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SPACE MEDICINE BRANCH REPORT

Space Medicine Branch annual meeting report

The 32nd Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon of the AsMA Space Medicine Branch was called to order May 26 by President Lawrence F. Dietlein, M.D., who was given temporary custody of the Arkansas Pot Lash Forest Gavel. President Dietlein then introduced those seated at the head table who were as follows: Drs. Rufus Hessberg, Frank Austin, Kenneth Money, Carolyn Leach-Huntoon, Ronald Ohslund, Arnauld Nicogossian, and Jefferson Davis. The President then recognized the Past Presidents of the Space Medicine Branch who were present and introduced the members of the Executive Council.

Dr. Carolyn Leach-Huntoon presented the Secretary-Treasurer report. She announced that the current membership stands at 248 members. There were 20 new members added in the past year. The current bank balance was \$2485. A motion to accept the report was seconded and passed.

Dr. Arnauld Nicogossian, chairman of the Nominating Committee, gave the results of the election of the new officers for next year. Those elected were President-Elect—Carolyn S. Leach-Huntoon; Executive Council—Sam L. Pool and G. W. Hoffler.

President Dietlein then gave his report. Dr. Dietlein reminded the group that since the May 1982 meeting, many milestones in manned space flight have occurred including:

- (1) The Orbital Flight Test program was completed and the Space Transportation System began its operational phase.
- (2) The Space Transportation System completed flights 5 and 6. Four crewmen flew on STS-6 and completed the first Shuttle EVA.
- (3) The new spaceship Challenger was added to our fleet of spaceplanes after a somewhat difficult "breech delivery."
- (4) The second U.S. physician astronaut flew on STS-6, Dr. Story Musgrave, who relayed his fascinating experiences to the Association of NASA Flight Surgeons at their annual meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 1983.
- (5) A number of Detailed Test Objectives have been flown on Shuttle flights 4, 5, and 6 to investigate more intensively the space motion sickness problem.
- (6) The Soviets completed their historic 211-day flight and also sent aloft their second woman in space. The United States continues its cooperation with the USSR on the animal Cosmos flights and on the skeletal CAT scanning of their returning crewmen in a continuing investigation of the loss of bone mass on long-duration space flights. A new generation of space station, the Salyut-7, was launched and

is presently operational.

- (7) A United States Air Force Space Command was established with Dr. Dan Spoor serving as the medical coordinator, and is actively developing space medical research and operations programs. Dr. Spoor and AMD at Brooks AFB are working closely with NASA in coordinating their respective space medicine programs.
- (8) NASA is working on a Memorandum of Understanding with the French government with a view to re-flying their echocardiography-doppler instrumentation system for performing cardiac and blood flow measurements in space.
- (9) In the next 12 months the frequency of the STS flights will be increasing, and STS-7 will mark the third flight of a U.S. physician astronaut, Dr. Norman Thagard, as well as the first US woman in Space, Dr. Sally Ride. A fourth physician astronaut, Dr. William Thornton, will fly on STS-8 in August, 1983. Dr. Thornton is also scheduled to fly on STS 13. Spacelab 1 will be launched in the fall of 1983, it is a joint ESA-US multi-discipline payload with many Life Sciences investigations onboard.
- (10) The NASA Life Sciences Flight Experiments Program is accelerating. It is providing additional opportunities for scientific investigations in space. This program includes the Spacelab 1 in the fall of 1983, Spacelab 3 in the fall of 1984, Spacelab 2 following that and Spacelab 4 in late 1985. Mid-deck experiments are now being proposed. The next dedicated Life Sciences Announcement of Opportunity for Spacelab 10 is expected to be released in July, 1983. A new astronaut selection to select 12 new astronauts will occur in 1984. Space Station activity is increasing with views of things to come in the life sciences area. NASA is now considering the flight of non-astronaut journalists, artists, authors, etc., in the near future as observers on space flights. All in all it is going to be a very busy next few years for space medicine.

The Space Medicine Branch is healthy this year. It has shown growth, and is financially solvent. Dr. Dietlein announced a generous grant from Technology Inc. in support of the Hubertus Strughold award. Mr. Maury Krug, the President, was acknowledged as well as T. Wayne Holt, Vice President, who was recognized at the meeting for his contribution.

Dr. Dietlein then presented the following awards:

- (1) The 1983 Space Medicine Branch award for the best paper in space medicine presented by a young investigator at this meeting was given to Dr. Susan Fortney, Johns Hopkins Medical Institute, for the

paper entitled "Plasma Volume Responses during Bedrest in Healthy Women." This year the \$200 given for this award was in memory of Dr. Paul A. Campbell, first President of the Space Medicine Branch, by his wife Eleanor and daughter Betsy. Dr. Fortney was present and accepted the award.

- (2) Dr. Dietlein then presented the Hubertus Strughold Award. This award is presented annually by the Space Medicine Branch for dedication and distinguished contribution to the advancement of the science and art of space medicine, the allied sciences, and manned space flight. The award was established in 1963 to honor the many services and contributions of Dr. Hubertus Strughold popularly known as the "father of space medicine." Dr. Dietlein then introduced Dr. Strughold, who was given a standing ovation.

Dr. Dietlein related that the 1983 award recipient was well-known to most of the audience. During his 18 years of service at NASA headquarters in the Life Sciences Division he was responsible for mounting, moulding, and administering NASA's highly successful biomedical research program. The goals of this orderly, progressive, and technically complex program were to ensure the health and safety of man in space, to qualify man for ever-increasing stay-times in space, and to assess the response of man to the unique environment of this "last frontier."

At NASA Headquarters, the award winner demonstrated through the years outstanding leadership and finesse in reconciling the views and desires of the scientific community with mission operational realities, particularly with regard to human experimentation in space—a difficult task requiring great tact, skill, and diplomacy. His tireless efforts were rewarded by the outstandingly successful Skylab Program, in which our astronauts were studied more intensively and more thoroughly perhaps than any group of human subjects in history. This program provided intimate, detailed, and exciting new knowledge of man's response to the unique space environment and paved the way for essentially unlimited stay-times in space.

Another innovative contribution was the recipient's concept of an integrated medical and behavioral laboratory measuring system (IMBLMS). Under this concept, a basic space laboratory would be fabricated and made available to investigators. The laboratory would contain "core" research and data management equipment capable of accommodating most of the anticipated research requirements. This concept evolved through the years and a prototype was successfully employed for Skylab. The concept has continued to evolve and will be implemented in perhaps its highest form in the forth-coming Dedicated Life Sciences Spacelab Program.

This year's recipient retired in 1979 from government service and has returned to the private medical sector. He continues to give of his expertise and talents to the medical profession as Director of St. Mary's Medical Center, Madison, WI.

On behalf of the Awards Committee of the Space Medicine Branch, Dr. Dietlein stated that it gave him great personal pleasure to present the 1983 Hubertus Strughold Award to Dr. Sherman P. Vinograd.

Dr. Dietlein then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Kenneth Money, Associate Professor at the University of Toronto and Senior Scientist, Defense and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine. Dr. Dietlein, in his introduction, stated the most potentially serious biomedical problem for manned space flight today is that of space motion sickness. The incidence of 50-70% in the history of U.S. program and 50% for the Shuttle to date has caused NASA and many investigators to turn their attention towards this problem in a more diligent fashion.

Dr. Money presented a paper on the current aspects of space motion sickness and some of the testing that he is doing on future space flight missions to study the possible etiology of this condition.

Following the presentation, CAPT. Ronald K. Ohslund, MC, USN, was installed as President for the forthcoming year. The gavel was relinquished by Dr. Dietlein.

Dr. Ohslund presented the Past President plaque to Dr. Dietlein.

The meeting was adjourned at 1400 hours and the gavel returned to the custodian.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn S. Leach-Huntoon, Ph.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

X-rays pose threat to high speed films

The X-ray machines used at airport security checkpoints can damage the new 1,000 ASA high-speed color print films, which are sensitive enough to be affected by the low-level X-rays

Medal to Doolittle for aviation safety

Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, USAF(Ret), will receive the Air Safety Medal Oct. 15 from the David Bernard Memorial Foundation. The award recognizes his "lifetime contributions to aviation safety."

An Honorary Member of the Aerospace Medical Association, Gen. Doolittle served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1917-30. For the next 10 years, he was with Shell Oil Co. as manager of its aviation department. Recalled to duty in 1940, for the next 6 years he commanded air forces in North Africa and Okinawa,

and the Strategic Air Force. He retired in 1946 to again join Shell.

Gen. Doolittle set a host of speed records and recorded a number of "firsts": first to fly an outside loop; first to exceed 300 mph in a land plane; first to cross the U.S. in less than 24 hours; and first to take off, fly a set course, and land—all without seeing the ground relying only on instruments.

The foundation commemorates David Bernard, a Los Angeles lawyer and pilot, who died in an airline crash over San Diego in 1978.

Flying Physicians elect M. Y. Stokes

M. Young Stokes, M.D., Denison, TX, has been elected President of the Flying Physicians Association for 1983-84.



Police Criminal Investigation Division and the Counter Intelligence Corps.

He received his M.D. degree from Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX.

The son of a World War I pilot, he got his first plane ride in a Ford Tri-Motor in 1932. While still too young to enter the Army in World War II, he flew submarine patrol with the Civil Air Patrol. While in military service, his tours included Ft. Hood, TX, and Seoul, Korea. He later was in the Military



SELLS' SYMPOSIUM—Saul B. Sells, Ph.D., left, has retired from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, as research professor of psychology and director of its Behavioral Research Institute. During a coffee break at a 2-day symposium in his honor, he chats with Goldine S. Glesser, professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Cincinnati, center, and J. McVicker Hunt, professor emeritus of psychology and early education at the University of Illinois.

Nominations Sought for 1984 Awards

The Awards Committee of the Aerospace Medical Association which is responsible for selecting the annual winners of special awards, has set a Dec. 1 deadline for receiving nominations for awards to be presented at the 1984 annual meeting of the Association in San Diego, CA.

The committee chairman emphasizes, however, that the names of prospective award winners should be submitted as far in advance of the deadline as possible. Lots of time is needed to ensure review of all the names and selection of the winners.

Nominations can be made by any member of the Association through members of the Executive Council, former winners of the specific award for which the nomination is made, or through members of the Awards Committee.

Nominations should be sent to:

**Chairman, Awards Committee
Aerospace Medical Association
Washington National Airport
Washington, DC 20001**

The nominations will be submitted on forms available from AsMA Headquarters.

Policies in effect for the awards remain the same as in prior years, including:

1. Nominees—except for the Theodore C. Lyster and Environmental Science Awards—must be members of the Aerospace Medical Association.
2. The Chairman of the Awards Committee is not eligible for an award during his tenure.
3. Winners may receive only one award in any year and may receive additional awards only at seven-year intervals, except for the environmental Science Award.
4. Employees of a company sponsoring an award are eligible to receive the award.

N.B. The Howard K. Edwards Award will not be made in 1984.