



---

## Uploaded to VFC Website

▶▶ **November 2012** ◀◀

---

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](#)

---

*Veterans-For-Change is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation  
Tax ID #27-3820181*

***If Veteran's don't help Veteran's, who will?***

We appreciate all donations to continue to provide information and services to Veterans and their families.

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=WGT2M5UTB9A78](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WGT2M5UTB9A78)

---

**Note:**

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



**Item ID Number** 05701

**Not Scanned**

**Author**

**Corporate Author**

**Report/Article Title** Recommendation for the Joint Meritorious Service Award, August 25, 1986

**Journal/Book Title**

**Year** 0000

**Month/Day**

**Color**

**Number of Images** 0

**Description Notes** Richard G. Johnson is recommending the award for the U. S. Army and Joint Services Environmental Support Group. Alvin L. Young filed these documents together with others under the label, "Agent Orange Exposure Project."

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

**TO:** Dr. Johnson

	<b>KEYWORDH</b>		<b>DEVRIES</b>		<b>JENNINGS</b>
	<b>BULKLEY</b>		<b>JOHNSON</b>		<b>OTHER:</b>
	<b>MCTAGUE</b>		<b>KORNACK</b>		
	<b>ABELL</b>		<b>LING</b>		
	<b>FIORI</b>		<b>ROESCH</b>		
	<b>LYNCH</b>	1	Rabin <i>RR</i>		
	<b>Action</b>		<b>Correction</b>	X	<b>Signature</b>
	<b>Approval</b>		<b>File</b>		
	<b>As Requested</b>		<b>Information</b>		
	<b>Circulate</b>		<b>Prepare Reply</b>		
	<b>Comment</b>		<b>Reply</b>		
	<b>Concurrence</b>		<b>See Me</b>		

**DATE DUE:**

<b>FROM</b> Al Young <i>AY</i> /mjt	<b>DATE</b> 7-31-86	<b>PHONE NO.</b> 395-3125
--	------------------------	------------------------------

**Remarks:** *2pg - OK/DD*  
*Re. Young's your copy*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1986


Dear Mr. <sup>Cap</sup> Secretary:

It is with pleasure that I submit to you the attached recommendation for the Joint Meritorious Service Award to the United States Army and Joint Services Environmental Support Group (ESG); a special unit of the Adjutant General, Department of Army. Under the program direction of Mr. Richard S. Christian, this unique group has been involved in research projects on Agent Orange, radiation and combat-related stress. These are projects of a highly complex and politically sensitive nature. In spite of intense pressures from the Congress, the Administration and the veteran community, this dedicated group of men and women have established scientific goals of objectivity and detached professionalism.

It is not possible to elaborate fully in this brief letter the many accomplishments of this supremely dedicated group of professionals. Nevertheless, some accomplishments are singularly deserving of recognition because of their unique immediate or ultimate impact of the search for scientific answers to the complex health issues surrounding the defoliant, Agent Orange; radiation exposure; and post traumatic stress disorder. Primary among these accomplishments have been the Environmental Support Group's role in selecting subjects for the Female Vietnam Veterans Epidemiological Study mandated by Public Law 99-272; selecting study subjects for the Soft Tissue Sarcoma Study being undertaken by the Veterans Administration (VA); initiation of a meticulous search to determine the location of Vietnam Service military units for the VA's Vietnam Mortality Study; determination of exposure for use by the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) Birth Defects Study (completed in August 1984); and selection of subjects for inclusion in the Vietnam Experience Study and the Study of the Effects of Agent Orange Exposure. In addition, the Group has supported numerous studies on the effects of radiation exposure to military personnel who participated in weapons testing programs.

Since the beginning of the Agent Orange controversy in Vietnam, Mr. Christian and his group have demonstrated consistent professionalism and dedication. It is with a great deal of pride that I take this opportunity to recommend for a Joint Meritorious Unit Award this truly unique group that includes members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines.

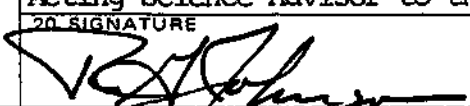
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard G. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "J".

Richard G. Johnson  
Acting Science Advisor to the President

The Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger  
The Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Attachment

RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD		<input type="checkbox"/> HEROISM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT OR SERVICE	
For use of this form, see AR 672-5-1; the proponent agency is MILPERCEN.			
TO: (Include ZIP code) The Secretary of Defense The Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20301		FROM: (Include ZIP code) Office of Science & Technology Policy Executive Office of the President Washington, D.C. 20506	
PART I - PERSONAL DATA			
1. LAST NAME-FIRST NAME-MIDDLE NAME NA (Unit Award)	2. SSN NA	3. GRADE NA	4. BRANCH/PMOS(EM) NA
5. ORGANIZATION AND STATION U.S. Army & Joint Services Environmental Support Group, 1730 "K" Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006-3868			
6. RECOMMENDED AWARD (Include Oak Leaf Clusters) Joint Meritorious Unit Award		7. POSTHUMOUS AWARD: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
8. DESIRED DATE OF PRESENTATION		a. DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH	
9. WAS INTERIM AWARD MADE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		b. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NOK	
AWARD:			
PART II - RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT OR SERVICE			
10. INCLUSIVE DATES FOR WHICH RECOMMENDED 26 April 1982 to 1 July 1986		11. INCLUSIVE DATES OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNIT SHOWN IN ITEM 5. STATE REASON FOR END DATE (Retire, PCS, etc.) NA	
12. ALL PREVIOUS AWARDS TO INDIVIDUAL (Do not include interim award) No Previous Awards to Unit			
PART III - RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD FOR HEROISM			
13. INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT EYEWITNESSES ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF 8 x 10 1/2" BOND PAPER: a. Full name, b. SSN, c. Grade, d. Unit. STATE REASONS IF EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS ARE NOT ATTACHED.			
14. CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ACT WAS PERFORMED			
a. LOCATION		b. TIME	c. DATE
d. UNIT MORALE, CASUALTIES, AND MISSION DURING TIME AND DATE(S) OF ACT(S)			
PART IV - PROPOSED CITATION			
15. DESCRIBE THE INDIVIDUAL'S PERFORMANCE IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW. DO NOT USE A CONTINUATION SHEET EXCEPT FOR HEROISM AWARDS AND AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL. The United States Army and Joint Services Environmental Support Group (ESG) distinguished itself through meritorious service in support of national programs to resolve the many controversial issues associated with chemical, radiation, and military combat exposure and the long-term health of the men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces. Essential to these studies have been the intensive searches of military records by the ESG. The Environmental Support Group provided the military records, or reconstructed records, pertinent to the identification of veterans exposed to radiation during weapons testing programs following WWII. It developed unique methodologies and procedures to identify units and individual personnel exposed to military herbicides, including Agent Orange, during Vietnam service. Through these efforts, the Environmental Support Group has provided study subjects for ten major epidemiologic studies conducted by the Federal Government and has provided responses to more than 20,000 individual inquiries by veterans. These singularly distinctive accomplishments of the United States Army and Joint Services Environmental Support Group reflect great credit upon both the men and women of this special unit and the Department of Defense.			
PART V - OTHER INSTRUCTIONS AND AUTHENTICATION			
16. LIST ATTACHMENTS (authorized for heroism and DSM awards only). See Chapter 2, AR 672-5-1 for preparation.		17. RELATED POSITION OF PERSON INITIATING RECOMMENDATION TO PERSON BEING RECOMMENDED NA	
19. IF APPROVED, FORWARD AWARD TO:		18. TYPED NAME, GRADE, BRANCH AND TITLE OF PERSON INITIATING RECOMMENDATION Richard G. Johnson Acting Science Advisor to the President	
		20. SIGNATURE 	21. DATE 22 Aug. 1986