Disease Occurrence -- Worldwide

(DI-1812-341-03, 30 April 2003)

General

(U) The DOWW, published under the auspices of the Department of Defense Intelligence Production Program (DoDIPP), reflects the Defense Intelligence Production Community position. The DIA’s AFMIC is the designated DoDIPP producer for this subject.

(U) The DOWW provides timely alerts and updates on militarily significant infectious diseases.

Iraq

(U) Disease: Old World Screwworm

(S) Summary:

(b)(1); 1.4 (c)

(U) Assessment:

OWS is endemic in Iraq, although the current level of livestock is unknown. An outbreak in December 1997 affected some 50,000 animals in 12 governorates. The OWS fly, Chrysomyia baaziana, typically affects livestock but also can affect humans. Female flies lay up to 400 eggs at a time in the open wounds and around the genital area of livestock and other mammals. Animals with screwworm infestations may die from toxicity due to secondary bacterial infections in 7 to 14 days if wounds are not treated to kill the larvae, especially in heavy infestations. An outbreak can devastate the local livestock industry.

(U) Human cases, referred to as myiasis, are characterized initially by a localized bacterial infection at the site where larvae are embedded. Cases are treated by removal of the larvae and antibiotic therapy for secondary infection.

(U) Potential Risk to US Forces: Risk to US forces is negligible.

Appendix
(U) **Request for feedback:** This Center has an ongoing effort to upgrade its worldwide epidemiological intelligence reporting and requests that any feedback be forwarded to Defense Intelligence Agency, Building 6000, Washington, DC 203401-5100, ATTN: AFMIC, by electronic message to DIRAFMIC FT DETRICK MD, or through the comments/feedback link on the AFMIC home page on Intelink.

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AFMIC Home Page
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(U) This product is available on SIPRNET at and on Inelink at

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