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If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?

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MSgt LeRoy Foster

RETIRED DISABLED VETERAN at DEPT OF DEFENSE

VA Healthcare from a Directly Exposed Agent Orange veteran

May 21, 2014

I felt compelled to write this because of the recent scandals surrounding the VA Healthcare debacle and abuses toward our nation's veterans. This is not new news to our nation's veterans. It maybe finally recognized that our nation's veterans have been denied and delayed medical care and compensation since World War II. I believe it was swept under the rug and concealed neatly away with the KOREAN CONFLICT and VIETNAM CONFLICT (war never declared).

The status quo was carried from Political party to Political party with no one wanting to upset the APPLE CART of ABUSE and NEGLECT toward our nation's veterans. From my own perspective, I believe the Veterans Service Organizations were all aware of it but went along with it to receive favors from the Whitehouse, Congress, DoD and VA. Those who should have spoken up simply were playing the political game of scratch my back and I will scratch yours.

I know all too well about the COVER UP AND CONCEALMENT when it comes to the AGENT ORANGE HERBICIDE EXPOSED VETERANS LAWS and how veterans were dissected and chopped up and most veterans exposed left out of any compensation. It was the good ole boys working hard to protect the chemical companies (MOST WEALTHY AMERICANS HAVE STOCK IN THEM), Sonny Montgomery and Hunter Henry hard at work to protect the chemical companies of agent orange herbicides making and government budgets.

My own experiences with Agent Orange herbicides during the Vietnam War while stationed at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam were not fully realized until August 2009 when a fellow Air Force veteran contacted me after the release of the Agent Orange update of 2008 on July 29, 2009. This veteran was a member of the 43rd Civil Engineering Squadron Fuels Maintenance shop which performed maintenance on the FUELS SYSTEMS I operated and was a noncommissioned officer in charge of on subsequent permanent change of stations in 1969 and 1976 after an initial ARC LIGHT TDY in 1968.

My duties included handling, mixing by hand and power spraying Agent Orange herbicides on security fences on the flight line as well as surrounding fuels operations assets such as fuel tank farms, fuel pipelines, fuel booster pumping stations, hydrant pumping stations near the flight lines as well as other locations such a packaged oil warehouses and the Marbo Barracks complex at Andy South.

Little did I realize the diseases I had were fully connected to those duties of AGENT ORANGE HERBICIDES handling with spinal diseases, sterility, heart disease, immune problems like hives, peripheral neuropathy, eye sight, low calcium levels, high blood pressure (anxiety), depression, etc.

SSgt Ralph Stanton (the veteran spoken of) opened my eyes further with his own account of diseases he suffered from because of being around me doing his Air Force duties keeping the B52s at Andersen AFB supplied with Jet fuel to keep them flying against the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong. He suffers from several diseases like Diabetes II, peripheral neuropathy, heart disease, scleroderma, lupus, plus many others. SSgt Stanton had to lay in the herbicides I sprayed on the fuel pipelines that stretched from Andersen AFB to the US Naval Base Fuel supply depot below Agana Guam.

I was stumped on how our diseases connected which perplexed me so I started researching and reaching out to others who had knowledge of the health issues from Agent Orange exposure direct or indirect or presumptive. I found a recently released testimony of Admiral Zumwalt to the Department of Veterans Affairs and of Dr Michael Sovick to the Institute of Medicine Agent Orange Committee as well as a GAO Report warning the VA and Congress about AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES CAUSED BY AGENT ORANGE HERBICIDES. This implied 325 diseases caused by Agent Orange which included all of the present presumptive diseases as well as the ones Ralph Stanton has and that I have. I testified at the IOM AO Committee at the invitation of Dr. Mary Paxton current Director of the AO Committee at the 2010 AO UPDATE as well as the 2012 AO UPDATE.

As you can tell from this last sentence the terminology and word variations used in the Agent Orange dictionary has become a volumes literary guide to confusion, to exclusion and to justify the total disregard of our nation's ill veterans of two wars.

The Department of Defense felt moved to get an Expert in their corner who could defend them in a court of law or defend them in the eyes of the American people. The Ranch Hand expert, Lt Col. Alvin Young, who had all the answers to deceive America's veterans and the American people.

They failed to tell the American people he was also on Dow Chemical and Monsanto's payroll. He personally came up with the terminology of TACTICAL HERBICIDE to differentiate in his eyes a new word to describe the formula used as if it was higher concentration or stronger more deadly herbicide but was actually the same as agent orange herbicides used in ground spraying operations at most military installations in the THEATER OF OPERATIONS (THAILAND, GUAM, OKINAWA, SOUTH KOREA, PHILIPPINES, CAMBODIA, LAOS, ETC). as well as stateside bases like Ft Detrick, Ft Drum, Ft McClellan, Eglin Air force base, etc.

The current healthcare crisis in the VA is not new but has been going on since the Korean and Vietnam wars. Many veterans have died and their surviving children suffering from deadly diseases and birth defects. Most living in poverty and without hope. Our veterans dying and suffering terrible deaths while the VA misdiagnosed, delayed and denied them even to this day. **THIS COVER UP AND BETRAYAL IS BY FAR THE WORSE CRIME EVER CONCEIVED IN AMERICA.**