

### **SUMMER PET EMBARGO**

This summer, pet travel may require more advanced planning than usual. From May 15<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>, a pet embargo is in action amongst airlines worldwide. The restrictions are imposed to protect dogs and cats from the extreme temperatures of summer, which can cause severe health, and sometimes fatal consequences. Although the restrictions are contingent to the policies of each airline, the general rule is that if the temperature exceeds 85 degrees at any time during flight, the airline may refuse to transport the pet. Delta is normally the only airline that will allow pet travel over the summer for military members on PCS orders only. However, if you are traveling into the U.S on the AMC flight the embargo does not apply.

When arranging your PCS travel, be sure to obtain pet reservation requirements information from your transfer clerk or transportation assistant at NAVPTO. Keep in mind that the earlier, the better. NAVPTO Naples books pet travel on a first come first serve basis. Remember when planning travel on the AMC flight, only two animals per family are allowed and the passenger must accompany the pet(s) on the same flight. AMC allows pets plus kennel weighing up to 150 pounds. The current cost of transportation pets on an AMC flight are \$110.00 for pet plus kennel weighing up to 70 pounds, \$220.00 for pet plus kennel weighing 71-140 pounds, and \$330.00 for pet plus kennel weighing 141-150 pounds. Contact individual airlines to get their current charge.

If the passenger will be traveling via commercial air with a dog, in addition to the most recent DD 2208 (Rabies Vaccination Certificate), they will require evidence of completion of Leishmaniasis testing (required only for dogs departing Italy on commercial airlines). Testing requires at least 20 days. Testing not required for cats nor for dogs departing Italy on an AMC flight.

Be prepared. If you and your dog are booked on an AMC flight and the flight gets delayed to the point where you will need to depart commercial air, the dog will require the evidence of Leishmaniasis testing which takes at least 20 days to complete. If you are getting booked on an AMC flight you may want to consider having your pet obtain the testing just in case of flight delay.