

USAF SCHOOL OF AEROSPACE MEDICINE (USAFSAM) INTERNATIONAL TIMES

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From the Director

Shalaam! GrüÙe! Hilsener! Saluut!

There are many extremely positive changes happening with all aspects of our ability to work together internationally and within our international program at USAFSAM. With the complete support of our senior leadership we have improved our ability to exchange information with every member of our international community. We have compiled a new catalogue which details all of our courses. It is available both on-line and by request. We also now have an internationally accessible e-mail account and an improved international webpage. We are attempting to interact directly with the training managers located in the US embassies of your country and the controllers of all Air Force training located here in San Antonio. This is to make sure all of your efforts to obtain training are supported from beginning to end.



These changes are all made possible due to the USAF Medical Services increasing commitment to international engagement. Medical education and training, military to military aerospace medicine informational exchange, and participation in multi-national medical exercises will all increase in frequency and extent because of this commitment. We hope to engage you the reader starting with this issue and our "letters to the editor" column please feel free to send us your comments. Thanks to all of you the members of International Team Aerospace!

Turkmen Visit School of Aerospace Medicine

Sag Bol (thank you) was the word from three Turkmen and translators who visited the USAFSAM in Dec 02! Col (Dr) Murad Orazniyazov from Ashgabat led the group and he is currently tasked with developing an Aeromedical program for the Turkmenistan government. Also in the party were Maj Gurbanduzdy Annokiv from the head of the Office of Military Medical Department and Dr Bairam Geldiyev the head of the Department of the Health Ministry in charge of military hospitals and clinics. Their orientation included the Aeromedical Consultation Service, Hyperbaric Medicine, and a review of the g-suit development by the Research Laboratory. They were excited about identifying a future student for the AMP class.



International Department Approved

Headquarters Air Force recently approved an organizational change request that creates a new Department of International and Expeditionary Medicine (IE). The mission of the department is to provide aerospace medicine education and training for international and expeditionary medical personnel in support of disaster response, humanitarian and civic assistance, and warfighter medical support in the international environment. The IE will have four divisions. IEO will manage and enhance the program where international students come to USAFSAM. IEE will include the Defense Institution for Medical Operations and will export courses throughout the world. IES will oversee the policy, execution and educational training of AF International Health Specialists. IEC will oversee the trauma readiness skills verification training for AF medical personnel, surgeons, nurses, and emergency medical technicians. Resources and personnel will begin transferring in October 2003.



AAMIMO+



Bulgaria Trip

Two flight surgeons from Brooks City-Base were lucky enough to visit the beautiful city of Sofia Bulgaria to exchange information in aerospace medicine and receive briefings concerning the practice of and training for aerospace medicine specialists. Topics covered were aircrew selection criteria, physical examinations and standards, current aircrew cardiology waivers, and an update on the waiver for PRK. The generous hosts for the visit were Col (Dr) Aleksiev, and Col (Dr) Zlatev who both made sure that the visiting flight surgeons were able to visit the Bulgarian Air Force High Altitude Physical Training Center. The Center is located near the town of Borovets in a picturesque alpine setting on Rila mountain. The Center serves as a location for an annual Health and Wellness visit for all Bulgarian aircrew.

Future informational and training opportunities were discussed and include the possible participation of Brooks City-Base personnel at a NATO multi-national exercise to be held there in Bulgaria this fall.



Course Catalog Now Available

USAFSAM has its, first ever, Course Catalog out now. It has information on all the courses USAFSAM offers and other valuable information to assist our customers. You can view this catalog by logging on to our website at wwwsam.brooks.af.mil.



New Email Address

When our customers have concerns, we listen. One of the concerns mentioned is that many international contacts could not email our dot mil email addresses because of the many firewalls that protect them. So, we have gotten a commercial email account you can email us at talk2afsam@msn.com. The email is checked daily and forwarded to the correct point of contact.



California Bound

The 2003 AAMIMO class traveled west in March, where they visited Edwards Air Force Base, USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74), and San Diego California prior to their return to San Antonio. The class learned first hand and observed the aerospace medicine aspects of the Test pilot world, unmanned aerial vehicle operation and aerospace medicine as practiced aboard an aircraft carrier.

The class visited the USAF Test pilot school where they were briefed on how each class progresses to graduation and the aeromedical challenges of being a test pilot. We also were able to receive briefings on the challenges being presented by the Airborne Laser program.

After visiting some of the sights located in southern California as part of the informational program and getting their batteries re-charged the class went



From left to right: Maj Qamar Sial, LtCol Wilhelm Zwetsloot, LtCol Ahmed Awad, LtCol M Abdul Khaleque, Maj Vipin Sharma, Maj Jeong Ku Lim, 1stLt Vasileios Nikolaou and wife Maria.

forward to witness the way the Navy Flight Surgeons conduct business aboard a carrier. The trip as always was a highlight for each member of the class.

2003 AMP Students

The 2003 International Aerospace Medicine Primary (AMP) students showed up in full force this year, with 15 students representing 11 countries, for the six week course.

A reception was held for the students on March 19, to welcome them to the school. Col (Dr.) Reed was the speaker.

The AMP course covers the review of the clinical medical topics important in aerospace medicine, with emphasis on particular applications of these specialty areas; instruction and experience in the physiology of altitude and acceleration; employment of survival/life support principles and equipment and instruction in aircraft accident investigation, and more.



From left to right: (back row: Mr. Lisac, Dr. Skutta, Dr. Konstantinou, Dr. Berrios, Dr. Apong, Dr. Deo, Dr. Van Amerongen, Dr. Sybesma; front row: Dr. Osegueda, Dr. Uddin, Dr. Wee, Dr. El-Kady, Dr. Vega-Zelaya, Dr. Al Khazali, Dr. Vingson, Dr. Reed, Dr. Kousoulis.

USAFSAM/IE Welcomes New Staff



We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to two new members of the USAFSAM International Team.

Col John Garland will be working as the new Deputy Department Chair. He is an Air Force Bioenvironmental Engineer. Bioenvironmental Engineers manage environmental and industrial operational, cost and health risk. They anticipate, recognize, evaluate and control peacetime and wartime hazards. John has previously been assigned in Turkey and Germany. You can contact him at (210) 536-3033 or at

john.garland@brooks.af.mil.

Mrs. Kim Byrd is our Administrative Specialist. She is responsible for Administrative support for, both, staff and our international students. Kim has worked for the government for over 10 years now and has previously lived in Italy and Germany. You can reach her at (210) 536-2019 or at kim.byrd@brooks.af.mil.



Featured Course

“RAMS”: The Residency in Aerospace Medicine (RAM) program is a three year residency for flight surgeons. In the first year RAMs attend a public university and obtain a Master’s Degree in Public Health. The second year RAMs attend an Aerospace Medicine Residency. The final year students choose either a residency in Occupational or Preventive Medicine. RAMs are dual board qualified upon graduation.



You May Not Have Known...

2003 marked big changes to this Advanced Aerospace Medicine for International Medical Officers (AAMIMO) (MASL D175062). So what’s changed? First, students received an early orientation to the Hyperbarics, AP and other areas to allow them to begin immediately to select a course project and connect with faculty advisors. This year we allowed a wide range of electives from wing-level Aerospace Medicine work, Epidemiology, Radiation Safety, Critical Care Air Transport, Expeditionary Medical Course and others. Students were expected to present at Aerospace Medicine Association (AsMA). This new flexibility allows each student to focus on areas of interest and at the right technical level. Our current maximum class size is 16 and we only offer one class a year. We’d like to hear from you about the value/benefit of a second course from June to December, and about other suggestions you might have to improve the course. Send your suggestions to talk2afsam@msn.com.

What’s New???

Welcome to Wing Commander Mark Hutchinson from the United Kingdom. Dr. Hutchinson, an occupational medicine resident from the Royal Air Force’s Centre of Aviation Medicine, has entered the Occupational Medicine Program of the Residency in Aerospace Medicine (RAM). After one year as a student, Wing Commander Hutchinson will join the USAF-SAM/GE faculty in an Occupational Medicine position to teach in the graduate program and in advanced courses.



Next Issue:

In our next issue, we will have a new column called **“Letters to the Editor”**, where you can address any questions or concerns you may have to Col Kleinsmith. You can email your questions to talk2afsam@msn.com.

AAMIMOs Graduate

Operational Entomology