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If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?

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Spin Codes - Legal Action

By: Edwin Crosby

The author of this story, Edwin Crosby, served in the USAF from 1966-1971. He volunteered to go to Vietnam, and served in MACVSO, 15th Special Operations Squadron, Nha Trang, AB, RVN from November 1968 to June 1970. His lawsuit began in March of 1976, having discovered in February of 1976, he had a BAD 'Spin Code' number. The case was originally filed in the US District Court, Northern District of New York, Syracuse. He has been fighting this case on behalf of all veterans and has been instrumental in having D.O.D. change the DD-214 many times to prevent future damage to other veterans.

Beginning JUNE 11, 1956, under D.O.D. Instruction 1336.3, DOD ordered the military departments to begin putting a coded number on the main employment reference document of veterans. This document known as the DD-214 is intended to be presented to employers by veterans seeking employment and benefits.

According to Plaintiff's Exhibit NO: 6, D.O.D. Instruction 1336.1, dated September 1, 1966, SUBJECT - Standardization of Forms for Report of Transfer or Discharge of Members of the Armed Forces of the U.S., there were to be 8 or more copies of DD-214 made. Copy one to the veteran, other copies eventually went to State Adjutant General, VA Data Processing Center, Austin, TX., State Director Selective Service, Nat. Military Records Center, St. Louis, Mo.

As of 1977, nearly 20 million veterans had a coded number. This is SHOCKING as in 1974 D.O.D. told Congress that only a couple hundred thousand had a code number. Moreover, in 1974 DOD told Congress they would stop the " SPN " coding system, however, in 1972, they were already changing the system to " SPD " (separation program designator). They deceived Congress and the American People. Millions of veterans with an Honorable Discharge have a " BAD " coded number.

Plaintiff's Exhibit NO: 19 is the " infamous corporation questionnaire ". These are major corporations admitting to having the codes and using them against veterans. I am the only one to have this due to litigation, as it is locked up in Congress under a " Classified " coding. Banks, life insurance companies, State Gov't & Federal Gov't Agencies have them as well. Lists of the codes were sent to FAA, (federal aviation admin.) HUD, (housing & urban development) Office Personnel Management.

One corporation admitted that the VA has told us this is not confidential and they will send us a copy. Amazing!

There are Congressional Records available to read on this matter. As Congress attempted once to pass a law regarding the use of the coded numbers, however, this failed to pass.

Have you ever gone to a VA Hospital and had the doctor attempt to send you to the psychologist or psychiatrist ?? Your coded SPN was probably the reason why, and you did not

even know, moreover, there could be nothing in your military records saying you had seen a psychologist, but, that did not stop them. One of the most given out codes was SPN-265 or SDN-265, which says, unsuitability, character & behavior disorders.

There were 5 main categories; unsuitability, unfitness, misconduct, homosexual, or, any reason based upon mental or moral issues. Then under each category, they piled on a bunch of numbers and meanings. i.e. SPN-384, Drug Abuse, Marijuana or Heroin. And get this, those veterans who signed up for " DRUG AMNESTY " you got a code number, SPN-384, YOU GOT NO AMNESTY !!! You got screwed.

Here are some things I have discovered over the years: (1) the State of N.Y. denied me the right to take a Civil Service Test because the State Employee punched my SSN into a computer and pulled up my military records (they are not supposed to have them) then said there is your code, sorry, NO TEST. It was the very same code number the Gov't said in Court would never surface again, they corrected the records, RIGHT, they did nothing. (2) VA'S Board of Veterans Appeals sent a 500 page transcript regarding my 19 year old claim for disability over to the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals, on page 63, there was the same DD-214 the Gov't said would never surface again, RIGHT, they did nothing. Have you had trouble getting benefits with VA ? Try this on for size, someone else has your claim number, a phony or ghost, and they get your money ! (3) VA employee tells me someone else has same number as you, that's impossible, or, is it ?? (4) a U.S. Senators aid here in Montana tells me this doesn't exist, it is a rumor, yep, sure, then I say, I am the one who took lawsuit to US Supreme Court, well now, all of a sudden its no longer a rumor, and does exist.

I have lived in Upstate NY, Missouri for 8 months, Illinois for 16 months, and now Montana 9 months. Everywhere I go, I speak to veterans, or, meet with them to tell them what is going on. On Sept. 29, 2001, I attended a " Veterans Standdown " here in Billings. I set up a table, and 7 vets came by with their DD-214 (others did, but did not have DD-214 with them). Vet NO: 7 had a code I never saw before, advised him to write to service branch he was in and ask, the other 6 veterans had an HONORABLE DISCHARGE, and ALL had a rotten coded number. What was alarming was all 6 said there was nothing in their military records to indicate they should have had that code. They were stabbed in the back.

In 1984, I submitted a PROPOSAL to the VA under PUBLIC LAW 98-160, National Needs Assessment of Vietnam Veterans. I had the support of the National Council of Churches, and the N.Y. State Council of Churches. I won that GRANT ! My Grant called for " CHAPLAINS " not psychologists who are lying to veterans about this PTSD stuff, when the coded SPN, SDN, or SPD code is responsible for many, many problems. The White House took it away. The Church folks got on a plane and lit out for Washington. Some deal was struck, think it was Veterans Outreach Centers, whatever.

You must find out what your coded number is, remember, if you were discharged before 1974, you automatically have one, after 1974, it went on the other 8 or more copies of DD-214, and your still dead meat.

What angers me most is the American Legion & V.F.W. They remain silent on this matter. I was a service officer for Am. Leg. in N.Y. I actually got fired for helping veterans and widows win their benefits. I file a claim, and they had to reinstate me. I resigned 2 months later, having been cut off from those items I need to help veterans with.

Here is my email address; ehcrosby7@att.net if you have any questions, want to see copies of these documents, give me a FAX number, will send them to you, with your promise to show them to other veterans, or help a vet with one of these codes.

Currently, I am reopening this lawsuit here in Billings, Mt. The Judge should make some sort of Decision by the end of April, at least I hope he does. The smoking gun is there, however, the corruption within our Justice System is outrageous. I sent a criminal complaint to the FOREMAN of the Federal Grand Jury here on March 1st, 2002. The US Attorney intercepted it. Charges, GENOCIDE & WAR CRIMES, both under TITLE 18, PART 1, CHAPTER 50A, SECTION 1091, and, TITLE 18, PART 1, CHAPTER 118, SECTION 2441. Those of us who have these codes fall directly under the wording of these 2 sections of law. We are being systematically eliminated because thieves want to rip off the VA for billions of dollars. Well, screw them.

For those veterans who do not like to be stabbed in the back, and you are looking for a way to fight back, there is the BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS. It requires one piece of paper, a Gov't Form, and a very good statement of case. That is to say, on my DD-214 is a coded number, there is nothing in my records saying I did what the code says, you have blacklisted me, stabbed me in the back, character assassinated my good family name. Under TITLE 10, Section 1552, you are entitled to be paid for an "injustice". That is what you are claiming. I would look on an internet library such as Cornell Univ. and make copy of that law: <http://www.law.cornell.edu>

Do not be afraid to get some help, however, be careful as any vet rep may try to talk you out of it. You have been stabbed in the back, make sure you get some Justice.