

When the fortified and blank samples were retrieved by the escort, existing identification numbers were removed and re-numbered according to the 3-digit random numbering sequence. A key for the number change was prepared and left at the home base laboratory. The control samples (indistinguishable outwardly from those collected in the field) were distributed randomly throughout the racks of samples collected in the field. This represented a double blind situation for the analyst.

## 2.8 Interviews and Field Observations

In the host country, a revised standard questionnaire was prepared and used to collect demographic data on people donating samples, as well as to record details of alleged attacks. The English and Thai versions of the questionnaire appear in Appendix 1. This shortened form for recording responses does not reflect the less formal conversational manner in which the questions were asked. Interpreters sometimes accompanied the team on an excursion, and on other occasions were recommended by local authorities.

While efforts were made to avoid asking leading questions, it was soon realized that more work needed to be done to develop certain basic interviewing techniques and better questionnaires. In particular, problems were encountered in dealing with such notions as time, location, distance and colour, to name but a few.