



Uploaded to the VFC Website

▶▶ ▶▶ **May 2015** ◀◀ ◀◀

This Document has been provided to you courtesy of Veterans-For-Change!

Feel free to pass to any veteran who might be able to use this information!

For thousands more files like this and hundreds of links to useful information, and hundreds of "Frequently Asked Questions, please go to:

[Veterans-For-Change](#)

If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?

Note:

VFC is not liable for source information in this document, it is merely provided as a courtesy to our members & subscribers.



Senator Bernie Sanders

Former Chairman Committee on Veterans Affairs

Russell Senate Building
Room 412, Washington, D.C.
20510-6050

01 February 2015

SUBJECT: VETERANS AFFAIRS

Senator Sanders,

Thank you for your response dated December 11, 2014.

In my response to you with my letter dated December 23, 2014 I indicated at least three subjects I was to cover:

The Tragedy in Overview
Veterans Affairs Benefits Issues Part 1
Veterans Affairs Benefits Issues Part 2
Veterans Affairs Medical Issues
Informal Summary and Closing

This letter will be on Veterans Affairs Benefit Issues Part 2.

As you have read so far in the first three letters the real issue is: How long will you and congress let this Veterans Affairs Benefits sham go on? The question is not whether it has taken place in the past or is taking place at present. The evidence is overwhelming in any court.

I have given example after example of not only political hypocrisy but scientific hypocrisy as well.

It amazes me as I sit and watch CSPAN and you folks up there in your committee meetings cite study after study depending on your political persuasion. You quote articles from the biased media again depending on your political persuasion. Well I can tell you first hand the media does not support Veterans for whatever the reason. So you will find no study references on how Veterans are being treated so you can put them on the record as you do day after day.

What I can also tell you is as I watch the senate hearings or house hearings I do not hear the same fight in your politics on behalf of your Veteran constituents. I do not hear,

- “Now wait a minute Veterans Affairs Benefits that is not what this study from a prestigious university or research group or other non-biased scientists indicate.”
- “What evidence do you have to the contrary that enables you to deny Veterans and Widows service connection?”

- “Or wait a minute Veterans Affairs Benefits that is not what our own 140 million dollar study found.”
- “Or wait a minute Veterans Affairs Benefits that is not what our own 140 million dollar study found and did not publish.”
- “Or wait a minute Veterans Affairs Benefits that is not what your own study found.”

If they fall back on the IOM then call them in and put them under oath and find out what they are doing and if it makes sense. Oh wait a minute; you already tried that in 2000 and Veterans Affairs Benefits and the IOM (Dr. David Butler) circled the wagons and they just pushed you and the rest of the two congressmen aside. They would not even answer your direct questions which should tell you something was amiss. Apparently it did not even raise an eyebrow.

That in and by itself indicates how much support Veterans have in DC. Over fifty congressman on three committees on the roster and three of you show up for one of the most important committee meetings for all Vietnam Era Veterans. Congressman Evans had to be embarrassed. I thank you for at least showing up and asking at least some of the appropriate questions; as well as Congressman Shays.

Why won't you fight for Veterans and Widows is the real question? Has Veterans Affairs Benefits got you shaking in your boots or something? What in the world has got you to the point you will not support Veterans and Widows?

As a declared independent I would think nothing political would scare you.

Now you might say, "Well we did not know or have copies of those studies...we have no knowledge, etc." I would have to reply that is a lie. I personally in several visits to house and senate offices not only furnished hard copies but digital copies as well of much evidence to the contrary of what Veterans Affairs Benefits is doing in denials as well as processes. I am not the only Veteran that has done so.

You also will not find your “primo uomo” Veteran Service Organizations challenging Veterans Affairs Benefits on anything. Yet they have had the same evidence for decades now. Why would they when their benefactor is Veterans Affairs Benefits?

After several run in's and set to's with them in not doing anything in the way of challenges to not only Veterans Affairs Benefits and congress; I can say if they are not in bed with Veterans Affairs Benefits they are at least in the same bedroom with the lights off. Now they are pandering to the public for more money to help Veterans. Do you as senator of this nation not find that embarrassing that the government is not taking care of Veterans and VSO's are pandering for money that should be your and the congress's job and responsibility to make sure Veterans are indeed taken care of?

As I mentioned before you pass a bill and nothing happens...nothing changes. You pass a bill making it easier to fire VA employees. Yet nothing happens when there is known and identified corruption and even criminal actions.

At least as far back as 1987 Veterans Affairs Benefits Regional office employees were caught shredding Veterans files and other nefarious deeds and you did nothing. That was according to the New York Times and yet not one politician wanted to put that in your official record as you do for other issues. Then we have the recent what was deemed “Shredder Gate” where at least three regional offices were caught doing the same

thing. Still you did nothing to stop this abuse by a federal agency and its employees. It seems to me since there were state lines crossed and VA doing the same thing that racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations law (RICO) should have been invoked and charged. The only thing missing perhaps was a direct connection to VA inside DC that was orchestrating these acts in these three offices while other regional offices got away with it.

I wonder how these protected VA employees would react if the shoe was on the other foot. Talk about crying and screaming and just outrage. But then again they have the union to protect them no matter what a federal employee does that is proven criminal.

Good lord if a civilian employee did one tenth of what you let these folks get away with they would be out on the street with no questions asked.

These were not management folks but VA worker folks that did the deeds and you did nothing. I am not saying that these workers were not directed to do such criminal acts. However if they did then you should have realized in no uncertain terms that Veterans Affairs Benefits management as well as the workers are lacking in integrity; indeed criminals. Because someone with authority told you to do something is not a legal excuse. If it was and is an excuse then the Nuremberg trials would not have happened in mass.

Maybe this issue is just not political enough for you or not enough votes for actually doing something. In other words a waste of your time and those on the Veterans Committees. I can assure you it is political enough for our Veterans and Widows.

You and congress do nothing to include not even addressing our issues with our evidence that are in contention for Veterans and Widows alike.

The chemical companies want a congressional hearing on their issues and get it with no problem in contention against the National Institute of Health. It was a joke with no one asking the correct questions. Two correct questions would have ended that hearing in five minutes and any contention would have been resolved. The committee let the chemical company folks just go on and on in their rant. Maybe it was paid for by the hour.

It is a shame we Veterans do not have that much campaign coffer money so we can advance our issues even in a requested informal hearing; much less a real committee hearing like the chemical companies can.

History clearly demonstrates with evidence this travesty of justice against the best this nation has to offer; The United States Veteran. A government systematic suppression of critical data, altered critical data and altered results.

Not only my found actions but the actions and report of one of your own senators; Tom Daschle. As a congressman early on he tried to get something done for Vietnam Veterans. When the first Ranch Hand published report was found to be redacted from the scientific findings in the published report; the final conclusions were altered substantially. Of course everyone just turned a blind eye.

Senator Daschle concluded the why discrepancies existed in the report actually released to the press, was not merely disagreements in data evaluation, but "the perpetration of fraudulent conclusions."

It seems at every government turn the same diabolical deeds, tradecraft, were perpetrated against Vietnam Era Veterans and their Widows.

Congress itself reported these study and government inference nefarious dealings in House Report 101-672.

From House Report 101-672:

“D. The White House compromised the independence of the CDC and undermined the study by controlling crucial decisions and guiding the course of research at the same time it had secretly taken a legal position to resist demands to compensate victims of Agent Orange exposures and industrial accidents.” (page 27)

“E. The federal government has suppressed or minimized finding of ill effects among Vietnam Veterans that could be linked to Agent Orange exposures.” (page 33)

You heard yourself in 2000 this same thing was going on in Ranch Hand by testimony under oath; only it was called “scientific misconduct:”

- *“...command influence is effectively scientific misconduct.”*
- *“...veterans not being given a fair assessment of their health status in heart disease, vascular disease, neurological ailments, endocrine disturbances, hematological difficulties, cancers, and birth defects.”*
- *“... command influence directly altered report content.”*
- *“...protocol violations are quite serious.”*
- *“...interference by the using the name of the surgeon general was referenced as well.*
- *“...for nearly 20 years this study has only reported part of the truth.”*

What a criminal indictment and deplorable reflection of a corrupt government that claims to support its Veterans and their Widows. Yes even our presidents, our so-called commander in chief, has spit in the face of our Veterans and Widows.

Of course these nefarious efforts are still perpetrated by Veterans Affairs Benefits while the folks that are supposed to keep this from happening within the executive branch, you and congress, just let it happen and let it continue to happen.

Thousands of scientist, some of them Nobel Laureates, petitioned Johnson and McNamara to stop this herbicide spraying. President Johnson, McNamara and of course the Department of Defense knew better.

Even during WW2 herbicide usage was considered for use to starve the Japanese into surrender. It was nixed because of unknown long term environmental impacts. Instead the nuclear bomb option was exercised. Of course these environmental impacts eventually became part of the Geneva Convention as “shall not.”

Once again the hypocrisy of the United States Congress knows no boundaries. Constantly calling for the invoking of the Geneva Convention while this government itself is guilty of the most wide spread violation of the Geneva Convention in the history of the world. One only has to look at the environmental reports as of last year in Vietnam itself, forty three years after the fact, as still being a problem in the environment and the people themselves to conclude this as fact.

Ironically none of you put that in the congressional record during your committee meetings.

Even the reports of the civilian usage of these herbicides was being reported in many medical issues before our war. Some of it by your own government agencies who had already banned the use of these toxic chemicals. Many of even those medical issues are still denied by Veterans Affairs Benefits.

Even the chemical companies lied about what they themselves were finding. Indeed brought into court some lame studies they had done demonstrating no issues. When an honest EPA scientist exposed the studies as being fraudulent who was punished. Yes the chemical companies were fined some small dollar amount which was a slap in the face. The honest government scientist was put on leave after she demanded EPA enforcement take action. More government hypocrisy on your part.

In my reference to the above environmental studies last year these findings totally invalidate the stated half-life of these toxic chemicals in the environment. You have qualified empirical data that clearly shows the estimated half-life of a herbicide that is not biodegradable nor water soluble is erroneous.

It is either that or the estimated toxicity levels of dioxins in the government's toxic swill used in Vietnam were much greater than anyone in government will admit. Of course the IOM uses some minimum level given to them by the government; who obviously cannot be trusted.

Of course it could be a combination of both but it cannot be as the this government and the IOM have portrayed the facts. Not with the gathered empirical data just last year.

As I indicated above even the civilian applications were producing medical outcomes to the point that some government agencies had banned the use of these toxic chemicals.

The civilian applications were diluted in oil and water and sprayed at some chemical company recommended rate.

Of course ours was not the only government trying to cover up this mess. During my research I found an Australian hearing where their equivalent to our forestry service was under investigation. They brought some fellow in to testify that was part of crew that sprayed this toxic garbage. The fellow testified that when it got hot the crew would bath in the open container they were using to spray. Of course the issue was to portray if he was OK cooling off in the toxic swill... then what is the problem. Unfortunately for the government defense one of the politicians apparently was not briefed on what to ask and what not to ask. The politician asked, "Where is the rest of your crew?" The answer was, "They are all dead." He himself died about six months later from cancers.

The military applications were used undiluted as in full strength. Not only that it was applied at six to twenty five times the manufacturer's recommended rate.

These military applied herbicides were used undiluted and at a rate much greater than recommended even in the diluted civilian applications.

Then the government got greedy. The government wanted more herbicides faster and cheaper for the defoliation of Southeast Asia...not just Vietnam. See Corona Harvest report for the real facts of Thailand and Laos that DOD and Veterans Affairs Benefits lie still deny that spraying took place by OPERATION Ranch Hand.

You will see that by their own admission OPERATION Ranch Hand missions started in 1964, including the northern sector of the demilitarized zone.

Just one government lie and one government denial after another.

The chemical companies obliged the government and increased the speed of manufacture and of course reduced the costs. The issue is by increasing the speed of manufacture this introduced another higher level of dioxins in the chemical itself. Now you had the "Militarized Version" of the civilian product which was even more dangerous.

Higher levels of dioxin ("Militarized Version") , sprayed undiluted, sprayed at a rate six to twenty five times the recommended rate. It is a wonder any Vietnam Era Veteran is still alive. Many are still suffering from the effects and denied benefits by Veterans Affairs Benefits as I have concluded previously by scientific and politically motivated fraud.

The Air Force developers of this toxic swill clearly stated: "We never considered a scenario in which. our own personnel would become contaminated with the herbicide." Of course that did not happen.

Not only were they sprayed with it; with the new environmental testing that was done last year it is very unlikely they were ever out of the toxic environment their entire tour.

They lived in it, ate food contaminated with it, drank water contaminated with it, washed in it, and breathed the dust contaminated with it. Every known entry into the body would have been available to include both chronic and acute exposures and even back and forth between acute and chronic.

I mentioned this because science itself has concluded the rate of entry and method of entry can make a difference in how much resides in the liver versus how much gets into the blood stream. Since dioxins have an affinity to a lipid environment then storing themselves in fat tissues. Going who knows where in the blood stream. In other words varying outcomes in medical issues. One scenario does not necessarily match another scenario in outcomes and issues. They are different.

I would like to point out that none of this new "Militarized Version" and new application rates was ever tested on one lab rat before using the Veterans as test subjects.

Then we have the multitude of different toxic chemicals you heard yourself in 2000.

- Agent Orange and Agent White with Picloram mixed 50/50
- Agent Orange II or Super Agent Orange with a different isomer
- Agent White with DOW proprietary Picloram (at some unknown toxicity level) used separately
- Agent Green
- Agent Purple
- Agent Blue
- Malathion massive spraying at some unknown militarized rate and some unknown militarized toxicity level
- The massive use of DEET
- The taking of the experimental drug Dapsone

All of this plus not in the peak of health as well as the *emotional stress and anxiety of being in combat and you are going to tell Vietnam Era Veterans that the IOM can somehow determine what is “causational” to their issues for recommendation for presumptive status. That would be a good magic trick.

* Recently as you probably know there are studies out now linking medical issues with emotional stress in and by itself. While I do not doubt that some folks that would or could happen but in general I for one do not believe these issues in total. This whole issue of mental issues and PTSD has all of sudden become a cottage industry without differential diagnosis of outside causations.

I for one do not believe a person in California sitting in some residential media room sipping on a Martini, shaken not stirred, can develop PTSD from watching the events of September 11, 2001 on TV. Yet I have read where that is possible. The only way that would happen is if that person had made too many trips to the medicine cabinet already.

I say that based on history. Either the entire medical field was asleep at the wheel after WW2 or it did not happen in some of the most horrific events in world history. I can find no references to a total outbreak of medical issues nor birth defects after WW2 associated to trauma or stress. Those European civilians as just one example of war issues went through holy hell and you know it.

I can think of no more horrible emotional experience than watching your children blown to pieces or worse yet burned alive. Or as a child watching the same thing happen to your mother or father or both. Or facing massive fire bombings day after day; night after night.

I find nothing in medical history that demonstrates this association to this massive level. If there is to some massive level I must have missed it.

It just seems way too coincidental that PTSD was coined as the Vietnam Veterans were coming home. I am not saying that PTSD does not exist we know it does. I am saying that for the Vietnam Veteran with their exposures to dioxins and other toxic chemicals and the known mental issues, personality changes, increased rate of suicide created by just dioxin alone these soldiers may have had additional dioxin medically created psychological issues that amplified their PTSD; or in some cases created PTSD like symptoms but were dioxin created Central Nervous System neurological issues.

Let me give you some examples of that plus much more such as once again the denied neuropathy issues as well as the accompanying chronic fatigue syndrome:

“In 1977, the Working Group of the International Agency for Research on Cancer found that neurological and behavioral changes were among the most frequently reported effects in studies of exposures to 2,4,5-T (IARC, 1977a). IARC identified 6 out of 7 different populations occupationally exposed to chlorinated phenolic compounds where neuropsychological symptoms such as neurasthenic or depressive syndromes were established (IARC, 1977b). IARC noted that PNS damage was also found in the same 6 dioxin-exposed populations, including polyneuropathies, lower extremity weakness, and sensorial impairments (sight, hearing, smell, taste). In 1986, the IARC clearly restated it’s finding that dioxin had been found to be associated with peripheral neuropathies and personality changes (IARC, 1986).

“The evidence from the 1990 Ranch Hand study (your own government study) (Thomas, et al., 1990) is particularly compelling in demonstrating CNS damage from Agent Orange exposure.

“Significant psychological deficits were found among Ranch Hand veterans in several subscales in a battery of psychological tests. In contrast, none of the typical dioxin-related psychological deficits were ever found in statistical excess among matched controls. Ranch Hand Veterans experienced a statistically significant excess of great or disabling fatigue during the day, a condition found among many other populations exposed to dioxin.

I would add here that Veterans Affairs own study also found this fatigue issue as well as the very first Ranch Hand scientific transcripts found disabling chronic daily fatigue. Ranch Hand just did not reveal that fact. Another nice touch.

“Borderline statistically significant verified psychological disorders were found for the category "other *neuroses. A series of tests found a borderline statistically significant excess of Ranch Hands experienced depression, somatization, and the severity of psychological distress. Antisocial and paranoid scores for the Ranch Hands were significantly higher, and the psychotic delusion score was marginally significantly higher for Ranch Hands.

{*Neuroses -acute or chronic anxiety, depression, an obsessive—compulsive disorder, a phobia, personality disorder, etc.}

“CNS effects, other than neuropsychological deficits, were also found among Ranch Hand veterans (Thomas, et al., 1990). When Ranch Hand veterans or controls that had known past exposures to insecticides were excluded from one analysis (so that neurological findings could be attributed solely to Agent Orange), Ranch Hand veterans exhibited significantly elevated relative risk for cranial nerve dysfunction. Analyses disclosed marginally more balance/Romberg sign (standing without swaying when eyes closed and feet together) and coordination abnormalities for Ranch Hand veterans.

“*The VA proposed exclusion of peripheral neuropathies that only become evident 10 or more years after service in Vietnam, on the assumption that such a neuropathy could not be associated with Agent Orange exposure, due to the long interval from exposure.

* As you can clearly see here VACEH was at one time to have a ten year exclusion rather than one year based on the biased Veteran Affairs Benefits. Yet even they did not put this bogus must resolve within two years after becoming 10%. You can also see the real scientists is telling you how it really is.

Plus I have given you more than ample evidence including scientific challenges to this bunk in order to conclude Veterans Affairs Benefits is fraudulent in this issue starting with at least Derwinski and his constraints and mandates. You just have to read, connect the dots; and then do something about it!

“This assumption contradicts the findings of the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), which found that neurological damage is not always detectable clinically, or noticeable by, the sufferer after exposure to a neurotoxic substance such as dioxin. As time progresses or old age approaches, the rate of natural neuronal cell death accelerates, and the results of earlier neurological damage may first become evident, or unmasked (OTA, 1990). The availability of alternate neuronal pathways is reduced, which were formerly responsible for compensating for earlier toxic damage. The OTA specifically noted the importance of research showing the possibility that neurotoxic substances were important in Alzheimer's disease, the degenerative brain disease of old age.”

This OTA report was commissioned by congress itself. Yet once again you and congress do not even apparently believe your own commissioned work.

They found all of that in the Ranch Hand study and as you know from the testimony you heard yourself in 2000 Ranch Hand was corrupted. Yet still it was found.

You may know or may not know that the lead scientists agreed finally of my contention back in 2000 to the IOM that the cohort assumptions were totally flawed. Almost half of the comparison group in the non-exposed group were indeed exposed.

Add the two together and if Ranch Hand found anything it must have been massive in significance. The only other thing this study could have done to not find this significance is to not publish the facts found as they did in the all-site cancer findings. Which I will once again point out is against the laws on the books at present. You cannot refuse to publish or withhold information that would have changed the outcome of a government study.

The law should say: You cannot refuse to publish or withhold information that would have changed the outcome of a government study with the one exception of; Veterans Issues.

The other contention I pointed out was this linear dose response that was added later by the White House. The study was supposed to be findings of medical issues of the Vietnam Veterans Toxic Chemical Experience. Not some search for a linear dose response to issues found associated to a single dioxin compound. My contention in 2000 was there is no linear response to a toxic chemical that does not act as a poison where the more you get the worse it is. As it is finally coming out I was more correct than not.

Should you need more discovery on this issue you only have to ask. It all comes down to the type of exposures and additional exposure effect on the P450 liver enzymes; plus a little something called unique DNA.

Yes there is a blood serum test for dioxins. However since the half-life of dioxins in the environment seems to have been greatly underestimated we have to wonder if the half life in the body estimated to be at seven to eleven years is also underestimated. In addition as far as total dose or even body burden the blood serum test seems to be a non-factor. In addition to that some scientist, real toxic chemical scientists, indicate we may not be able to measure down to the level of dioxin that will not have an impact.

The follow on birth defects issues have not yet to even be discussed. I can tell you this. It is being covered up and any study for such has been a total joke.

If we ever have a meeting one of my counterparts has been working that issue.

I mentioned and you found out yourself in that 2000 meeting the outreach on this moving target of what is presumptive and what is not is non-existent. You know why as well as I do.

Even when something is deemed Military Era wide as presumptive such as Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) there is no government outreach. Again you know why just as well as I do.

I had a nice lady, a veteran herself, writing to me to thank me for helping with the Veterans Issues. She would write from time to time. She had a stroke and left her pretty disabled. She first lived with her son and then her daughter. During one of her correspondences to me she mention her military career husband had died from

ALS. I mentioned to her that I assumed she was drawing her Disability Indemnity Compensation (DIC). She replied that her husband had never served in Vietnam. When I mentioned that is not just Vietnam she could not believe it. Long story short we got her DIC and she is now living in a nice assisted living facility. She has three hot meals a day, someone to help her with medications and doctors, and someone to help her at least button her buttons on her dress.

Just think how much better her life would have been years ago had she known. This has got to stop and congress should start its own outreach on TV twice a year on Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Veterans Affairs Benefits is not going to do it. I and other Veterans would be more than happy to assist with that effort.

Senator Sanders this is a disgrace.

Let me give you one more example of the disgrace of Veterans Affairs Benefits as well as this government.

I had a Korean Veteran contact me on his issues. Nothing I could do of course except give him data. I recall he was located somewhere up around Sevierville, TN. He had the evidence that he served on the Korean DMZ which is also a joke and lie with that little constraint of a specific area. He had three of the dioxin presumptive cancers plus when he was discharged his physical clearly showed a diagnosis of pustular acne of which he did not have before serving on the DMZ. Pustular acne clearly a gold sign of dioxin exposures.

He had been given twelve months to live. As I recall he died in about nine months.

The dates he served on the DMZ were outside the original inclusive Korean dates which were a joke. I fought that issue for at least five years both from here and in my visits to DC. Finally those dates were expanded to something that made sense and was realistic; not perfect but at least reasonable to a point.

Now he had three presumptive cancers, discharge physical when he came off the DMZ of pustular acne and was outside the former inclusive dates by two months. When I sent him a copy of the EPA environmental characterization of dioxins and the half-life he gave that to Veterans Affairs Benefits. What he got back was: the EPA environmental characterization would have to be been done directly on the Korean DMZ. Just totally ridiculous and yet it goes on everyday within Veterans Affairs Benefits.

That is your Veterans Affairs Benefits for you.

Now even with the minimum half-life on top of the ground only he would have been within the widow by at least year. In the ground dioxin he would have been in the half-life gate by at least 10 years.

Common sense with dioxins dictates you cannot have an end date for spraying and call that the inclusive date for qualifying for exposures. If that is the case you better have them start putting down the date and the exact time of the last spraying. Yes, it is that ridiculous.

Of course a few years later those inclusive dates were changed as I described above. Whether my efforts had anything to do with it or not I have no idea. I know I pounded on it every chance I got with evidence.

With the newer admitted to dates he would be within the widow by at least two years.

Now in the context of serving in Vietnam as applied to this case. According to your own history President Nixon stopped the spraying in 1971. Yet Veterans serving after that until 1975 still qualify for presumptive

issues. This was the correct thing to do most especially since the real environmental testing in Vietnam just last year found that dioxins were still a serious threat forty three years after the fact.

All Vietnam Veterans serving “FOUR YEARS” after spraying stopped...COVERED; as it should be.

This Veteran with all the signs of dioxin exposures with evidence “TWO MONTHS” after spraying stopped...DENIED! Which should be criminal.

Damn I sure would like an explanation by someone in congress or even Veterans Affairs Benefits, if anyone can believe them, on this deal.

He died leaving a younger wife and a minor daughter that should have been helped and received his earned benefits. Whether she ever obtained those benefits after the expansion of the inclusive dates or not I have no idea.

Another reason a robust outreach program must be initiated immediately on all these government lied about issues, with Veterans Affairs Benefits in the lead, for decades. Then as the truth slowly comes out the stakeholders have no way of knowing of the inclusion or the admittance of the truth.

Again ... that is “your” Veterans Affairs Benefits for you.

For heavens sakes if you do allow Veterans Affairs Benefits to create this program not one extra penny should go until you approve not only the plan but the implementation of the plan. No... we do not need another twenty years of stalling, excuses, because of some software glitch. In fact I would make the responsibility of the both the Senate and House Veterans Affairs. Again if you need help just let me know. It could be very simple to say the least.

The next letter will be on Veterans Affairs Medical issues and the overall impacts to the Veteran Community. It is past time to weigh the costs of this set aside, accountable to no one including our laws, hospital system versus allowing the Veteran’s day to day health care in the general population should they choose. Just eliminating redundancy has got to be cost savings in the millions a year if not in the billions.

I will be waiting on your or any congressman or senator's response. Doubtful it will be coming but I am looking forward to any response. As I am sure the folks on my lists will be as well. The media of course would be welcome but they have ignored the real facts as long as the government has to include the government putting pressure not to cover such things as; government corruption against the finest this nation has to offer.

My offer still stands for an informal meeting with myself and a few other very knowledgeable Veterans for discussions of the issues and sound legal common sense recommendations to fix the issues for all Veterans and Widows once and for all. Either with you or staff or staff from you and others I think it needs to be done.

As an alternate plan should you view this request as a complete waste of your time to hear the facts.

Set up a committee with former Senator Tom Daschle, former Congressman Chris Shays, and former Secretary Eric Shinseki. Let myself and my fellows and gals, nor more than eight, present to them the real facts. I think most Veteran trust these three. I know Daschle and Shays are familiar with at least some of the issues and even tried in vane to get something done. You in the congress made General Shinseki into a scapegoat for primarily your own failings. My staff officers I served with that served with General Shinseki, were classmates

of his at the academy and classmates at the war college tell me he is an honorable man. I thrust them. Maybe he just might like to hear the truth for a change instead of Veterans Affairs Benefits management lies.

Since you funded two disability commissions for right at two years with the commissioners drawing over six figures, plus staff and material, plus all expenses paid that netted you nothing. I figure you could afford to pay them expenses and a stipend of some form.

The have them put together a compressive report to the entire congress on issues and recommendations. Then you will at least have something for the dollars you pay out.

I believe a two to three day event should do it even with breaks. Then giving the committee six months no more to publish the report.

An approval rating of less than 20 percent for the entire congress...for once you just might want to look in the mirror. Stop this arrogance of we are royalty over the rest of you. You are not. Veterans of a fledgling nation kicked out the British and this Royalty crap that allows you to even be a politician. The Veterans after that kept that freedom for you that you and the rest of this nation enjoy. This includes European nations who realize what the Untied States Veterans sacrifices gave them back...their freedom. I think those folks that lost their freedom understand more than any politician in congress what it means to lose that precious status of freedom. Why? Because no one in this nation knows what it really means.

When Veterans look at our symbol of freedom the American Flag it seems only they continue to recognize the god awful costs of continually flying that symbol. Although it seems more and more citizens and even states are loosing their rights guaranteed by the constitution. The federal government becoming more of a symbol of tyranny than a government for the people and by the people. This certainly applies to our Veterans and Widows in that federal government tyranny.

Any potential 2016 presidential candidates that should stumble across these postings. Fix the Veterans and Widows issues with honesty and integrity for a change and you just might have over 20 million Veteran votes in your back pocket out of the gate. If you include spouses and offspring of Veterans and any friends of Veterans that realize their contribution to this nation is priceless you could have a heavy head start on any competition Republican or Democrat. Get rid of the politically corrupted IRS as well; you probably have a slam dunk!

For once get the real facts from Veterans; not Veterans Affairs or Veteran Service Organizations skewed facts

Sincerely,

Charles Kelley
RVN 67-68
Snellville, Georgia

Hard Copy to; plus internet posting:

Senator Johnny Isakson (R - GA)
Chairman
United States Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs,
Russell Senate Building - Room 412,
Washington, D.C.
20510-6050

Senator Richard Blumenthal (D - CT)
Ranking Member
Minority Leader on Veterans Affairs
Russell Senate Building
Room 412, Washington, D.C.
20510-6050

Congressman Jeff Miller
Chairman
House Veterans Affairs Committee
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Rob Woodall
7th district of Georgia
724 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515