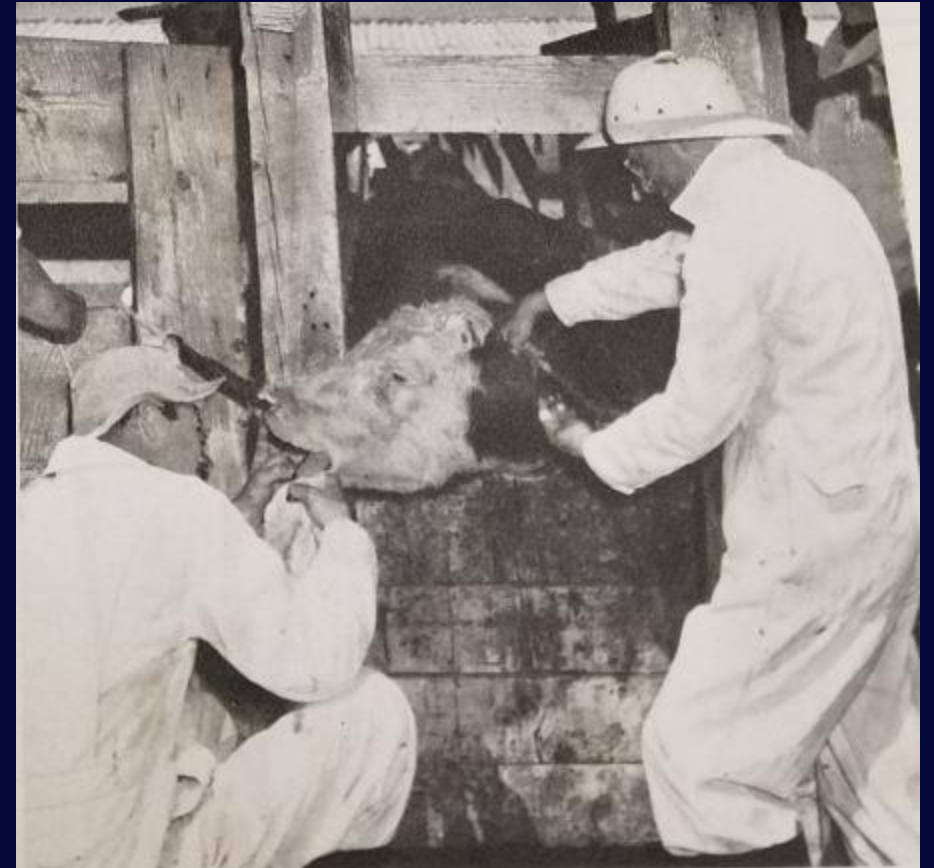
It is believed that the disease started at Collier's for August 20

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A Mexican Joint Commission member administering the FMD vaccine. Millions of doses were administered to create buffer zones around areas of infection.



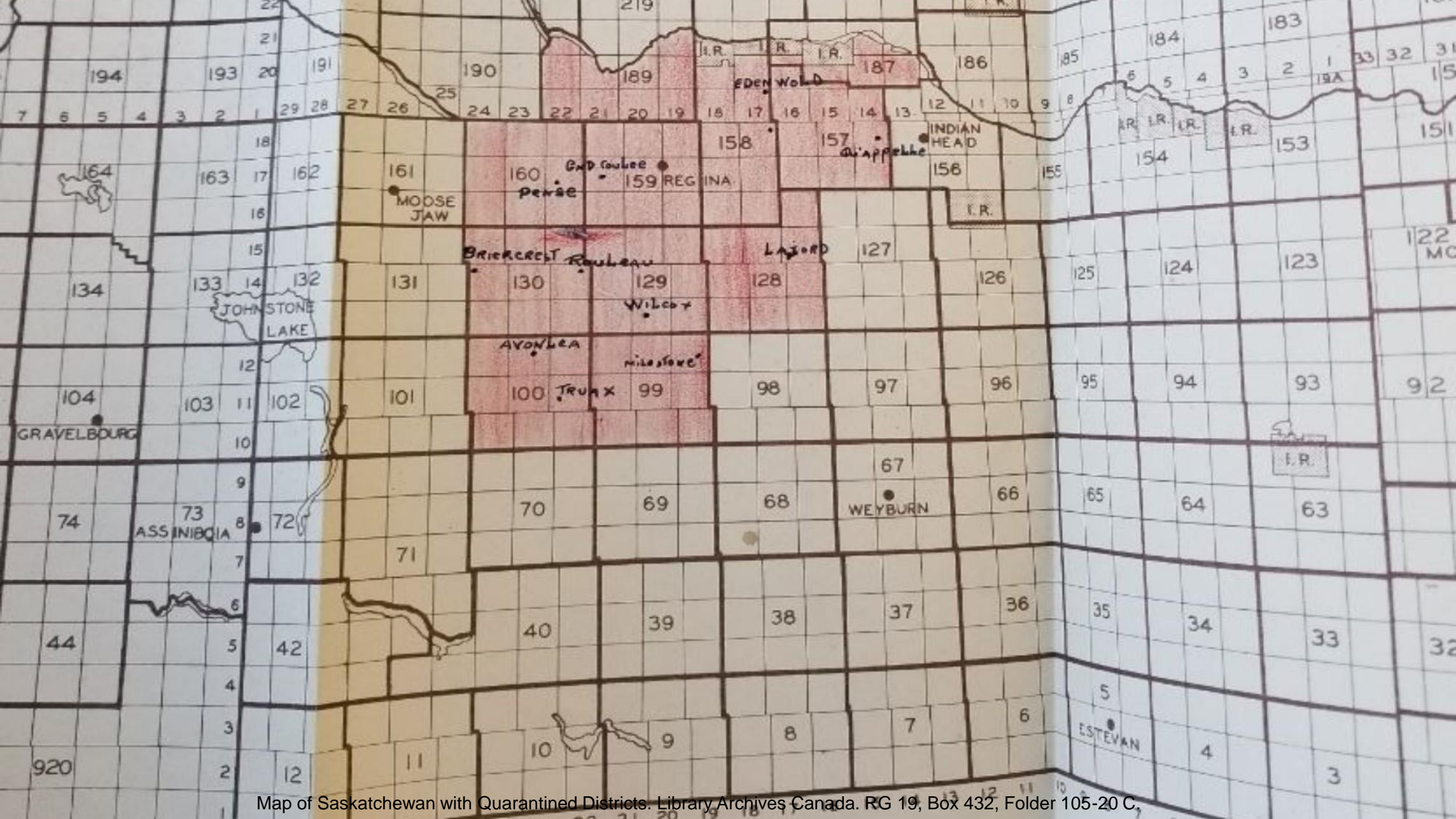
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Francis Sill Wickware. "Crusade in Mexico." *Collier's*, August 20, 1949.





Map of Saskatchewan with Quarantined Districts. Library Archives Canada. RG 19, Box 432, Folder 105-20 C,



Hudson Bay

# Canada

ALBERTA

Fort  
McMurray

MANITOBA

SASKATCHEWAN

Edmonton

Saskatoon

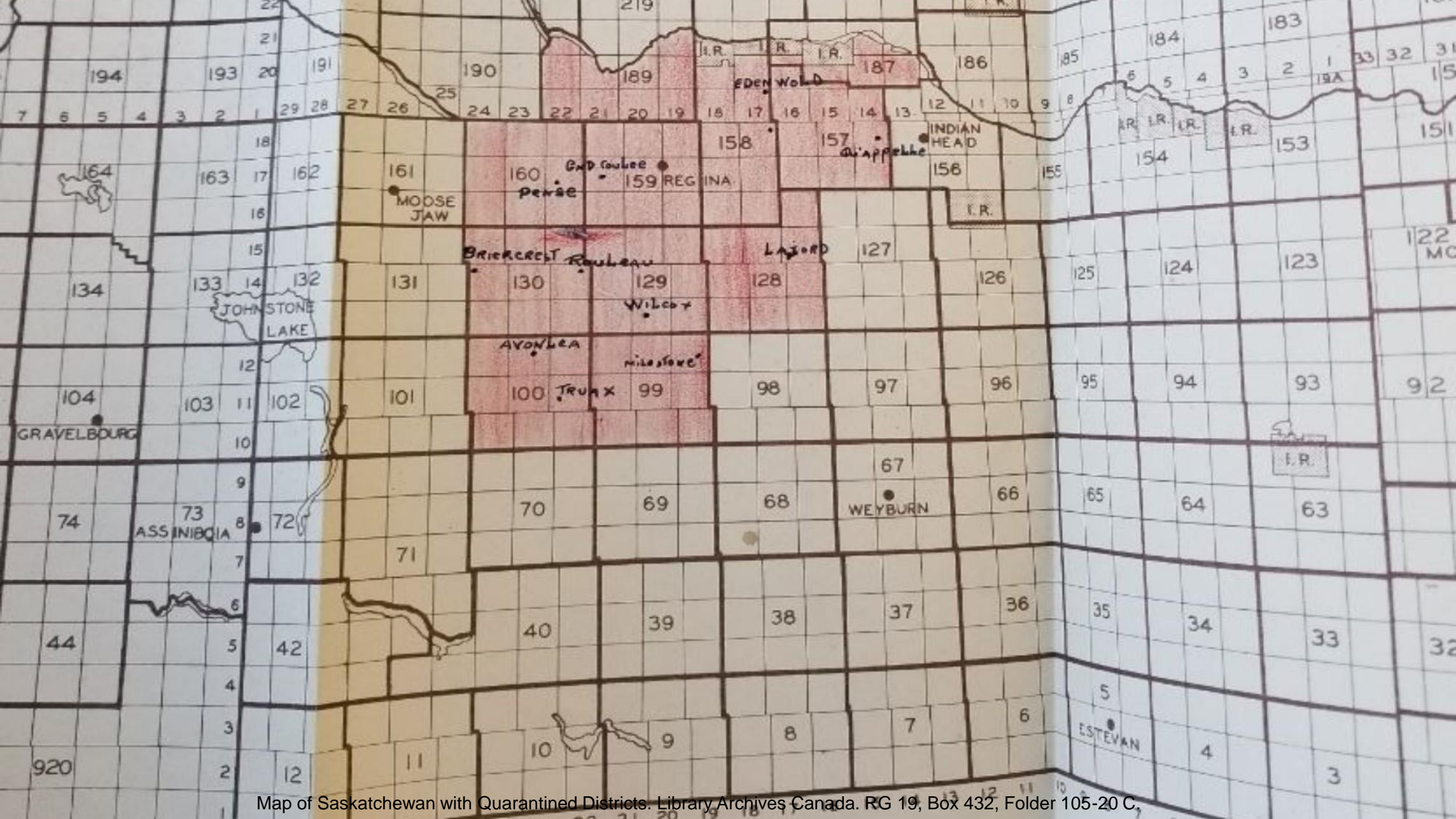
Calgary

Regina

Winnipeg

ONTARIO





Map of Saskatchewan with Quarantined Districts. Library Archives Canada. RG 19, Box 432, Folder 105-20 C,



Government veterinarians and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police operated the eradication program in Canada.

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**This was a cold, sad morning as doomed animals filed into the pit. The thought that these could be your own cattle is a sobering thing. No Canadian farmer wanted to see his cattle shot, and none did. Only a handful of us were allowed on the scene.**

Claude Gifford. "I Saw The Cattle Shot." *Farm Journal*, April 1952.



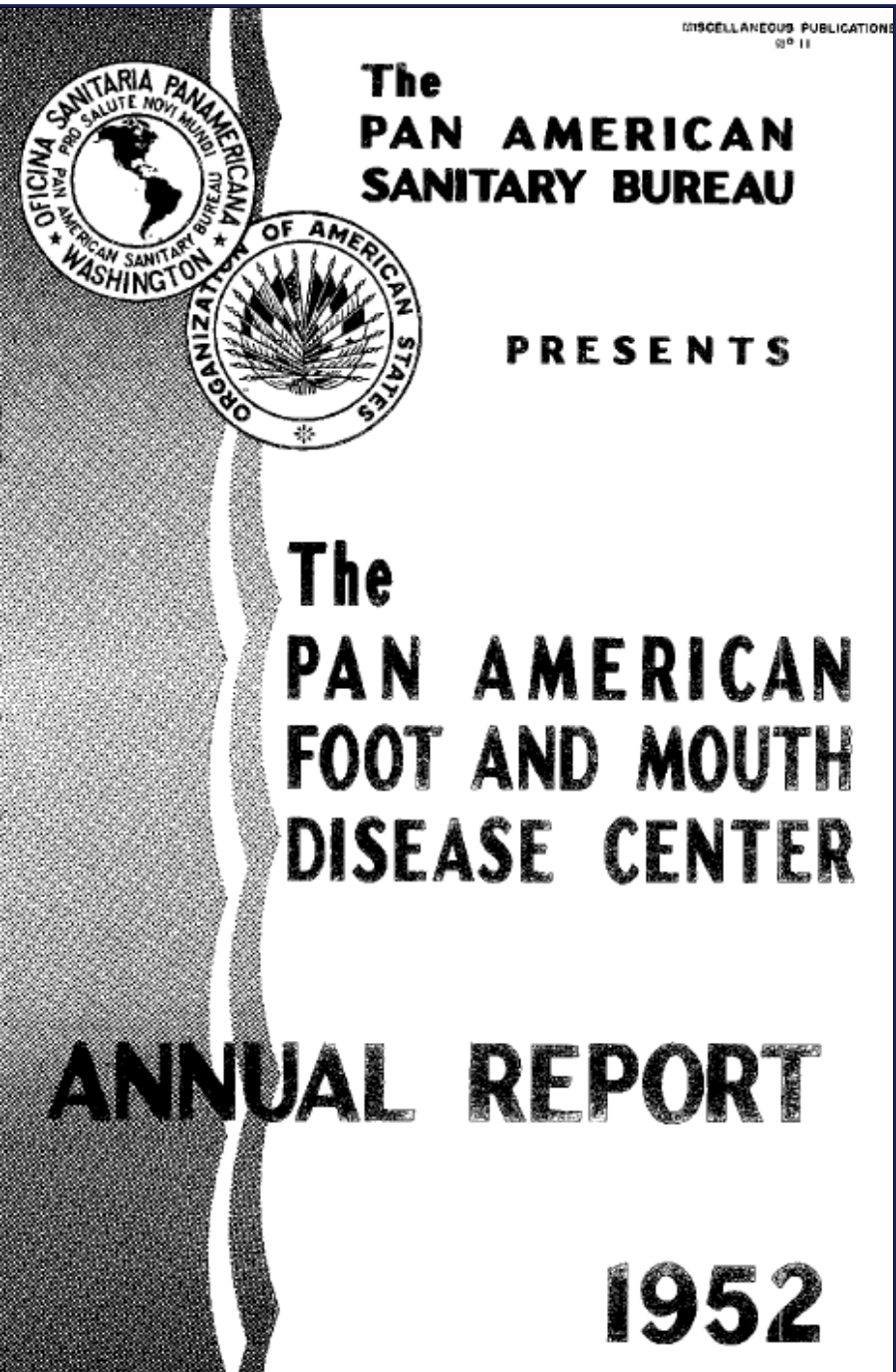
The Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center is a technical cooperation built in 1951 to control and eradicate FMD in the Americas.

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The Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center. Miscellaneous  
Publication No. 11: Annual Report 1952. Washington, D.C.: WHO, 1954.



# Thank You

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