JNM
Official Publication of
The Society of
Nuclear Medicine

THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE (ISSN 0161-5505) is published monthly by The Society of Nuclear Medicine Inc., 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760. Second Class Postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. *Postmaster,* send address changes to *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine,* 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760.

EDITORIAL COMMUNICATIONS should be sent to the Editor: Stanley J. Goldsmith, MD, The Journal of Nuclear Medicine, 136 Madison Ave. (8th flr.), New York, NY 10016-6760, (212)889-1905. *Books and monographs* covering the use of nuclear medicine and its allied disciplines will be reviewed as space is available. *Send review copies to the Editor.*

BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS concerning advertising and permission requests should be sent to the publisher, The Society of Nuclear Medicine, 136 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016-6760 (212) 889-0717. Subscription requests and change of address should be sent to: Membership Department, The Society of Nuclear Medicine at the address above. Notify the Society of change of address and telephone number at least 30 days before date of issue by sending both the old and the new addresses. Advertisements are subject to editorial approval and are restricted to products or services pertinent to nuclear medicine. Advertising rates are available from the publisher. Closing date is the first of the month preceding the date of issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES for 1993 calendar year are $120 within the United States; $130 for Canada and Pan American countries; $160 elsewhere. Student subscriptions are $70 (with proof of student status). Single copies $10.00; foreign $11.00; convention issue (May) $12.00; foreign $13.00. Make checks payable to The Society of Nuclear Medicine. Sales of individual back copies of 1991 through the current issue of *JNM* are available through BookMasters, Inc. 1444 State Rt. 42, Rd. 11, Mansfield, OH 44903, 1-800-247-6553 or (419) 281-1802. Fax: (419) 281-6883.

COPYRIGHT© 1994 by The Society of Nuclear Medicine, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or translated without permission from the copyright owner. Because the copyright on articles published in *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* is held by the Society, each author of accepted manuscripts must sign a statement transferring copyright. See Information for Authors for further explanation.

Home

A nuclear medicine physician walks down the passageway from the Boeing 747 which has transported him across the Pacific Ocean, multiple time zones and the International Date Line. He enters a world with many differences from his own—a different language and different foods, a world with a somewhat different pattern of everyday life.

Despite reasonable language skills and some flirtations with a foreign language tape tutor in the weeks preceding his visit, he depends upon the good will of the hotel staff who speak his language and upon an interpreter who accompanies him and makes this new world more accessible to him. Although the visit is pleasant, he is clearly an outsider, an alien from another culture.

Days later, the physician and the interpreter take a taxi to a University Hospital. After walking through the hospital's large front doors, he is now suddenly back in a familiar world. He still cannot read the signs, but he knows the environment. A patient, head freshly shaven from a recent neurosurgical encounter, is led by family members to the front door. The patient's discomfort and anguish and the family's concern and tenderness are universal experiences and feelings.

In the nuclear medicine department, the staff scurries to complete their tasks: drawing up an imaging dose, measuring the radioactivity in the dose calibrator, filling out the required forms. The radiation badges, the gamma cameras, the familiar logos, the view boxes and the scans are all familiar. He is no longer a stranger in a strange land. Even before he is greeted by the Chairman and his staff, he knows he is no longer an outsider. He is a physician in a hospital; a nuclear medicine physician in a nuclear medicine department. The familiarity enables him to relax. He knows he is home.

Stanley J. Goldsmith, MD, Editor-in-Chief
The Journal of Nuclear Medicine