

Space Medicine Branch Report

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A message from the new Branch President

Many of you attended the Space Medicine Branch Luncheon held in conjunction with the 52nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Aerospace Medical Association in San Antonio, TX. At that luncheon, it was my privilege to thank Dr. Arnauld Nicogossian for his dedicated service to the Branch during his term as President for 1980-81. Here in my office, I have started to review some of the history of the Branch and note that Dr. Nicogossian was the 30th elected president. That most certainly should have been noted at our luncheon in May. As I look over the list of past presidents, I see many distinguished names and note that many of our past presidents have made great contributions to our Branch, but I doubt that any of them have done more for us than has Arnauld Nicogossian. I hope that you will write to him and thank him for his great service to space medicine, and particularly to the Space Medicine Branch. Arnauld, of course, will remain active in the Association since he will now start serving on the Executive Committee. I look forward to his helping me in my new position as his successor.

Dr. Lawrence F. Dietlein of the NASA Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center was installed as your President-Elect. I immediately

asked Larry to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the 1982 slate of officers, and he graciously agreed. Our constitution states that the Secretary/Treasurer will remain in office for a 2-year term, and CAPT Ronald K. Ohlund has agreed to carry on for one more year. The Secretary/Treasurer is the binding force that holds the organization together. Ron works hard at this job, and I hope each member will assist him. Last December, Ron sent most of you a membership application and asked that you give it to good prospective members. Since the Orbiter Columbia has now flown, I am confident that we will see a great deal of renewed interest in space flight. Now is the time to solicit new members and to dedicate ourselves to helping with the continued growth of the Space Medicine Branch.

Dr. Frank H. Austin is reelected as our Historian. I would like to request that any of you who have information of historical interest please send it to Frank. His address is: Dr. Frank H. Austin, NASA Ames Health Unit, Bldg. 215-8, Moffett Field, CA 94035. It would seem reasonable to send Frank news of members as well as purely historical items.

The membership also elected three new members to the Executive Committee. They

are Dr. Paul Buchanan, Col. Daniel H. Spoor, and Dr. Heinz Oser. All three of these illustrious men have strong backgrounds and experience in space flight support operations and in space medicine. They will serve us well.

One of the many things which Arnauld Nicogossian did for the Space Medicine Branch was to establish this page in the journal. I seek your help in continuing this informative service. I am actively soliciting short articles for this page. Please send your efforts to Dr. Adrienne Whyte, whose address appears at the head of this page. As Arnauld wrote in his initial column in March, this page will serve as a forum for our membership. It is our hope that the membership will use it to bring forth ideas, and that it will stimulate dialogue among investigators and specialists in space medicine. This is your column—please use it.

Finally, let me say that I am exceedingly proud at having been elected to the Presidency of the Space Medicine Branch. I cannot hope to serve you as well as my immediate predecessor, but I will do my level best to serve in a fashion acceptable to you.

William K. Douglas, M.D.
President
Space Medicine Branch



PRESIDENT'S CITATION— John P. Margbarger, Ph.D., left, who retired in January after 20 years as Editor of the Aerospace Medical Association's scientific journal, receives the President's Special Citation from Walton L. Jones, M.D., 1980-81 President of AsMA. It was only the second such award presented.



AWARD TO AsMA—Air Vice Marshall Mulk Raj, center, Director of Medical Services (Air) for India, and President of the Aero Medical Society of India, presents the Society's medallion to the Aerospace Medical Association. Accepting the award is Walter L. Jones, 1980-81 AsMA President. Looking on is Rufus R. Hessberg, AsMA Executive Vice President.



ARMSTRONG LECTURE—Ernst L. Wynder, M.D., right, President of the American Health Foundation, accepts the Armstrong Lecture citation from Col. Kenneth B. Johnson, USAF (Ret), representing the sponsor, Smith Kline and French.