

Aerospace Medical Association



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Lt. Gen. Charles H. Roadman, II, USAF, MC
64 Westover Avenue
Washington, DC 20332

Dear Gen. Roadman:

I am writing to you as Executive Director of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), a professional organization of 3400 physicians in the practice of aerospace medicine and scientists engaged in related research.

It is come to our attention that the Medical Library at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine (USAF/SAM) at Brooks AFB is threatened with closure because of budgetary constraints. We are extremely disturbed by this for several reasons. First, the SAM Library is the premier Library in the World in the field of aerospace medicine. (I can attest to this personally because of the library research I've done there over the years.) It has an incomparable wealth of journals, textbooks, documents and historical papers vital to the physicians, scientists and flight nurses of the aerospace medicine community. Second, the Library is a unique national and international medical/scientific resource utilized by physicians and scientists worldwide. Third, a large percentage of the World's aerospace medicine literature is derived from the SAM Library resources. Fourth, the Library is vital to the aerospace medicine residency program as well as all USAF flight surgeons, flight nurses, aerospace physiologists, bioenvironmental engineers, and other disciplines. Without the Library, the educational programs conducted at USAF/SAM would be compromised. And in the case of the USAF Aerospace Medicine Residency, it would be in jeopardy of being deaccredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduates Medical Education (ACGME) if the Library were closed.

The SAM Library must remain a viable and accessible resource for not only the US military aerospace medicine community, but for the international aerospace medicine community as well. Consequently, we strongly urge you to exert the full powers of your office to ensure that the SAM Library remains open and properly funded. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Rayman, M.D.
Executive Director

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