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U.S. Ambassador, international leaders focus on military issues of HIV/AIDS

Stuart, Laura

Monterey, California, Naval Postgraduate School

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November 12, 2002

Media Advisory
**U.S. Ambassador, international leaders focus
on military issues of HIV/AIDS**

Ambassador Jack Chow, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Health and Science, will be a keynote speaker in the HIV/AIDS Strategic Planning & Policy Development Course next week in Monterey. Approximately 85 health care leaders from 29 nations will participate in the program developed by the Defense Institute for Medical Operations (DIMO) to strengthen the effectiveness of military HIV/AIDS policies.

“AIDS has caused 20 million deaths to date,” said Navy Capt. Pat Denzer, DIMO deputy director, “and experts expect it will become the world’s worst pandemic.” Military personnel are an at-risk population and HIV infection rates in the military in some countries are double the infection rate of the general population, she said. Currently 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS; three million died of the disease in 2001.

Chow, special representative for the Secretary of State for HIV/AIDS, is a medical doctor who earned his M.D. at the University of California at San Francisco and trained at Stanford University Hospital. His presentation is open to the media and he will provide a media availability after his talk.

Media are welcome for all Monday sessions. A limited number of spaces are available for reporters who wish to participate in a working lunch with Chow, Denzer, and other conference presenters and attendees. Media should contact Laura Stuart in the Defense Institute for Medical Operations at 831-656-1094 or lestuart@nps.navy.mil for media credentials and lunch reservations.

Ambassador Thomas Loftus, special advisor to the World Health Organization and former U.S. ambassador to Norway, will kick off the afternoon sessions with a talk on “The emerging global

strategy on AIDS.” Loftus has been active in public policy issues since 1977, when he was elected to the Wisconsin legislature. He served as Speaker of the House in Wisconsin and authored “The Art of Legislative Politics,” published by Congressional Quarterly Press.

Following is a list of counties participating in the 2nd annual HIV/AIDS Strategic Planning & Development Course: Bangladesh, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Chad, China, Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Gabon,

- more-

HIV/AIDS Strategic Planning & Policy Development Course 2-2-2

Grenada, Haiti, Hungary, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Suriname, Tanzania, Taiwan, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay, and Zambia. The Monterey Institute of International Studies will translate all sessions simultaneously in French, Russian and Spanish.

The conference will run November 18-22 at the Hilton Hotel in Monterey. Reporters may make arrangements to attend sessions throughout the week or obtain media materials by contacting Laura Stuart, DIMO, at 831-656-1094/831-673-1244 (cell) or HYPERLINK "mailto:lestuart@nps.navy.mil" lestuart@nps.navy.mil.

About the Defense Institute for Medical Operations

The Defense Institute for Medical Operations offers executive education programs for international military healthcare leaders to support economic, social, and political stability of participating countries. Programs are typically tailored to an individual country's needs and are delivered in-country or in the U.S. DIMO also uses Internet technologies to extend the global reach and impact of its on site programs.

NOTE TO ALL EDITORS/ASSIGNMENT EDITORS: MEDIA CREDENTIALS

Media wishing to cover presentations by Ambassador Chow or Ambassador Loftus should contact Laura Stuart, Defense Institute for Medical Operations, at 831-656-1094 or HYPERLINK "mailto:lestuart@nps.navy.mil" lestuart@nps.navy.mil no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15 to obtain media credentials.

A limited number of spaces are available for reporters who wish to participate in a working lunch on Monday, Nov. 18, with the ambassadors and other conference presenters and attendees. Arrangements should be made in advance with Laura Stuart.

-NPS-

Date/Time:
Monday, November 18

9 a.m.

Press availability immediately after talk

Location:

Big Sur Room
Monterey Hilton
1000 Aguajito Road
Monterey

Media Credentials:

Contact Laura Stuart, DIMO

831-656-1094/831-673-1244 (cell)

HYPERLINK "mailto:lestuart@nps.navy.mil" lestuart@nps.navy.mil

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