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Steve P. Witter
1824 Castlerock St
Wenatchee, WA 98801

June 29th, 2004

I Steve Witter, served with the 2nd Inf. Division, Chemical Company. We were based out of Camp Howze, Korea from 1968-1969. The Chemical Company was responsible for the application of herbicides in the North, South, East and Western areas of KOREA. Including areas in and around the Libby Bridge and Spoon Bill Bridge which I believe was pontoon bridge. We also traveled in and or near the DMZ. We also treated areas along and or near to the Imjin River with herbicide agents we commonly traveled by means of these bridges one bridge was also know as the Freedom bridge. We also traveled from one camp to another. Upon our arrival at each camp we were required to document the locations we had completed spray missions. At this time we received instructions/orders as to other areas in need of attention. An escort from the camp would direct us to the location needing attention. High risk areas such as the DMZ required a Piper Cub/ Bird Dog plane to confirm the area was clear and safe in order that we could enter the location. Our missions occurred on a daily basis consisting of many areas which were treated with herbicide agents to include more than just areas along the DMZ.

It was not uncommon for the Chemical Companies to spray locations throughout not only Southern areas of Korea but also the Northern I Corps including camp perimeters, mess hall areas, look out towers and some camp churches such as at Camp Howze. One of the look out towers was located in an extremely steep area. Others on my truck would not ride up the incline in the truck due to the high elevation and dangers regarding the trip up the mountain.

There appears to be some question as to whether Camp Casey was affected by the spray missions. The perimeter of Camp Casey and the mess hall was in fact treated with herbicide agents.

I do content that we in fact traveled and treated areas in Southern Korea but I am unable to recall all the names of these locations. One such location treated with herbicide agents was in Southern Korea which I am unsure of the name, but I clearly recall it being a location where our troops would perform target practice of the coast of Korea. I believe the island they would targeted was Turtle Island. I also recall tanks conducting target practice at this location. The point is that the location our troops were based at who performed these target practices is an area we did treat with herbicide agents.

I found it odd the hoses and tiers on the truck would soften like gum when exposed to the agents. The hoses on the tanks constantly melted causing them to break and created direct exposure. The rubber on the soles of our shoes would also turn soft and glue like. At no time were we ever supplied protective equipment. We were never warned that the agents were hazardous nor told that we could not dump the chemicals on roadways in rivers and or creek beds. We were never warned of the hazards of spray drift (wind). We commonly treated look out towers.

There appears to be some question as to whether members in the Engineering crews were exposed to herbicide agents. It was common for members of the US Military Engineer Construction crews to assist the Chemical Company during our spray missions. While on spray missions it was not uncommon for our trucks to get stuck in the mud and the Engineer Company would tow our trucks out. They also traveled the same roads we did in location were we had released agents.

I understood that the herbicide agents were transported to Korea from Vietnam. They were flown into Kimpo, Souel, Korea. The agents would then be trucked into Camp Howze to a staging area. Please note, Camp Howze was very close to Camp Eiler. We would receive about 30, 55 gallon drums on a flat bed truck at a time. The barrels were identified by a painted strip indicating the specific formula in the drum. Some of the herbicide agents were in powder form. All agents were combined with diesel in preparation for application. The agents were mixed in the tanks on the decontamination trucks. The trucks were dussin/ halves, with a 400 or 450 gallon tank attached to them. I was responsible for the maintenance of my truck, the tank and the mixing of the agents and on many occasions the application of the agents. Many times we found broken glass in the tanks as though it had been put there on purpose.

ROK members assisted in the application of herbicides. Members of the ROK were rotated on a daily basis. Some have said they were the only members to have made herbicide applications which I content is not true. I myself, on several occasion, made these applications.

Col. Hodge was head of the divisions chemical company.

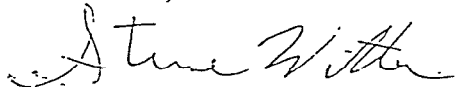
His staff would direct and escorted us to an area near the DMZ where herbicide agents were being tested. The area had tape which divided the sections into squares, resembling a checker board effect. It was made clear to me that several agents were being tested in each particular square. I am not aware of any other Military Chemical Company existed in Korea other than my particular unit which had a history and present in during the Korean conflict.

On a daily basis, units out of Souel would transport the agents to a staging area on the DMZ, or at a camp. This allowed us to address several locations with in that particular area. The staging area also provided a safe location where we could fill our tanks in preparation for the daily missions and to perform any mechanical repairs. We usually filled the tanks twice a day. In some cases a ¾ ton truck with a trailer loaded with additional herbicide agents would accompany us to avoid us from having to return to the staging area. There were three or four trucks in my unit making these daily applications. Typically after the applications of herbicide agents we found our skin and eyes would feel irritated, burning, leaving a grayish color to our skin. With in two days of treating a location we would return to the area and then burn it with Napalm. My partner Jim Reese drove the truck of Napalm. After burning the area, CS would then be applied by arial methods which would causes one to defecate, vomit and also feel burning of the eyes and skin. Because there weren't provisions in camps or at staging locations to dump the herbicides agents at days end, we would open the valve to drain the tanks. It was common maintenance practice for us to release the remaining agents on to road ways, road sides, in rivers including the Imjin River or into creek beds. We would release anywhere from 25 to 100 gallons of the agent before returning to camp to refill the tanks in preparation for the next days duties. We would try to clean the trucks daily but due to some of our locations this would not always occur causing others at staging areas to include camps to be exposed to the residual agent on the truck.

I am in hopes this statement clarifies some of the Chemical Companies activities during the time in which I served.

Repestfully,

Steve Witter,



Main Identity

From: "Haynes, Bob" <bhaynes@hi-cone.com>
To: <tdk4vets@cwnet.com>
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2004 7:23 AM
Subject: FW: Distillation and Agent Orange

-----Original Message-----

From: Selman, Merlin@EDD [mailto:MSelman@edd.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2004 9:25 AM
To: 'Haynes, Bob'
Subject: RE: Distillation and Agent Orange

Bob,

David Hannington of the RC#3 Website said the Water plant was run by civilians like the firestation.

Merlin Selman

Information Security Office

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: Haynes, Bob [mailto:bhaynes@hi-cone.com]
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2004 6:01 AM
To: 'Sldsnfrm@aol.com'; MSelman@edd.ca.gov
Cc: tdk4vets@cwnet.com
Subject: RE: Distillation and Agent Orange

Thanks Ken!!!

-----Original Message-----

From: Sldsnfrm@aol.com [mailto:Sldsnfrm@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2004 10:39 PM
To: bhaynes@hi-cone.com; MSelman@edd.ca.gov
Cc: tdk4vets@cwnet.com
Subject: Re: Distillation and Agent Orange

It was simply know as Water Point #3 and Water System #3. A similar set up can be seen in the attached.

Source; Office Of The Post Engineer
2nd Inf Div, 1965

Ken

Main Identity

From: <Sldsnfrm@aol.com>
 To: <tdk4vets@cwnet.com>
 Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2004 8:45 PM
 Subject: Re: Distillation and Agent Orange

I looked a 5 different maps dated from the early 50's thru 1996. None of the small tributaries are named on these maps. And I don't remember ever hearing a name associated with any of them.

You have to remember that you are dealing with an area that was ravished by war just 12 years earlier. Hold towns were wiped off the map and slowly were rebuilt or replaced by smaller villages. Vegetation was minimal at best and no meaningful sanitation infrastructure existed. Laundry was done by pounding their cloths with a rock in the nearest water source.

These were 3 world living conditions. Homes (hootches) were heated by burning charcoal briquettes with the heat running thru ducts beneath the floors. Insulation was in the form of cardboard fastened to the interior walls and hand dug wells provided water. Most outhouses were shared by more than 1 family. No luxury such as seats, just a slit trench to straddle over. Waste was shoveled out, mixed with water and used to fertilize rice paddies.

Many of the tributaries flooded the rice paddies. They'd pull up a homemade gate to allow the water in. And, using the same method, empty the paddies back into the tributaries. (The EPA would have heart failure!)

The military did an excellent job in providing us with what we had. Running water and flush toilets does it get any better than that? LOL
 Ken

Also, you mention something about diesel fuel for our stoves. I think you'll find that it can be traced as far back as W.W.II. I once owned a small stove, used in tents (army issue) that was dated 1947. There was no other way to warm a tent when 'camping out' in the field. Especially in the near zero temperatures which always seemed to accompany such trips. It was also the fuel of choice for barracks stoves.

Water Pt#6 - Sat near a quarry along side a tributary. Approx 12 miles north of Camp Howze.

Water Pt#11 - Camp Peterson

Water Pump Station; Water System #4 - Camp Custer South

Water Pt#8 - Camp Rose

Water Pt#4 - RC#4

Water Pt#10 - Post Engineer Compound (Later named Camp Giant)

Water Pt#7 - Advance Camp (JSA Compound)

Water System #3; Water Pt#3 - RC#3

(see attached picture)

Main Identity

From: "Haynes, Bob" <bhaynes@hi-cone.com>
 To: "WJ Feszchak" <linuxpwrcom@yahoo.com>; "Taura King" <tdk4vets@cwnet.com>
 Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2004 11:47 AM
 Attach: x95tmp.jpg
 Subject: RE: FW: FW: FW: FW: Pleases send this out to the group--HELP

Hi Walt,

Thank you for responding. Eventually this could help some of the guys.

Taura,

I worked some extra duty (bad boy) in the fall of 1967 putting in the winter supply of 55 gallon drums of diesel. We did all the work by hand and we did not handle the drums very carefully as one could attest by the leakage all over the ground and the trucks.

The fuel was then transferred from the drums to the 5 gal. 'jerry' cans, again there was spillage all over the place. Then the cans were hooked to the stoves, again there was spillage and the concrete floors were fairly well soaked with fuel. As Walt said, it permeated the air in the hooches and everything in the hooch.

The attached pictures will attest to how the drums were handled. They were rolled off the truck onto wooden 2x12's and then were rolled and stood upright. That is me on the right photo (attached) waiting for a barrel to come down the ramp of 2x12's.

When we were finished working, we reeked of diesel fuel and it was ground into our clothes, boots and our hands. As you would imagine, working without any gloves, we often had open sores that the diesel would surely seep into. I also saw diesel fuel sprayed in the company area and the roads to control dust during the dry summer season.

I was also told that herbicides were mixed with diesel as a method of spraying. I was also soaked with that when I was providing security detail for So. Koreans (ROK) forces spraying in the DMZ.

These statements are true and factual to the best of my recollection.

Bob Haynes

HHC 1/23rd. Inf. 2ID

Camp Young, Korea DMZ area

11/1966 - 11/1967

Imjin Scout

-----Original Message-----

From: WJ Feszchak [mailto:linuxpwrcom@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2004 1:21 PM

To: Haynes, Bob

Subject: Re: FW: FW: FW: FW: Pleases send this out to the group--HELP

Thanks Bob:

later

/s/

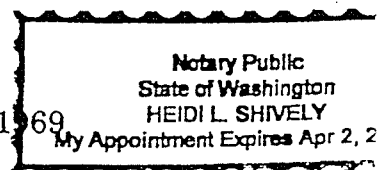
Topic Agent Orange

Korea - Agent Orange 1968 - 1969 Spec 4 Witter report to LTC Hodge 2nd Inf. Division Chemical Sections TDY. There were four decon trucks and four drivers to report to LTC Hodge 2nd Inf. division. Our job was to put Agent Orange on foliage. On our way up to the DMZ, we would stop and pick up rock soldiers that would be doing the work. We would have one rock captain or Lt., which would be the interrupter for me, and his six people that would be working for me. There would be three on one side of the truck and three on the other. They were on a cat walk on the truck. The tank was filled with diesel approximately 400 - 500 gallons run by a bean sprayer. From one end of the tank to the other, there were paddles which would mix the Agent Orange with the diesel. I would pour the bags of Agent Orange into the tank, and make sure everything on the truck was working. The rock soldiers would do the spraying. We had approx. 300 - 400 ft of hose and they would go out into the brush in the DMZ and spray as much as they could during the time working in the DMZ. After several days, we would go back in and burn the foliage. Then we would take twenty-five pound bags of CS gas with detonating cord around each bag and blasting cap. We would use a helicopter and throw the bags out, so the wash (air flow) would put the C-S down on the ground further. Spraying the Agent Orange, the rock soldiers and myself would be more or less soaked with the diesel and Agent Orange. The substance would be like real fine cement in bags. Toward the end of the day, I could only see the whites of our eyes and our teeth. As we got into the middle of summer and later on, one of the guys said look at your boots. He said look at mine, he could pull the rubber sole and it was like bubble gum. It would just snap back like a rubber band. We got looking at the tires on my truck and the rubber molding around the doors and windows were the same. Evidently, the Agent Orange and diesel mix would dissolve the rubber. I also noticed later on I would have more flat tires than before. The time that we were suppose to be on the DMZ second inf. division chemical TDY duty was from May 1968 to July 1968. But we hadn't finished the job, so I received an extension. I was there then until after Christmas on into 1969 and we kept spraying up until then.

One of our other jobs was to take fifty gallon drums and cut the tops out. Then take napalm, rocks, bottles, glass, nails, and whatever into these drums. These were called poo gas bombs. They were aimed toward the North Korea side of the DMZ. The people that were picked to do this were volunteers.

We also had tried to use Agent White and Agent Blue, but they were not as successful as the Agent Orange.

By: Steve P. Witter *Steve Witter*
1824 Castlerock
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2301 (509) 662-1773
Decon Unit (spread Agent Orange) Camp Howze 1968 - 1969



*State of Washington
County of Douglas*

Signed or attested before me on 11/20/03. Heidi L. Shively

To Whom This may Concern,

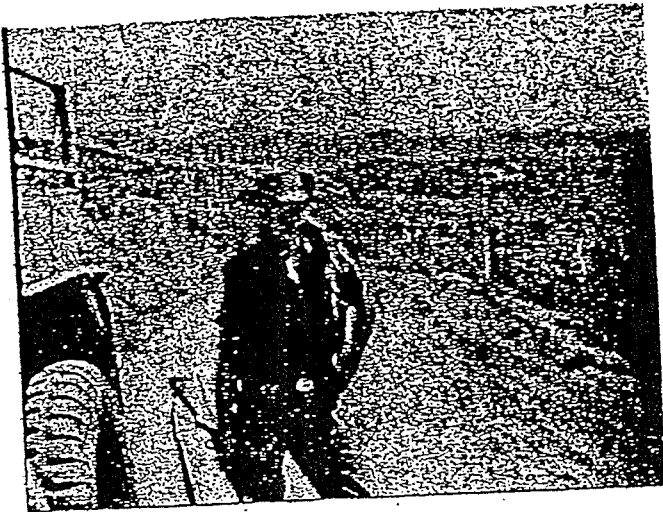
I Steve Witten was involved with spraying Agent Orange in and around the DMZ, while I was stationed at Camp Howze 1968-1969
2nd Inf. Division Chemical Company.

On occasion if I had any A.O. spray maybe 25-100 gallons left in the tank on my truck I would open the valve and let remaining A.O. liquid run out as I would drive down creek, river, or road. We would sometimes wash our hands and face in the creek or river.

During my service time involved with Agent Orange I was not aware of any precautions to prevent spray drift or run off. We were not given any protective clothing or etc. Hazardous?

When washing truck sometimes at Camp Howze or staging areas, there would be some of the liquid A.O. spray run out onto ground.

Steven P Witten



Steve Witter

Steve Witter was a soldier in Korea during 1968 -1969. Steve served with a decontamination unit at Camp Howze. During his tour of duty in Korea, Steve not only witnessed the use of Agent Orange but actually mixed and spread the defoliant.

There were four decontamination trucks for the job. Steve's responsibility was to put Agent Orange on the foliage. On the way to the DMZ, they would stop and pick up R.O.K. (R.O.K. Republic of Korea) soldiers who would do the work. There would be one R.O.K captain or lieutenant, who would be the interpreter for Steve, and the six people working under him. Three men worked on each side of the truck. The tank was filled with diesel fuel, approximately 400- 450 gallons, run by a bean sprayer. From one end of the tank to the other there were paddles that would be used to mix the Agent Orange with the diesel. Steve would pour the bags of Agent Orange into the tank and make sure everything on the tank was working properly. There were approximately 300 to 400 feet of hose that the R.O.K soldiers would use to do the spraying. After a few days they would go back and burn the foliage. Then they would take C-S gas with detonating cord around each bag containing a blasting cap. Using a helicopter they would throw the bags out to cover more ground.

When using Agent Orange, the soldiers would be covered from head to toe and a person would only be able to see the whites of a person's eyes and his teeth. The substance was like real fine cement. Toward the middle of summer, men were looking at the soles of their boots and finding that it was turning into a bubble gum-like substance. The tires on the trucks and the rubber molding around the windows and doors were the same way. This substance evidently would dissolve the rubber leaving these men with many more flat tires than usual. This spraying was only supposed to last from May 1968 - July 1968, but continued much longer. This lasted until after Christmas of 1969. They also tried to use Agent White and Agent Blue, but neither was as effective as Agent Orange.

Steve also remembers cutting the tops of fifty gallon drums and filling them full of napon, rocks, bottles, glass, nails, and whatever else they could find to injure the enemy. These were called Poo Gas Bombs. These bombs were aimed toward the North Korean side of the DMZ.

In January 2000 Steve Witter was diagnosed with ^{TYPE II} rare diabetes called ^{WHA Cachexia} Ellenburg Syndrome, which has caused many complications for Steve over the years.

Tonya Shippee



Military Investigation Continues Into Agent Orange Key Colonel Flies Into Valley For Answers

Morgan Loew and Tammy Leitner, CBS 5 Investigates

POSTED: 8:29 pm MST May 25, 2011

UPDATED: 4:28 pm MST May 26, 2011

PHOENIX -- Steve House has been living in fear since the veteran broke ranks to clear his conscience. "Your damn straight I'm scared," said House, a Valley veteran who revealed that he and other soldiers buried Agent Orange on a military base in South Korea.

A key Colonel flew into the Valley for an intense five-hour meeting with House.

"When did you do it?" House said the colonel asked. "Where did you do it? Do you remember who was in charge? What was the chain of command? How much? Do you remember the labels? And what part of the base it came on?"

House told the colonel what he told CBS 5 Investigates when we first began investigating months ago: that the soldiers were ordered to dig a deep ditch with a flat base. The plan was to neatly stack the barrels, but once they realized the sand was too soft for that, they resorted to using a bulldozer to push the barrels into the ditch. "I'd push it into the ditch so everything fell over and it was just laying there all jumbled," House said.

And that could make the cleanup more difficult. "I think they were wishing they could go in there and dig it out and bring everything out nice and clean and in one piece," he said.

But finding the right location might require House and his fellow soldiers to return to Camp Carroll decades later -- a chance to make an old wrong, right. "There was some mention if it came down to it, possibly getting all of us together and getting us on the site," said House.

He is admittedly cautious. "I've wanted the government to take care of this nightmare I've had to live with for the last 30 years. I don't want to poison kids or anything, and I don't want to hurt GIs," House said.

The U.S. Army acknowledged for this first time on Monday that it buried chemicals on the bases in South Korea three decades ago.

CBS 5 News broke the story of military veterans burying government toxic waste last week. Shortly after, protesters took to the streets outside the entrance to the U.S. military base Camp Carroll in South Korea and international media flooded the area.

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THE HANKYOREH

New Allegations Emerge of USFK Chemical Dumping

Following allegations of buried Agent Orange, the controversy may strengthen calls for USFK environmental accountability

The Hankyoreh



» A view of Camp Mercer in Bucheon, Gyeonggi Province. The U.S. military withdrew in 1992 and the facilities were handed over to the South Korean military. (Yonhap News)

By Kwon Tae-ho, Washington Correspondent

A retired U.S. military officer testified to the burial of large quantities of chemicals at a U.S. military base in Bucheon, Gyeonggi Province, it was belatedly revealed Monday. This revelation comes just after an eyewitness account stating that Agent Orange was buried at Camp Carroll in Chilgok, North Gyeongsang Province. While there was no way of confirming whether the chemicals in the latest account included defoliants, controversy is expected following the revelation of another instance of the USFK disposing of chemicals by burying them in the ground.

Korean-American Chi Yong An posted the account by a retired U.S. military officer on his web page Secret of Korea on Monday (local time). The author of the piece, which An titled "I buried hundreds of gallons of chemicals at Camp Mercer in Bucheon's Ojeong neighborhood," was Ray Bows, who said he worked at Camp Mercer between July 1963 and April 1964 as a member of the 547th Engineer Company, 44th Engineer Construction Battalion, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In the piece, which was originally posted in May 2004 on the website of the Korean War Veterans Association, Bows wrote, "We dug a pit with a bulldozer - donned rubber suits and gas masks and dump every imaginable chemical - hundreds of gallons if not more - into the ground."

Bows also gave specifics about the location of the burial, which he described as "a knoll behind the second storage warehouse on the right" from the main entrance.

The U.S. returned Camp Mercer to South Korea in the early 1990s. The site, which measures 429,000 square meters, is current being used as a South Korean military camp.

Bows stated that the U.S. Army Chemical Depot Korea was located at Camp Mercer at the time and was moved the Camp Carroll, the suspected Agent Orange burial site, between March and April of 1964. He also reported hearing that the reason for the relocation was that the chemical depot was “too close” to the Demilitarized Zone.

Secret of Korea also posted a list of large quantities of waste materials disposed of between 1987 and 1989 by the USFK Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) at Camp Market in Incheon’s Bupyeong district, as ascertained through a 1991 document commissioned and published by the US Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratory. According to the document, more than 500 drums of materials such as mercury, spent batteries, outdated medications, solvent waste, asbestos, sodium sulfate solution, and waste oil were disposed of in 1987 alone.

Meanwhile, the U.S. government visited the house of former USFK soldier Steve House, 54, for more than four hours of questioning Monday. House previously testified to the burial of Agent Orange at Camp Carroll. The questioning Monday was reportedly conducted by three U.S. military officers, including a public information official, military waste treatment expert, and USFK official, with House’s attorney in attendance.

Following the questioning, House called the meeting “productive” and said his understanding was that the contents would be reported to Seoul and Washington.

Please direct questions or comments to [englishhani@hani.co.kr]

http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_national/479638.html

Plot Thickens Over Camp Carroll Agent Orange Dump

The Love Canal environmental disaster at the Niagara Falls area of New York state in 1978 may be linked to the burial of toxic defoliants by the U.S. military in Korea, experts speculate. The Love Canal disaster, in which 21,000 tons of toxic chemicals were found buried in the area, coincides with the timing when large amounts of the defoliant Agent Orange were buried at Camp Carroll in southeastern Korea in 1978.

In the 1940s, an American chemical company called Hooker Chemical buried toxic chemicals, including dioxin, which is used to produce Agent Orange, in the Love Canal site which was turned into a chemical dumpsite after the construction was aborted, causing damage years down the line to students at a nearby school and residents in the area. After the scandal broke in 1978, the U.S. government designated the area as an environmental disaster zone and relocated 235 households and tore down homes and the school.

That incident may have prompted the U.S. government to dispose of toxic chemicals at U.S. military installations overseas instead.

Experts say the Agent Orange used by the U.S. military was in liquid rather than powder form and could end up contaminating soil or underground water supplies, prompting officials to rush to dispose of the toxic chemicals. It was also in 1978 that the damage from Agent Orange became known as Vietnam War veterans from the U.S. and Australia began to complain about side effects and file lawsuits against its manufacturers.

englishnews@chosun.com / May 25, 2011 13:28 KST

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2011/05/25/2011052501123.html

STARS AND STRIPES

South Korea Probes Allegations of Buried Chemicals at ex-US Base

By ASHLEY ROWLAND AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes
Published: May 25, 2011



U.S. Forces Korea is trying to verify a report from an Arizona television station that says the U.S. military buried Agent Orange in the late 1970s at Camp Carroll, shown in this 2009 aerial photo. - Courtesy of the U.S. Army

SEOUL — Sparked by a posting made seven years ago on a veterans' website, South Korea on Wednesday began investigating the possible burial of chemicals at a former U.S. base nearly five decades ago, according to an official from the prime minister's office.

A former soldier stationed at Camp Mercer posted a comment in May 2004 on the Korean War Project website that said the U.S. buried hundreds of gallons of chemicals at Camp Mercer — a small installation in Bucheon that was turned over to South Korea in the 1990s — while he was stationed there in 1963 and 1964.

"We dug a pit with a bulldozer, donned rubber suits and gas masks and dump every imaginable chemical — hundreds of gallons if not more — into the ground on a knoll behind the second storage warehouse on the right," retired Master Sgt. Ray Bows wrote.

Bows' comments attracted widespread attention in South Korean media this week following recent allegations that the U.S. buried the defoliant Agent Orange at another base, Camp Carroll, in 1978.

Three U.S. veterans told a Phoenix television station that they helped bury large amounts of the chemical in a ditch there and continue to suffer health problems from their exposure to it.

The 8th Army said this week that a large number of drums containing pesticides, herbicides and solvents were buried at Carroll in 1978 but were removed the following two years, along with 40 to 60 tons of soil. Officials say they do not know if Agent Orange was among those chemicals.

The military found trace amounts of dioxin, a component of Agent Orange, in 2004 in one of 13 test holes bored at the site, but determined that the amount was too small to be a health threat. Officials had not answered a query from Stars and Stripes as of Wednesday night asking what had prompted that testing.

About seven South Korean officials toured former Camp Mercer, now home to a South Korean engineering unit, on Wednesday to familiarize themselves with the former base, according to a Ministry of National Defense official who said the inquiry had not yet reached the level of an official investigation. He said U.S. military officials did not participate in the tour.

Jeff Buczkowski, 8th Army spokesman, said Wednesday in an email that commenting on Bows' statement would be "pure speculation."

"8th Army is focused on the allegations of Agent Orange buried on Camp Carroll," he said. "Other actions may be addressed through the SOFA Environmental Subcommittee."

Both the prime minister's office and the Ministry of National Defense said Wednesday that they had not interviewed Bows and did not know how to reach him.

The alleged burial of Agent Orange has been one of the top news stories in South Korea, and several small protests have been held outside Camp Carroll and the U.S. Embassy in Seoul in the past week.

Lee Jae-hyuk, head of the Daegu branch of the environmental activist organization Green Korea United, said there is growing anger among South Koreans who believe U.S. Forces Korea has not acted swiftly or transparently enough to resolve the question of whether Agent Orange is buried at Camp Carroll.

He said millions of South Koreans are worried that they are drinking contaminated water from the Nakdong River, located near Carroll, and he believes the U.S. government owes South Koreans an apology.

rowlanda@pstripes.osd.mil

chang.yookyong@pstripes.osd.mil

<http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/korea/s-korea-probes-allegations-of-buried-chemicals-at-ex-u-s-base-1.143372>

wind alone. These particles also move in the water due to tides and current patterns. Combustion of this chemical enhances its toxicity. Transports of the particles trapped in smoke plumes travel in the atmosphere to other locations causing contamination in remote locations to include water sources. Mr. Witter makes clear that with in 48 hours of treating an area with herbicides mission they would apply CS and Napalm to incinerate the treated area. This leaves little doubt as to the deposition of contaminants in waterways. Emissions from combustion created smoke plumes containing particulates are a very relevant source of exposure according to the evidence. The particles rise and are then trapped in the atmosphere and are carried to remote locations causing additional contamination to include water ways as noted in the Great Lakes report. This report reflects the contamination issues relating to the Great Lakes and how the contamination continues to affect the ecosystem and all that lives within it and eats the habitat of the lake as so demonstrated in Vietnam and should be presumed to do the same in Korea.

Above is a very basic summary of how dioxins, furans, and toxic contaminants travel. When one considers the findings reflected in the Great Lakes report and applies this information to the effects of repeated applications of herbicide agents conducted in Korea coupled with the applications of CS, Napalm, the residuals of munitions and occupational chemicals, one must consider cross contamination of chemicals and what may result when such chemicals are burned. Due to this combination of an array of chemicals, we now have a new toxic cocktail, called cross contamination. Once released, these toxins, now in a gaseous state, are free to travel the air currents for thousands of miles.

VA postulates in the February 2004 rating decision that, "there are no measurable quantities or studies to indicate contamination of water sheds." The above mentioned quantities are certainly measurable according to Arnold Shecter's report which again states on page 4, "that "5,000 to 7,000 gallons of TCDD was spilled into the Dong Nai River, **which is the largest source of contamination in Vietnam as of 2002.**" Simple math proves Mr. Witter disposed more than the 7,000 gallons of agents that spilled into the Dong Nai River by at least 5,000 gallons.

The Great Lakes report certainly clarifies and removes any doubt as to the different modes of distances such contaminants can be transported.

It is not the fault of the veteran that studies have supposedly not been conducted in Korea. The experts having conducted these studies in Vietnam certainly reflect grave concern for other countries where such agents were imposed. Again this allows for reasonable doubt based on lack of VA official records.

Water Purification Plants and Co-Distillation:

All of the above noted reports open a new subject of great relevance, co-distillation of drinking water, meaning the purification of more than one chemical found in water supplies. I have enclosed reports from the Department of the Navy and the National Research Center For Environmental Toxicology conducted on behalf of the Australian Government. The Australian report is also located on our VA web site search engine. The question is, why U.S. Official studies are not made available to the veterans within VA

Search Index, such as the Naval Risk Analysis Report and the reports indicating the repairs need to correct this issue to include reports by the Navy proving that there is a grave concern of purification plants at **all** military locations. Both reports state that the distillation equipment and process on board ships were inadequate in the removal of dioxin. These reports led me to investigate the effectiveness of urban water purification plants.

VA Agent Orange Subject Index: Location of Australian Co-distillation reports.

<http://www1.va.gov/agentorange/page.cfm?pg=4&template=main&letter=A>

The Courier Mail titled: Dioxins in Veterans Water.

<http://www.vvaa.org.au/other.htm>

<http://www.vvaa.org.au/Media%20Release%20-%20Report%20Navy%20Veterans.pdf>

Department of U S Navy-titled: Risk Analysis of Shipboard Drinking Water Chemical Contaminants 18 August 2000.

<http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/downloads/prevmed/waterproject.pdf>

Department of Affairs Australia-titled: NRCET- National Research Center For Environmental Toxicology A Report to the Department of Veteran Affairs-Australia.

www.dva.gov.au/adf/health_studies/dva_nrcet_final_report.pdf

National Research Center for Environmental Toxicology- titled: Co Distillation of Agent Orange and Other Persistent Organic Pollutants I Evaporative Water Distillation.

<https://ntp-apps.niehs.nih.gov/diox2002/view.cfm?prikey=19>

National Institute of Health-title: Pesticides and Childhood Cancers. (Occupational Epidemiology Branch Division Of Cancer, National Cancer Institute, Maryland.)

<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/members/1998/Suppl-3/893-908zahm/zahm-full.html>

National Institute of Health Health-title: Low Sperm Count, Quality in Rural Area Tied To Herbicides, Pesticides. (University of Missouri)

<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/press/swan2003.html>

Theses reports conclude that the distillation process ENHANCED the dioxin by twice its level of toxicity. You will also note that additional evidence includes reports stating that domestic and urban purification systems are also inadequate and unable to remove such chemicals from drinking water as so sated in Ms. Patton's report which dates back to 1980. The current reports are more reflective of information confirming to date the modes of contamination affecting drinking water.

In the Risk Analysis Report on page 12-14, it clearly states chemical agents such as volatile organic compounds, lead, hydrocarbons, and petroleum products can find their way through the purification system into the drinking water on board ships. It also states lead based paint was used on the inside of the holding tanks which appear to be normal practice causing lead poisoning. While this Veteran is not a Naval Veteran., the report is technical and shows the concern of our Government with regard to all purification systems at military instillations. This simply backs up other related documents regarding urban purification plants and the lack of ability to remove these kinds of contaminants.

The following two noted documents published by the National Institute of Health, further substantiates that **urban purification systems could not remove herbicides from drinking water.** (Pesticides and Childhood Cancers, and Low Sperm Count, Quality in Rural Area Tied To Herbicides, Pesticides.)

I am requesting that VA take into consideration the vintage of the purification plants that were in place at the time. Pictures of these plants have been attached and reflect the lack of modern technology that it takes to ensure safe drinking water. These reports alone document the historical concern and confirmation that water purification plants could not remove the dioxin and in fact again prove it enhanced its strength.

Half Life of TCDD and Other Known Contaminants:

U.S Department of Human Health and Human Services – title: Chapter 5 Potential for Human Exposure and a portion of the complete report titled, part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Its formal title is, Toxicological Profile for Chlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins (Update).

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp104.html>

This reflects studies and findings which members of the Ranch Hand Study Team, Chief Investigator Dr. Joel Michalek and Dr. Shecter. These reports discuss releases to the environment by means of air, water and sediment soil contamination of water sources and typical contaminated site locations to include emissions due to combustion. On page 382 it details the effects of combustion, how the contaminants travel, “results in wide-spread distribution of CDD’s” and what further contamination it results in when deposited elsewhere. Such locations include remote water sources and soils. Most important is the fact that this document reflects the half-life of TCDD in soils. On page 424 it concludes that **“TCDD’s half life in surface soil is 9 to 15 years” but it also goes on to say the “half life in subsurface soil is 25 to 100 years.”** A remarkable number. This report also includes environmental fate, levels monitored or estimated in the environment, general population and occupational exposure and populations with potentially high levels of exposure. This is actually a 750-page report detailing health effects on humans and animals. This particular web site allows you to view several hundred pages. It can also be attained from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Its formal title is, Toxicological Profile for Chlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins (Update).

These findings are overwhelming and continue to historically prove short-term exposures in fact cause long-term health effects. There is with out a doubt, many modes in which dioxin can be transported causing such contamination of other locations far from its original application. It helps us to understand that the amount of dioxin mirroring the size of a grain of rice can kill many. To refute the findings of the experts denies one the right to benefit of doubt.

Military Medicine-titled: U.S. Military Working Dogs with Vietnam Service: Definition and Characteristics of the Cohort.

Journal Of National Cancer Institute, titled: Excess Of Semiformal Observed in Vietnam Services U.S. Military working Dogs. Published in 1990.

Alvin Young Collection: Military working Dogs

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/scope.htm>

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/search.htm>

The enclosed official summaries of necropsies (autopsies) performed on K-9 Units that served in Vietnam and other locations such as Korea reflect a high rate of adverse ill health effects due to components of herbicide agents. The necropsy studies and findings spanned from **1968-1973** and as late as **1980**. (Some notes date back to 1963) These prove that adverse health effects in animals were documented long after the last spray mission supposedly ended in 1969. Many contend these missions continued long into the 70's.

As mentioned earlier in this statement, the Alvin Young Collection consists of 1600 documents. I have enclosed his web site in order that you may review these additional documents found under the **Scope and Container List**. These are maintained by the National Agricultural Library Special Collections. He also maintains reports relating to Military working dogs, K9 units.

I am requesting that VA request all official necropsies and necropsy summaries of all K-9 units having served in Korea from 1968-1980 to be provided as evidence for this claim. These are not available to the public but can be attained by VA at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Virginia. (K-9 Necropsies from 1968-1973 and 1978-1980.)

Understanding Diesel Oils and Human Health Effects:

Veterans having served in Korea have provided statements proving that diesel fuel was historically used as a means of heat for years. A notarized statement by a ranking officer having served in Korea, Captain Skiff, US Army Retired, also makes notes that diesel was used on roadways for dust control. During this process Captain Skiff indicates that foliage was covered in the fuel and diesel was also deposited into drain ditches. He too testifies to the fact that diesel was used as a heat source which released fumes into our living quarters. (Thank you Captain Skiff for your assistance.) Enclosed evidence will show that petroleum products and/or combustion of such products result in severe if not fatal consequences.

ATSDR - ToxFAQs: Fuel Oils

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/phs75.html

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

web99.arc.nasa.gov/~astrochm/PAHs.html

Occupational Exposures and Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma In Southern Sweden

http://www.ijohh.com/pfds/1001_Dryver.pdf

Cancer Risk From Diesel Particulate:

www.4cleanair.org/comments/Cancerriskreport.PDF

Chapter 2 Human Health Impacts:

<http://www.nrdc.org/air/transportation/ebd/chap2.asp>

The above noted references support and prove that fuel oils and fuel distillates such as diesel are known carcinogens and can result in Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma coupled with a multitude of other ill health effects. Fuel oil chemical components are classified as aliphatic hydrocarbons containing naphthenes, aromatic hydrocarbons containing benzene, toluene and fuel oilsylenes, olefinic hydrocarbons and polycyclic hydrocarbons.

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons are found in diesel and when under combustion they produce lead causing lead poisoning.

Exposures also occur in the work place due to oil spills, through inhalation, oil vapor, drinking water contamination, ingestion, and direct dermal contact, absorption.

These particulates are again transported by means of vapor action, smoke plumes, atmospheric movement, air, rain, soil sediments, and erosion causing contamination of waterways used for the purpose of drinking water and contamination of food sources.

I am requesting that VA prove or disprove that these chemical components and or the combustion of said chemicals do or do not cause ill health effects.

Health effects of Military-issued Insecticides, Pesticides, Fumigants, Repellants and Rodenticides:

DOD has long instituted a pest control program. This listing contains numerous chemicals known to be harmful to the human. The enclosed list is a current listing of those chemicals currently employed by DOD.

In a previously mentioned report by Paul Sutton he references bizarre findings and high rates of Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma. He makes clear that the Rainbow Herbicides are not the only issues of concern but include all known military-issued insecticides, pesticides, fumigants, repellants and rodenticides employed during the Vietnam Conflict. Other references will also conclude that the noted chemicals and chemical components can result in the onset of Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma along with an array of other illness and or disabilities.

I am requesting that BVA provide a listing of all know pest control agent provided by DOD during the 60's and 70's.

DOD Standard Pesticides and Pest Control Equipment Lists

<http://www.afpmb.org/standardlist.htm>

Paul Sutton's report titled: The History of Agent Orange Use in Vietnam An Historical Overview From The Veteran's Perspective (Paul Sutton National chairman Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee Vietnam Veterans of America Inc.)

<https://ntp-apps.niehs.nih.gov/diox2002/view.cfm?prikey=16>

Chemicals Used In The Military Operations During The Vietnam War

<http://www.gmasw.com/chemlist.htm>

Definitions: Organochlorines

<http://pacific.fws.gov/ecoservices/envicon/pim/reports/contaminantinfo/contaminants.html>

Conserve O Gram

http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/publications/conservoogram/cons_toc.html

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/publications/conservoogram/o2-14.pdf>

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and Agricultural Use of the Insecticide Lindane

By the: American Journal Of Industrial Medicine 33:82-87 (1998)

<http://dceg.cancergov/pdfs/blair33821998.pdf>

OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES IN SPRAYING AND APPLICATION OF INSECTICIDES (Group 2A)

By the, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). <http://www.inchem.org/documents/iarc/vol53/01-insecticides.html>

NJDEP - HPCTF Final Report - Human Health

www.state.nj.us/dep/special/hpctf/final/health.htm

It is a known fact that all military uniforms during the Vietnam Era were impregnated with chemicals to guard against insect infestation and the most widely used were DEET, DDT and Pyrethrum. Other deterrents included insecticides, pesticides, herbicides, rodenticides, fumigants and repellants further classified and identified as:

Organochlorines, Carbonates, DDE, Chlordane, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor Epoxide, PCBs, Dioxin

Inorganics: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, zinc

Other contaminants: Carbamates, Hexachlorobenzene, Hydrocarbons, Organophosphate, Chlorophenols.

The above noted chemical groups and components are found in the many military-issued repellants, pesticides insecticides, rodenticides, fumigants and fungicides used for service members personal use, not to mention herbicide agents deployed in Korea. Malathion was commonly used as an insect repellant and sprayed at all base camps as we know. Note the Military Working Dog summary reports, indicating the high rates of NHL due to the use of Malathion. Again the chemical deposition is by means of erosion, vaporization, combustion, and atmospheric entrapment of particulates being re-deposited long distances from its origin causing contamination of food and water sources. These chemicals are also known to be persistent in soils.

Closing Statement:

The above noted reports were authored by experts, many of who are members of the Ranch Hand Study Team, all acting on behalf of our government and Veterans of America. To disregard their findings and opinions disallows the veteran the benefit of the doubt.

I am requesting that VA address the environment issues reflected herein and reconsider all modes of exposure, which have proven to lead to ill health effects. I contend we ate local food, drank local water, suffered inhalation, absorption and ingestion of herbicide agents and other known toxins present while stationed at ASCOM.

I am requesting that the Rating Officers review the 85 studies conducted in Vietnam during March of 2002 along with the Alvin Young Collection. Many of the experts are members of the Ranch Hand Team or from government agencies. These further substantiate that herbicide agents remain in the environment for decades causing ill health effects.

I am also requesting VA consider the new evidence which confirms these contaminants remain in the environment and water ways for **“long periods of time and travel long distances due to water transportation, tides, and soil erosion which then erodes into waterways, atmospheric distribution, and wind drift”** and that **“TCDD’s half life in surface soil is 9 to 15 years”** and goes on to say the **“half life in subsurface soil is 25 100 years.”**. Just as important, the evidence proves that these particles will continue to contaminate other locations for **“long periods of time”** due to the mentioned means of re-distribution, water movement, weather conditions, combustion and vapor action thereby contaminating food and water sources. I am sure all are aware of the kinds of weather conditions one faced, rain, wind, and snow, which causes the re-distribution of said chemicals, according to the scientific evidence from numerous studies.

I am requesting that VA prove that service members at ASCOM or at any other military locations in Korea were not supplied the mentioned agents for personal use and that such agents did not caused ill health effects. I am also requesting that VA prove or disprove that the mentioned herbicide agents deployed in Korea did or did not contaminate drinking water sources thereby affecting all service members through ingestion. Such agents for personal use and/or agents deployed for foliage destruction are as follows: Malathion, Dichlorvos, Diquat, Diuron, Monuron, Picloram, Silvex, Simazine, 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, Cacodylic Acid, Aluminum phosphide, Baygon DDE, Carbaryl-DDT, Chlordane, Diazinon, Dieldrin, Dursban, Lindane, Methyl bromide, Naled, Benzyl benzoate, Anticoagulant, Calcium cyanide, Zinc phosphide, Pentachlorophenol, SMDC, DSMA, Bromacils, Chlorate-Borate, Dacthal, Dalapon, Dicamba, to include those impregnated in military issued uniforms such as DEET and Pyrethrum.

3.102 Reasonable Doubt: VA law 3.102 states, “... When, after careful consideration of all procurable and assembled data, a reasonable doubt arises regarding service origin, the degree of disability, or any other point, such doubt will be resolved in favor of the claimant.”

“The reasonable doubt doctrine is also applicable even in the absence of official records, particularly if the basic incident allegedly arose under combat or similarly strenuous conditions, and is consistent with the probable results of such known hardships.”
(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501(a))

3.304 Section “(d) Combat. Satisfactory lay or other evidence that an injury or disease was incurred or aggravated in combat will be accepted as sufficient proof of service

connection if the evidence is consistent with the circumstances, conditions or hardships of such service **even though there is no official record of such incidence or aggravation.** (Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1154(b))”

It is my contention that based on the current evidence, satisfaction of the conditions of 3.102 and 3.304 has been overwhelmingly accomplished.

Duty To Assist:

If an unfavorable decision is made I am requesting the following information be provided.

- VA to prove or disprove that all the noted authors and findings are false in nature to include the Alvin Young’s collection-1600 documents and the 85 reports derived from recent studies in Vietnam 2002.
- VA to prove or disprove the above noted collection of studies conducted in 2002 in Vietnam could not possibly reflect the same results in Korea.
- VA to provide the individual Necropsies performed on all Military Working Dogs that served in Korea through 1980 as reflected in the summaries enclosed. This can be attained at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.
- VA to prove or disprove the summaries of actual necropsy results were not a result of herbicide exposure as so stated in the enclosed report.
- VA to prove or disprove that other Chemical Units serving in Korea did or did not release additional herbicide agents into the waterways and that the ranking officer did or did not instruct others differently from that of Mr. Witter.
- VA provide a listing of all know pest control agent provided by DOD during the 60’s and 70’s.
- VA to provide any test results conducted by the Korea Government with regard to herbicide contamination and other U.S. military related contaminants.
- VA to apply reasonable doubt on behalf of the Veteran.

I appreciate your time and diligence in this matter and look forward to a positive resolution of my appeal.

Respectfully,

Date

SEE BOTTOM FOR ADDITIONAL LINKS

Additional links of Interest:

Water contamination

EPA: Ground Water and Drinking Water

Consumer Factsheet on: DIOXIN (2,3,7,8-TCDD)

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/contaminants/dw_contamfs/dioxin.html

Deposition of Pullutants:

Greenpeace: Down to Zero

<http://archive.greenpeace.org/toxics/downtozero/POPS/pops.html>

Greenpeace: Waste Incinerators Playing with Fire

www.greenpeace.org/~toxics/globaltour/background/incineration.pdf

National Geographic Channel: Toxins Accumulate in Artic Peoples, Animals, Study Says.

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/08/0827_040827_tvarctic_toxins.html

Department Of Veterans Affairs
VA Regional Office Detroit
ADDRESS

February 25, 2004

Re: Mr. Commissio

RE:Claim #

To whom it may concern,

I first would like to thank you for your assistance regarding the above mentioned claim.

As previously stated I developed Mantel Cell Lymphoma in 1997, a form of Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Since that time severe secondary conditions have continued to develop. I was recently hospitalized in March of 2004 due to a recurrence of this disease. Again I believe it important to note that there has been no such illness among my ancestors or my seven siblings and am the only member of my family to have served in the military.

Based upon the recent rating decision I would like to take this opportunity to request an appeal. Due to my current condition I am unable to travel therefore I am also requesting that this hearing be conducted at the local Department Of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Michigan with the BVA Traveling Board.

Substantial evidence recently submitted was not addressed in the 2/06/04 rating decision. This evidence included the use of military issued repellants classified as pesticides and insecticides and herbicides, which were applied directly to the skin and are known to cause harmful side effects to include NHL. I also submitted evidence regarding occupational exposures I experienced while in service which were not considered at all.

Enclosed evidence shows the inconsistent actions on the part of the Defense Department in supplying VA with appropriate information which would allow VA to make a fair judgement in ones claim which I believe would be vital to this claim. Only now does VA acknowledge limited Herbicide usage in Korea after years of denial on DOD's part. As in the issue regarding Vietnam, slowly but surely evidence was provided that proved herbicide agents were used in Vietnam and also proved DOD was not forthcoming in releasing such data for years. As so implied in this rating decision regarding herbicide use in Korea. Again we see these same inconsistencies and slow response. Proof of these actions has been provided showing that the declassified documents I have submitted are documents which appear **not** to have been submitted and distributed to Regional Offices, hence the response to the Department Of The Army in a report titled, " The Final Report, Vegetation Control Plan CY 68 (U) stamp dated 2 Jan 1969". Yet the paragraph on page 17, 4th of the current rating decision is in direct conflict with this declassified evidence. See document titled Final Report Vegetation Control Plan CY 68 (U), page 1 of the

actual report, paragraph 1. My point being I have evidence DOD has released which VA apparently has not been made privy to as of yet.

This same declassified document clearly states that not only in 1963 **spraying** occurred, not just a test as so stated in the rating decision, but that in 1967 defoliant testing began. An inconsistent determination found in the rating decision. As we now know VA acknowledges 1968 and not 1967. On Page 18 paragraph 4 of the rating decision it states, "Although there have been findings of defoliant use in the area where you served, this was from April 1968 up through July of 1969". **My service in Korea was from 1965-1966.**

Another inconsistency found in this rating decision on page 17 paragraph 4, it states, "The records we have do not refer to the use of Agent Orange or other chemicals in routine base maintenance activities such as spraying of railroad tracks, weed control on rifle ranges etc. We have been informed such use does not exist." Yet in the declassified documents it in fact states, "2,4,D was used in selected areas such as observation posts and guard posts, to clear fields of fire. ROKA forces applied 2,4,D to grassy areas." Contamination of the environment in areas I was assigned to.

Based on the continued inconsistencies and the many exposures I incurred during service it is my contention that ample evidence was submitted to warrant a decision based on reasonable doubt. I also contend 3.304 are applicable as I was in direct combat and incurred an injury resulting in NHL, as a result of my service in Korea. I believe I have submitted positive evidence to include herbicides exposure, occupational exposures and the use of repellants, which I believe, warrants reconsideration of the evidence. I believe this information clearly offsets what negative evidence VA is referring to on page 17 and 18 of the rating decision. Especially based on the fact that herbicide agents appears to be the only issue taken into consideration.

Please note the rating decision for C.Oden in VA possession was included as evidence to show that occupational exposure has been granted on behalf of other veterans who used the same chemicals I was required to use to maintain my weapons. It was determined that these chemicals caused harmful side effects such as cancer, note the veterans doctors statements. Again it appears this evidence was not taken into consideration at the time of the review and therefore I am requesting that all aspects and evidence regarding all exposures be taken into account. Much of these same occupational chemicals were also components of herbicide agents. Methane, Ethane, Chlorides, Hydrocarbons, etc. It is well documented that kerosene and diesel fuel was a huge component of herbicides which contains the many chemicals noted in the below information and submitted evidence regarding chemical exposures.

As a new aspect of this claim I recent became aware of information I believe to be pertinent to this claim. I am submitting information regarding Biological Warfare conducted during the Korean War. During the 50's and 60's our Government experimented with biological agents in hopes of weaponizing these agents. I also content that I was exposed to these residual agents, which were introduced in Korea throughout

the Korean War. Based on all the exposures I encounter during my service in Korea I am also contending that my immune system has been heavily compromised causing an inability for my body to ward off illness and diseases. (See: Oden's rating decision showing this specific language used to determine the claim for occupational exposures.) This information is currently being copied and will be submitted as soon as possible.

As I proceed in this rebuttal I will continue to point out the inconsistencies between the rating decision and the evidence currently on file.

3.102 Reasonable doubt:

3.102 clearly defines that when reasonable doubt has been established VA is obligated to consider benefit of doubt on behalf of the Veteran. Enclosed evidence as been compiled which establishes reasonable doubt.

VA concurs and acknowledges in the 2/6/04 rating decision that evidence showing herbicides were present in Korea prior to 1968. See page 18 paragraph 1. Note the actual document does not state this was only a test. It states quite the opposite, which is in direct conflict with the rating decision.

I have provided evidence indicating the presents of herbicide agents in Korea prior to 1968 and reports that conclude that these agents remain in the environment causing contamination for years to follow the application of such agents. It is clearly noted that food, ground water and the soil are clearly affected. The most current study was conducted in Vietnam in 2003. Two studies were provided as evidence and I ask that this be considered based upon residual effects of environmental contamination of areas I lived in, ate the food from and drank the water.

I am adding another element of evidence I believe to have affected my immune system, Biological Warfare, which occurred throughout the 50's and into the early 60's. This information is being copied and will be forthcoming.

I have also shown that military issued pesticide and insecticide repellants can cause NHL. I have shown occupational chemicals can also cause NHL. All are consistent with NHL and are immune disrupters. It is my belief I suffered many types of exposures during my service in Korea both residual effects of prior experiments conducted in Korea and direct exposures during my service in Korea. I am requesting that this be reconsidered and reasonable doubt be applied. I content that this evidence does create an approximate balance of positive and negative evidence as to the issue being considered.

3.304 Direct service connection; wartime and peacetime:

Under section (d) Combat, the following law specifically describes the type of evidence, which I must provide VA and that which VA is obligated to acknowledge.

3.304 Section (d) Combat, states that, "Satisfactory lay or other evidence that an injury or disease was incurred or aggravated in combat will be accepted as sufficient proof of service connection if the evidence is consistent with the circumstances, conditions or

hardships of such service **even though there is no official record of such incidence or aggravation.**” (Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1154(b))

Copies of pictures already in VA’s possession prove I was in direct combat, my location, position and rank as a service member deployed to Korea. A statement of facts has been attached describing the environment depicted in the pictures.

It is my contention that I suffered Herbicide, Occupational Exposures and Biological agents while service in Korea. Studies published by the Department of Veterans Affairs indicate that these exposures compromise the immune system leading to the onset of certain illnesses years later, such as NHL. While in service I utilized military issued cleaning solvents to maintain my weapons. I also used military issued pesticides and insecticide as insect repellants on a daily basis. All of which are consistent with NHL and are immune disrupters, according to the evidence. This evidence was submitted but not taken into consideration during the review process. I am requesting this information be reconsidered.

Again, I have provided evidence from DOD indicating the presents of herbicide agents in Korea prior to 1968 and that these agents remain in the environment for years after application. I question what further evidence DOD has chosen not to release, as this has been the Departments normal practice in the past. It has been made clear that DOD has long reluctantly and slowly released information in regards to this issue. VA continues to seek information regarding herbicide use during the entire era in question. The enclosed VA inter office memos proves VA continues to develop this evidence and has direct their employees to take this into consider when working with Veterans claims and their evidence. I ask that this be reconsidered and reasonable doubt be applied.

Enclosed Relevant Evidence:

Herbicide Exposure: (already in VA’s possession)

In the rating decision dated 02/06/2004, page 17, 4th paragraph, states “ We did receive a listing from the Defense Department of locations outside of Vietnam where Agent Orange records we have do not refer to the use of Agent Orange or other chemicals in routine base maintenance activities such as spraying along railroad tracks, weed control or rifle ranges.”

The enclosed declassified document, released by The Department Of Defense, titled, Final Vegetation Control Program CY 1968 (U), under section 7, page 3, paragraph 1 of my evidence packet states that herbicides were used as early as 1963 in Korea. **This document specifically states that, ROKA forces applied 2,4,D to applied to observation post, guard posts and grassy areas.** This section of this report does not refer to these applications as a test, which was so stated in the rating decision of 2/06/04.

HR 2297, (enclosed), was passed December 2003, changing the current time frames of herbicide usage in Korea from 1968-1969 to 1967-1971. It is clear this information continues to develop and I ask that VA consider the enclosed declassified documents

proving 2,4,D was used in Korea during 1963. I am also requesting that the Rating Officer acknowledge VA's continued documentation proving that herbicides remain in the environment for years causing ill effects.

An enclosed memo from California's Oakland Regional Office, under section 6 of my evidence packet, dated 11/18/03, clearly states that VA is still seeking information from the Department of Defense concerning the application of herbicides in Korea. VA makes clear that they themselves have yet to confirm all the dates, locations and military units affected by these herbicides. VA states that continued meetings with DOD for further clarification regarding these issues are still in progress.

I contend all of the above creates a situation regarding benefit of doubt.

Environmental Impact:

Several experts conducted a recent study in Vietnam proving that herbicide agents used by the government for defoliation persist in the environment and contaminate the soil, food and water sources for years after application causing continued human adverse health effects. Many of these experts are members of the Ranch Hand Team such as Dr. Schector. Their findings are submitted to The Department Of Veterans Affairs to assist the department in making determinations regarding the long-term environmental impact of herbicides and the health affects of Veterans exposed to such chemicals. It is my contention that the chemicals used in Korea affected the environment in the same manner. The contamination remains in the environment for years later and causes latent and long term health effects, some time frames according to VA are lifetime.

Occupational Chemical Exposures: (already in VA's possession)

It has been brought to my attention that degreasers, cleaning solvents and lubricants I used to maintain my weapons are considered to be harmful if not fatal to the human. These chemicals are widely used in the overall maintenance of military equipment such as all metal parts including weapons, auto parts, communication systems, electronic systems, radar equipment, all mechanical equipment, air craft maintenance, air-conditioning systems, naval ships and submarine systems. The Department of Veterans Affairs has in their possession job descriptions and chemical use information from technical manuals, which would substantiate occupational exposures.

The following chemicals and or chemical groups **are a few** of the documented chemicals I was required to use and or was exposed to while in service including Dioxin like compounds such as PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyl's). Many have the same Toxic Equivalency Factor (TEF) as Dioxin (Agent Orange). PCB's and Furans are collectively referred to as Dioxin. They are scored for their dioxin like potency according to attached evidence and are known carcinogens.

The most commonly used solvents at the time were, Carbon Tetrachloride, Trichloroethylene (TCE), Methylene, Ethylene's, Toluene, Zylene, Benzene, Vinyl Chloride, Methane's and Ethane's, such as Trichloroflouromethane and Trichlorflourethane. Several of these solutions contain components of Chloroform,

Formaldehyde, Phenols, Methanol, Ethanol, and Heavy Metals, which are also toxic. Many of the chemicals are considered and or classified as volatile. Furans, Polychlorinated Biphenyls, PAH's (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons), Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Dimethyl (arsenic) and Organophosphates are key components of military solvents and pesticides including 2,4,D.

Evidence enclosed substantiates that the above-mentioned chemicals such as Carbon Tetrachloride and Trichloroethylene (TCE), are known hydrocarbons. Such chemicals also cause fragmentation of one's DNA, inhibiting the immune system, leading to cancers including NHL. Evidence will show a nexus between these chemicals and NHL.

In a report by DOD titled, Report to Congress--Ozone Depleting, submitted to the 107th Congress, proves that harmful chemicals are still in use today. While the military has stated that a few select chemicals are being phased out, military branches have continued the use of such chemicals due to their cost effectiveness, efficiency, and the fact that there is a surplus available. One such chemical is, Carbon Tetrachloride, which has a 100-year half-life and one of the most toxic among this group. This document clearly reflects a lack of priority regarding the health of our service members as the subject plays an insignificant role in this report.

All of the above exposures also cause deadly long-term health affects with life long latency periods. So to exclude this exposure reduces substantial evidence pertinent to this claim.

Reports from the National Institute of Health: (already in VA's possession)

Enclosed studies validate the nexus between chemical exposures and NHL. Theses studies also make clear that the immune system is severely damaged due to these exposures. 72.2% of the studies statistically showed a significant associations between NHL, pesticides, herbicides and organic solvent exposure related occupations or industries.

Epidemiological studies indicate an increased risk of NHL following exposure to chemicals such as Phenoxyacetic Acids, Chlorophenols, Dioxins, Organic Solvents including Benzene, Polychlorinated Biphenyls, Chlordane's, Trichloroethylene, Tetrachloroethylene, Benzene, Toluene, and Zylene. Carbon Tetrachloride statistically showed a significantly higher risk for NHL.

The risk of NHL was also significantly increased by exposures to Phenoxy Herbicides, Dicamba, Carbamate, Organophosphorus insecticides and Amide fungicides. Among individual compounds, in multivariate analyses, the risk of NHL also statistically showed a significant increase due to herbicide exposure to 2,4,D (Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid), insecticide Malathion, 1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-bis (4-chlorophenyl) Ethane (DDT), Carbaryl, Aldrin, and Lindane and to the fungicides Captan and Sulfur Compounds. Several of these compounds were issued by the military to protect service members from insects.

The attached document titled, United States-Vietnam Scientific Conference On Human Health And Environmental Effects Of Agent Orange/Dioxins (March 3-6, 2002) **(Already in VA's Possession)** can also be located at:

<http://www.hatfieldgroup.com/hgnews/A%20%20HISTORY%20OF%20AGENT%20RANGE%20USE.pdf>

This document reflects the repellants, rodenticides, insecticides and pesticides were provided to service members by the military during the Vietnam conflict era. The intent was to ward off diseases transmitted by insects. The majority are known contributing factors of NHL, as reported in the National Institute of Health documents enclosed.

The following chemicals were in direct contact with the skin:

Lindane, DDE and a form of DDE know as DDT, DEET, Naled, Methyl Bromide, Dichlorvos, Diazinon, Pyrethrum, Baygon, Carbaryl, Malathion, Dieldrin, and Chlordane. (Lindane being the most toxic, the most often used and the most likely to cause NHL.)

Biplogical Warfare: (new material evidence)

I would like to take this evidence one step further by submitting data proving long term Biological Warfare and testing which occurred during the Korean War and posed latent long-term health affects. I content these agents also remain in the environment. These documents will be forthcoming. They are currently being copied and will be forwarded as soon as possible.

PTSD:

I have attached stessors to substantiate PTSD. More over, I have come to realize the nexus between NHL and my service in Korea. Also taking into consideration the evidence and the fact that there is no family history of such illnesses as cancer, I am convinced my service to this country is the direct result of my poor health. I have also been forced to realize that due to my military service my family will face a loss sooner than anticipated. I fear my wife's future and grieve at the thought of not sharing a long life with her and my children. My ancestors and siblings have lived and are currently living long healthy lives. Am I simply an unfortunate person who mysteriously developed NHL? I do not believe so. It seems to me that there is typically a cause and effect in most situations. Based on the evidence, I strongly believe my illness is service connected due to the unbelievable exposures I encounter in service. History and continued documentation proves the Government had full knowledge that all these exposures were potentially harmful if not deadly long before any application was made yet they still choice to expose U.S. troops without so much as a warning. Herbicide agents specifically date back to the 1940's. Evidence does show the presents of herbicides agents in Korea prior to 1968. Documentation regarding occupational exposures also reflects these same facts.

As an eighteen-year-old service member I trusted I was being protected. Chemical warnings were not issued nor was protective gear. While I chose to be a combat soldier and understood the consequence, I did not understand that lifetime decisions regarding my health were given such little thought and not a consideration on the part of our

Government. I am angered that I had no choice in the matter and that information was being withheld and that decisions were being made without my knowledge and or approval. Having now developed an understanding of all that occurred while service to this country, I am left feeling violated that I was not allowed an opportunity to make an educated decision but rather unknowing choices were being forced upon me. The evidence has proven to me that my immune system has been greatly compromised resulting in NHL. Based on the overwhelming evidence I consider NHL to be the direct result of service in Korea there by deeming it service connected. I have battled NHL for years and it has certainly taken it's toll on both my family and myself causing a great deal of depression which I have been and am currently being treated for with medication.

Medical Records:

VA has in their possession medical records dating back to 1997, which provides a history of my illnesses. Due to continued set backs and a recent hospitalization, I have enclosed updated medical information for your review. Several Physicians Statements have also been enclosed confirming the NEXUS between Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma and herbicide, pesticide and environmental exposure.

Claim to include:

Please include all new medical information and amend this claim to include noted disabilities, secondary conditions and illnesses previously not mentioned, **if this is an appropriate time to do so**. These issues relate directly to the onset of Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 1997 and the continued recurrences of the illness.

3.309 Presumptive disease:

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma is listed as a presumptive disease associated with herbicide exposures. Please note a cancer data sheet has been attached listing the chain of events during treatment periods. A list of all medications has also been provided.

Duty to Assist:

Under this particular law, VA allows me the opportunity to request assistance in attaining additional information and or to make requests for evidence to substantiate this claim. I therefore would like to formally request the following information:

The following information was requested but apparently not provided. I am asking that every effort be made in attaining the following information, as it would be pertinent to this claim. This is not information available to the general public that I am aware of and can only be acquired with the assistance of VA. I have made additional requests in hopes the authors of the enclosed military declassified documents can be contacted, to no avail.

- 1) VA to prove or disprove that herbicides were or were not used in Korea **prior** to 1967 and that they did or did not date back to as early as 1963.
- 2) VA to provide any new memorandums or declassified documents released by DOD in regards to the use of herbicides in Korea.
- 3) VA to prove that exposure to 2,4,D is not capable of remaining in the environment for at least two years.

- 4) VA to provide documentation of all known skin repellants, insecticides, pesticides and rodenticides issued to service members while deployed to Korea.
- 5) VA to prove or disprove that such repellants, insecticides, pesticides and rodenticides do or do not contribute to the onset of NHL.
- 6) VA to provide a complete list of all chemicals I was required to use as a Military Police service member in the DMZ.
- 7) VA to prove or disprove that occupational exposures did or did not contribute or cause NHL.
- 8) VA to prove or disprove that Biological agents do or do not contribute to the break down of ones immune system.
- 9) VA to contact the all the author's involved in the declassified document already submitted titled "The Final Report, Vegetation Control Plan CY 68 (U) stamp dated 2 Jan 1969" for further details regarding the use of herbicide agents in Korea during 1963. I am requesting that any new insight on this document considered. These are not individuals I have access to but believe VA can assist in my attempt to locate further documentation on the subject

I have met the criteria of both 3.102 and 3.304 by providing adequate data to create reasonable doubt, which establishes that an illness and or injury in fact occurred due to my deployment in Korea. The majority of the enclosed evidence is from government sources, which I believe would be considered something other than lay evidence.

Evidence states that risk factors for NHL includes exposures to, organic solvents, insecticides, rodenticides, pesticides and herbicides containing PAH'S (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons), Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Dimethyl (arsenic), Organophosphates, Dioxin like compounds such as PCB's, Furans and 2,4,D. Theses chemicals have been clearly identified in the current evidence as key components of military solvents, repellents, rodenticides, pesticides, and herbicides. I content that these harmful components remain in the environment, to include the soil, water sources and food. These exposures occurred in the form of inhalation, absorption and ingestion for which I contend compromised my health causing the onset of NHL

I realize this information is detailed and cumbersome. I truly appreciate your diligence, consideration, time and efforts in addressing this claim.

Sincerely,

Department Of Veterans Affairs
VA Regional Office

Claim # Re:

To Whom It May Concern,

.....
serving at ASCOM, Korea. I not only encountered herbicide exposures but also an array of toxic military- issued repellants, rodenticides, insecticides, pesticides, fumigants and occupational chemicals.

I was provided solvents with which to maintain my weapon such as Carbon Tetrachloride, Trichloroethylene, Benzene, Toulene and Xylene, to name a few. These solvents are known carcinogens and according to the evidence, can certainly result in NHL. We were also supplied fuel oils such as diesel as a means heat for stoves in our living quarters. When under combustion the fumes produce lead and other toxic fumes which have proven to cause cancer.

We were supplied or exposed to: Malathion, Dichlorvos, Diquat, Diuron, Monuron, Picloram, Silvex, Simazinc, 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, Cacodylic Acid, Aluminum phosphide, Baygon DDE, Carbaryl-DDT, Chlordane, Diazinon, Dieldrin, Dursban, Lindane Methyl bromide, Naled, Benzyl benzoate, Anticoagulant, Calcium cyanide, Zinc phosphide, Pentachlorophenol, SMDC, DSMA, Bromacils, Chlorate-Borate , Dacthal, Dalapon, Dicamba, and other agents to ward off pests including those substances impregnated in military issued uniforms such as DEET and Pyrethrum. Many of these agents were supplied for personal application.

Studies prove the above noted chemical components, agents, and solvents, are known to be destructive in nature to human health and is certainly a skin irritant, carcinogenic, contain heavy metals and can result in the onset of NHL.

Claim: Exposures Incurred at ASCOM, Korea:

Mr. Steve Witter, a veteran having served in Korea, was a member of the Chemical Company assigned to deploy herbicides in Korea. In a number of notarized statements Mr. Witter clearly states that other locations outside of the DMZ were treated with said agents. He also explained that he disposed of massive quantities of herbicide agents in major waterways throughout Korea. He also makes clear that CS and Napalm were used to burn the areas where these applications were made. Evidence will show that smoke plumes in fact travel "long distances" carrying the toxic particulates contaminating food

and water sources. Mr. Witter's notarized statements were previously submitted on two other occasions. His testimony is vital and yet it appears to continue to go unnoticed.

Having researched the above noted subjects and taking into consideration Mr. Witter's testimony, it is my contention that my exposure to these known toxins and dioxins has caused and/or contributed significantly to my ill health and disability.

Buddy Letters: Additional buddy letters, coupled with those currently in VA's possession, provide supporting statements indicating the historical presence of herbicide agents at ASCOM, yet they are continually ignored and unaddressed in official responses.

Mr. Dunagan served from 1962-1964, Mr. Johnson served in 1967, Mr. Timbs served from 1966-1968 and Mr. White served from 1969-1970, all of whom served at ASCOM or witnessed herbicide agents at ASCOM. Mr. Dunagan witnessed 55-gallon drums at ASCOM and the spraying of rice paddies, which caused the death of a water buffalo. Mr. Fisher served from 1966-1967 and was also **stationed at ASCOM and transported Agent Orange from ASCOM to the DMZ.** Mr. White clearly identifies 55-gallon drums being received and stored at ASCOM. He notes, "...there was no vegetation." Most important is his documented conversation between him and a soldier assigned to deploy herbicides who stated, "they would dump unused amounts of these agents into rivers, stream and on the ground." Mr. White maintains that ASCOM was within the watershed as did others. They also maintain that these 55-gallon drums were damaged and leaking. They also confirm that ASCOM was responsible for incoming supplies and the dispersal of supplies received. **This was the major purpose of ASCOM, to receive and deliver supplies to include herbicides and a host of other chemicals to all base camps throughout South Korea.**

Alvin Young Collection, titled: Criteria for Determining Exposure Levels of Military Personnel to Dioxin and Herbicide Orange During Vietnam.
<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/catalog/05762.HTML>

Item Number ID-05762, under the Alvin Young Collection, the Department Of The Air Force identifies those at risk for direct exposure to herbicide agents. On page 3-4, (A) Population At Risk- "revealed that there were essentially three groups of U.S. military personnel potentially exposed to Herbicide Orange and its associated dioxin contaminant." Among these three groups were, "...personnel assigned to selected support functions that may have resulted in exposure to Herbicide Orange. This group included, for example, personnel that sprayed herbicides using helicopters or ground application equipment; personnel that may have delivered the herbicides to the units performing defoliation missions..."

As noted above, several vital notarized statements and pictures provided by Steve Witter were previously submitted. I have re-submitted these items as there has been no mention of them in prior rating decisions and they are critical to this claim. This veteran severed with the Chemical Company and conducted spray missions within Korea. Mr. Witter makes clear that it was common practice to release "**25 to 100 Gallons of Herbicide Agents DAILY**" into major water ways such rivers, creeks, along ditches and roadsides

throughout the day. He states they dump the agents before returning to base camp to refill their tanks with additional herbicides for other missions conducted within that day, meaning this occurred several times in the day. He also states that at day's end any excess herbicide agents again were released into these same locations. The veteran's statement concludes that water sources were in fact contaminated with herbicide agents. He also contends that at day's end they would wash their trucks at base camps they were assigned to for each mission but that on occasion they were not able to wash the trucks. "We had no place to dump it at the camps so we had no choice and we were never directed to handle the situation any differently." Mr. Witter also mentions that spray missions included guard towers, numerous base camps, around mess halls and other worthy locations. These actions ultimately led to the contamination of the water supplies causing harmful exposures to others by means of direct exposure, vapor action, inhalation, wind drift, and severe drinking water contamination.

A collection of buddy statements provides additional information as to where the veterans' drinking water came from and the fact that it was pumped from the rivers, processed and stored in holding tanks.

February 23rd 2004 Rating Decision: On Page 5 of the rating decision it states, "there is no data to verify that you were actually exposed to Agent Orange. **The issue of possible use of Agent Orange in the compound where you worked has been raised, but there is no evidence available to verify this**".

While VA may not have official evidence that these agents were present at ASCOM, the enclosed evidence in fact proves the presents of such agents. The testimony of Mr. Witter confirms contamination of water sources used to supply troops of drinking water. Buddy letters also confirm the stored drums at ASCOM where damaged and leaking which lead to human exposure. I assert that we ate local food, drank local water, and suffered inhalation, absorption and ingestion of herbicide agents and other known toxins while stationed at ASCOM.

I have met my obligation according to 3.102 and 3.304 as no official record is required under the law but that lay evidence is in fact acceptable evidence. I therefore request that 3.102 be imposed, allowing a ruling on behalf of the veteran.

3.102 Reasonable Doubt: VA law 3.102, clearly states that when reasonable doubt has been established VA is obligated to consider benefit of doubt on behalf of the Veteran.

"When, after careful consideration of all procurable and assembled data, a reasonable doubt arises regarding service origin, the degree of disability, or any other point, **such doubt will be resolved in favor of the claimant.**"

"The reasonable doubt doctrine is also applicable even in the absence of official records, particularly if the basic incident allegedly arose under combat or similarly strenuous conditions, and is consistent with the probable results of such known hardships." (Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501(a))

3. 304, Section “(d) Combat. Satisfactory lay or other evidence that an injury or disease was incurred or aggravated in combat will be accepted as sufficient proof of service connection if the evidence is consistent with the circumstances, conditions or hardships of such service **even though there is no official record of such incidence or aggravation.** (Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1154(b))”

Additional Evidence: Environmental Fate and Modes of Transportation

Alvin Young Collection:

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/scope.htm>

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/search.htm>

The Alvin Young Collection consists of 1600 documents relating to the subject at hand, environmental impact and health effects. Alvin Young was a member of the Ranch Hand Study Team and continues to study the effects of dioxin. I have enclosed his web site in order that you may review these additional documents found under the **Scope and Container List**. These are maintained by the National Agricultural Library Special Collections. Many of these reports are not available online and must be ordered. The most interesting and relevant issues to this claim relate to the deposition and movement of pollutants such as Agent Orange.

EPA-By Dorothy Patton: Found under the Alvin Young collection titled “United States Environmental Protection Agency Before the Administrator, In RE: The Dow Chemical Company, et al. FIFRA Docket Nos. 415, et al., Respondent’s Prehearing Brief on the Risk Associated with the Registered Uses of 2,4,D-T and Silvex.”

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/findaids/agentorange/catalog/05308.HTML>

The enclosed document by, EPA: Dorothy Patton, is found under the Alvin Young Collection, is the notarized testimony of Dorothy Patton of EPA. Ms. Patton’s statement is progressive in nature and shows a continued progression of attained knowledge gained in the world with regard to studies conducted on herbicide agents through 1980. This is a very illuminating testament as to how herbicide agent’s half-life changed from two hours to two days to 10 years. Even more compelling is how the studies then compare to those of today, which are listed in the next section. The conclusion confirms the manner and different distances these contaminants were documented as having traveled through the environment. She defines continued historical ill health effects of humans and the many sources of exposure, water being a huge issue as well as the modes of distribution and deposition of the agents, such as atmospheric travel. It again represents a progression of time and proves that original studies relating to timeframes, distances, modes of exposures and half-life proved to be inaccurate but in fact are far more severe than originally believed. We would also like to bring your attention to page 80 which verifies that “ **Dow Chemical plant supports the contention that exposure to TCDD can be gotten from water, either because of measurable amounts of TCDD are water soluble or because TCDD-bound particles matter fine enough to escape filtration may exist in water.**” This document also further clarifies that purification equipment was not capable of removing small dioxin molecules from the drinking water. It also

proves that contaminated water used to wash clothing is a source of exposure. New buddy statements submitted reflect corroborating information and discuss how and where they received their water and what they used the water for- drinking, bathing and during food preparation. These veterans, incredibly, have pictures of the purification plants present in Korea during the 60's. It is quite clear these are not state of the art and appear to be lacking in the kind of technology it would take to remove such agents as so noted in all the submitted reports. I am requesting that special note be paid to the amount of dioxin (molecule) it takes to affect ones health- minimal.

Vietnam-United States Scientific Conference on U.S.-Vietnam Cooperative Research Program: to view all summaries refer to:

<https://ntp-apps.niehs.nih.gov/diox2002/allsum.cfm>

The above noted site is an index of 85 additional studies conducted in Vietnam during the 2002 conference. These reports conclude that the persistence of herbicide agents continue to be detected in Vietnam as of March 2002, some 40 years later. They also conclude that the contaminants find there way into food and water sources due to atmospheric conditions, erosions and vaporization. While I have enclosed and discussed two of the studies below, I am requesting that all these reports be taken into consideration.

Arnold Shecter-titled: Collaborative USA-Vietnamese Agent Orange Research From 1968 to 2002.

<https://ntp-apps.niehs.nih.gov/diox2002/view.cfm?prikey=17>

These studies were conducted in Vietnam during March of 2002. These findings clearly reflect the continued presence of herbicide agents some 40 years later. They continue to show a progression of historical evidence that proves that prior documents were lacking in knowledge with regard to the dangers herbicide agents pose on the environment, in humans and wild life. They raise serious concerns as to the half-life of dioxin, its environmental fate and the deposition of contaminants.

Arnold Shecter-titled: Recent Dioxin Contamination From Agent Orange in Residents of a Southern Vietnam City.

<http://www.mindfully.org/Pesticide/Dioxin-Agent-Orange-S-V.htm>

This report states on page 4 that 5,000 to 7,000 gallons of TCDD was spilled into the Dong Nai River, "which is the largest source of contamination in Vietnam as of 2002." Given these facts one would need to consider the amount of herbicide agents released into the rivers in Korea during the one year that Mr. Whiter served with the Chemical Company in Korea. While he states there were two trucks in his unit conducting these missions we will base the following figures on his truck alone allowing for reasonable doubt. He states that he dumped "25 to 100 gallons of herbicide agents into the waterways on a daily basis" out of 365 days. I will average this out to 50 gallons per day for 265 days, which allows for R&R or other reason the Veteran may not have performed spray missions. $265 \times 50 \text{ gal} = 13,250$ gallons that were released into the waterways, creeks, ditches and along roadsides. That would be 6,250 more gallons than that which was released Dong Nai River in Vietnam resulting in contamination that continues to show serve effects on the surrounding population as of 2002. Even if the half of these agents were released on to roadsides and in ditches rather than waterways the total would still

exceed the original 5,000 gallons thought to have contaminated Dong Nia. Again this does not reflect the practices of others but only those of Mr. Witter's. It also does not take into account missions that were conducted **three months before his arrival in country and an additional six months after he departed Korea**. This also does not include hand spray missions or the DOD instructed pest control program that occurs to this day at all military installations. Can VA disprove that other members of the chemical units did not release agents into these same locations, or that the additional 6,250 gallons of disposed agents did not make a difference with regard to human exposure due to contaminated water? Can VA disprove that the standard pest control program conducted at all military site did not contribute to contamination. Mr. Witter contends that he took direction from his commanding officer.

Paul Sutton- titled: The History of Agent Orange Use in Vietnam An Historical Overview From The Veteran's Perspective (Paul Sutton National chairman Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee Vietnam Veterans of America Inc.) Bizarre Findings.

<https://ntp-apps.niehs.nih.gov/diox2002/view.cfm?prikey=16>

In Paul Sutton's report titled: The History of Agent Orange Use in Vietnam An Historical Overview From The Veteran's Perspective (Paul Sutton National chairman Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee Vietnam Veterans of America Inc.) on page 5 and 6 it notes, **"burning of herbicides"** which reminds us that when heat is applied to dioxin or PCB, Dioxin like compounds, it enhances its toxicity as noted in the Project Pink Rose missions. It also reminds us that smoke plumes containing chemical particles rise up and travel to other locations causing contamination. Mr. Witter confirms that this same protocol was operational in Korea. He also note that the herbicides used during this timeframe were known to be anywhere **from "six to twenty five times stronger than recommended."**

Mr. Sutton lists other known toxic military issued repellants, rodenticides, insecticides, pesticides, herbicides and fumigants deployed during the Vietnam era. Having researched his listings, experts classify these chemicals carcinogenic, and group them in the following manner:

Organochlorines: DDT, DDE, Chlordane, Aldrin, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor epoxide, PCBs, Dioxin

Inorganics: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, zinc

Other contaminants: Carbamates, Hexachlorobenzene, Hydrocarbons, Organophosphate, Chlorophenols.

Supporting evidence will prove these chemicals are known risk factors for NHL.

EPA-titled: Deposition of Air Pollutants of the Great Lakes, Second Report to Congress.

<http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/gr8water/>

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/fact_sheets/gtwtrs4.pdf

<http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/gr8water/2ndrpt/>

The Great Lakes investigation allows us to understand the origin of which contaminants

travel with in the echo system. Realize that the manner in which these toxins traveled, mimicked Project Pink Rose and reflects that which occurred in Korea. Burning incinerators emitting toxic chemicals is also reflective of Project Pink Rose, which was implemented during the Vietnam conflict. According to Project Pink Rose and Mr. Witter's statement, CS and Napalm was utilized to incinerate the herbicide treated areas transporting entrapped particulates in smoke plumes up into the atmosphere and were deposited in distant locations. Reports from the "Deposition of Air Pollutants to the Great Waters" states that *dioxins deposited* in Lake Michigan come from sources within **300 miles** of the lake; the other half is transported from sources **as far as 1,250 miles away as far as Florida and Utah**. Below is a summarization of the ways in which dioxins travel:

Wet deposition - refers to the incorporation of both gases and particles into all types of precipitation such as rain, fog and snow.

1. Small particles can serve as cloud condensation and became entrapped in raindrops.
2. Particles are incorporated into falling raindrops and are referred to as "particle scavenging".
3. Gaseous pollutants can be dissolved into cloud droplets and falling rain or snow.

Dry Particle deposition - transport of particles and contaminants associated with the particles, on surfaces through air masses that deposit on water and land.

Air-Water deposition - refers to the transfer of chemicals between the gas phase in the air and the dissolved phase in the water. **This is important because** the enclosed studies state that air-water exchange makes large surface areas of these bodies of water vulnerable to great absorption from the atmosphere, thus allowing them back into the air to be transported again.

Chemical cycling and long-range transport - this cycling of chemicals between air, water, and soil is especially important because it causes the 'grasshopper effect, a way for contaminants to co-exist in both the gas and particle phases thus transporting across various surfaces carrying them very long distances. Arctic snow pack and arctic animals have found to be contaminated.

Pesticides and Herbicides - Recent studies relating to pesticides and herbicides, focus on the role of atmospheric transport of lindane, an insecticide and atrazine, an herbicide. These are two chemicals that have been traced to travel long distances, as indicated in the Great Lakes report. Precipitation concentrations of atrazine have remained constant, indicating rain as the contaminating source.

Tides and Runoff - The mangroves along the shoreline, provided protection from erosion. Once they were destroyed by the defoliant, erosion took place, allowing contaminants to flow to the sea. (Apocalypse Still) *Tides* and *ocean currents* then transported them long distances. (Nam Can Mangrove Forest 24G) (Marine Ecology)

Monsoons Monsoon season occurs April through October producing heavy rainfalls. Add this to *wind speeds* exceeding *100km/hr* in April and May, causing huge amounts of contaminants to travel. (Nam Can Mangrove Forest 24G)

Contaminants have been documented as traveling over 1200 miles due to particle entrapment, erosion, and soil sediments thereby contaminating major waterways. Vaporization of these particles rise up in the atmosphere become entrapped in cloud formations and is transported by wind drift. The vapors themselves can be transported by