

NAVY MEDICINE FAST FACTS

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-- VANGUARD OF MEDICAL INNOVATION -- CONQUERING CHOLERA

- Capt. Robert Phillips (1906-1976) commanded the Naval Medical Research Unit Two (NAMRU-2) in Taipei, Taiwan (1955-1965) where he developed a revolutionary glucose-based oral rehydration therapy (ORT). This breakthrough treatment dramatically reduced the mortality rate for cholera—a
 - Under Phillips's leadership,
 NAMRU-2 earned a global
 reputation throughout the 1950s
 and 1960s for its campaigns
 against cholera epidemics across
 India, Pakistan, Thailand, the
 Philippines, and Vietnam.

deadly bacterial disease—to less

than one percent.

In 1967, Phillips's life saving work was recognized with the prestigious Lasker Clinical Award, making him the first U.S. military medical officer to receive this honor.

