



ATOMIC VETERAN'S NEWSLETTER

Orville & Wanda Kelley, Co-Founders

Dick Conant, Editor
Dale Howard, Assistant Editor

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Commander's Corner

I have much to tell you so let's get to it. In the fall we were to have an election for seven new board members. We wanted to have fourteen applications so we would have competition for all positions, but as it worked out we only received seven applications so in effect they were all shoe ins. We had one life member with one ballot vote for each of the seven applicants. So as to make the election legal the new board members elected were Peter J. Dale, Rudy Florentine, George Mitchell, William D. Nelson, Richard U. Conant, Patricia Broudy and William J. Brady. Unfortunately Patricia Broudy and William J. Brady resigned soon after for personal reasons. I would like to thank her and her son David for the job they did with the newsletter and also Jay Brady for his articles.

The two new board members are Charles McKay and James J. Nash. I appointed Chuck McKay as legislative director and O.T. Weeks as his liaison in Washington. Our scientific advisor is Dr. Ernest Sternglass, and Director of Fund Raising and Grants Rich Doherty and last but not least our new editor of the NAAV Newsletter Richard U. Conant and his assistant Dale Howard. Good luck boys. We are going to try and bring out a smaller newsletter so we can get it out to you sooner, we had problems in the past but we are persistent and we will try to improve over the past.

We still have many pieces of legislation in the works and we will try harder to get as much as we can passed this year. Last year S-1822 by Senator Arlen Specter was passed. It applies to Nasopharyngeal radium treatments and the cancer it caused. The Atomic Veterans Medal Act HR-432 is still on the back burner. Next is S-1385 by Senator Paul Wellstone for three cancers. This was voted on last year and listen to this story, it was voted on and was a tie and then an anonymous senator cast a "no" vote and we lost by one vote but we cannot find who cast the dissenting vote and they tell us that it's legal. I personally beg to differ with them. Next is HR-2401 by Congressman William Lipinski of IL in regards to genetically affected children of atomic veterans. This is also on hold. Next is Congressman Lane Evans bill HR-4368 returning the cancers that were deleted from Senator Wellstone's Bill S-1385. I also would like to thank personally all the Atomic Veterans that wrote in to their local legislators and requested their support for S-1385. This is why the vote was so close because the rank and file got involved with the due process and also I would like to thank all the State Commanders that wrote for their support. You did a fine job and keep up the good work and a special thanks to Florida State Commander Dorothy Stanco for the great job she consistently does for our organization and another special thanks to State Commander Robert C. Carter of Utah for the large donation that he acquired for us. I have been talking to our new newsletter editor about featuring a new State Commander in each issue with a picture and an article about him or her and what they are doing in their respective states and a little about themselves so we all can get to (cont'd on Page 3)

Atomic Veterans Newsletter



The *Atomic Veteran Newsletter* is published quarterly and is the official newsletter of the National Association of Atomic Veterans.

Board of Directors

National Commander: Rudy Florentine
 Vice Commander: Peter J. Dale
 Secretary: James J. Nash
 Treasurer: William D. Nelson
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 Richard U. Conant, Charles R. McKay

Newsletter Editor: Dick Conant
 Assistant to the Editor: Dale Howard
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 Scientific Advisor: Dr. Ernest Sternglass
 NAAV Archivist: Sandra Marlow
 Research Consultant: Vic Fenton
 Director of Fund Raising: Rich Doherty

Memberships: Annual: \$15; Life: \$200; Life Installment: \$25 Quarterly. An application is on the back cover.

The material in this newsletter is protected. No part of it may be used without prior permission.

Letters to the Editor and Articles must be signed to be published. Name withheld upon request.

NAAV reserves the right to edit and publish material submitted. Articles on atomic testing, other radiation-risk activities, biological effects of exposure to ionizing radiation, the politics and history of military and civilian exposure, accounts of personal experiences, cartoons, photographs, poems, essays and other material will be considered for publication.

The views and opinions of contributions do not necessarily represent those of the National Association of Atomic Veterans.

Send submissions, address changes, letters, inquiries, reunion information, dues payments, donations, sales orders to: NAAV P.O. Box 2558, Ventnor, NJ 08406-0558.



"Since light travels faster than sound, is that why some people appear bright until you hear them speak?"

Commander's Corner Continued

Know our NAAV family a little better. We can also do the same with all our directors so you can get to know all of us better.

I get many requests about "my dues, I did not get a notice", and so on. We have a system set up that after your name on your label that is on letters and newsletters is the date you are paid up to such as 7/1/97 or 7/1/98. Our fiscal year starts on 7/1 or July first. That is when dues are due. If you have after your name 7/1/97 you owe two years. If you have 7/1/98 you owe one year. We are trying to save money so we can concentrate on legislation. We will send out some dues notices but the general membership should be about to determine what they owe in dues. I must thank all the members that already sent in their dues now without

notices.

The new board of directors now consists of: Rudy Florentine, Peter Dale, William Nelson, George Mitchell, Charles McKay, Richard Conant and James Nash. The new officers elected by the board are as follows: Rudy Florentine, National Commander; Peter J. Dale, Vice Commander; James J. Nash, Secretary and William D. Nelson, Treasurer. The rest of our staff is: Richard U. Conant, Editor of the newsletter; Dale Howard, assistant to the Editor; Charles McKay, Legislative Director; O.T. Weeks, Assistant Legislative Director, Dr. Ernest Sternglass, Scientific Adviser; Sandra Marlow, Archivist; Victor Fenton, Research Consultant and Richard Doherty, Director of Fund Raising.

Editor's Platform

First, I apologize for the "lateness" of this publication. Starting from 'scratch' we needed to establish the format, State & Area Commander Section and update same, Reconstruction Coordinator Section and other Sections. Some other format changes and additions will be forthcoming.

notation).

I am establishing the following dates as deadlines for the receipt of articles to forthcoming newsletters to be published:

April 30th - July 31st - October 31st

Going along with a conversation with Rudy in which he mentions the introduction for articles on the Directors, etc. I propose to establish the following Sections to be included in forthcoming publications:

I recently became 70 years young (old?) and developed another medical problem, which has caused me to do some serious thinking. There are many of our members and supporters who are older and some are younger. This places us directly into the category our government has held out for as when we die, the government can close the books on Atomic Veterans.

- Articles by: Officers & Directors
- State & Area Commanders
- Updates by Reconstruction Coordinators
- Updates by Committee Members
- For Members: "You're On The

Soapbox" - to air your suggestions for the betterment of the Organization. This is NOT intended to be a "b " section but one for input of *constructive criticism*. I will publish articles with suggestions, criticisms or gripes which also *include at least one workable solution for solving same*.

Our crusade for Compensation, a Medal, and other, keep going from the *front to the back burners in Washington*. Granted, we have some dedicated representation by a certain few (refer to the Commander's Corner), but they are fighting the system along with us. Let me emphasize that I am not against filing for Compensation or the Medal. I fully back the efforts to obtain both. However, we do have certain benefits that can help alleviate pain and suffering while we are still living, those being the legislation's already in place that allow medical treatment for many of our physical problems. However, even this is being attacked by the "Administration Proposed year 2000 Budget" with it's shortfall of some \$3.5 billion for the VA Medical Facilities (see more on this on other pages). Persons from the VA Medical Facility are not coming looking for you. You must go to them, get on the Ionization Radiation Exposure Register (if not already on it), take the physical and get on with treatment you are

Articles should be submitted to: Richard U. Conant, 2424 Venetian Way SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105-7236 by Letter, FAX(505)877-2119 or e-mail: rucon@juno.com. All to be signed or NO Publication. Articles may be submitted on 3.5" or CD Disks along with a printed copy which shows which Software and Version it was constructed under. In fact, articles submitted on magnetic media will speed up the function as we will not have to hand enter same. Any accompanying pictures may be submitted (black & white or color photos - regular or polaroid, on 3.5" or CD Disks with software and version

Editor's Platform Cont'd:

Entitled to. Too often in discussions with Atomic Veterans around the country when I ask if they are taking advantage of medical treatment I am informed that they are only interested in Compensation and or a Medal. Compensation comes slowly as we all know well and will come slower yet if the Administration's Proposed Year 2000 Budget is passed with it's \$3.5 billion cut of VA Medical Facility funding. There is more on this on following pages. We need to contact our Representatives and Senators and let them know our feelings on this. My personal opinion is that unless they can come up with the funds first to take of medical and other problems the troops receive when sent into all of the different "brush fires" currently taking place, and in the future, then the troops should not be committed in those areas. Take care of past obligations first and as well. My understanding of Bills that were presented in the 105th Congress will probably be reintroduced and under new Bill numbers.

In previous newsletters there have been articles in multiple parts whereby all of the parts have not been published. As these articles are beneficial to the membership I would like to ask the authors of same to submit the missing parts to me in order that they may be published. Thanks!

I am asking the Treasurer of NAAV at this time to submit a Report for publication in the next issue in order that the membership can be informed of our financial condition. I do know that funds are close. Also, that one large expense is for payment to the Postal Service for newsletters returned because of lack of forwarding addresses either temporary or permanent. Help to cut this expense by notifying the NAAV Office of address changes post haste. Thank You for this consideration!

At the risk of being relieved of this position, with it's lucrative benefits and ALL, I would like to say this (about dissension). I have never been a member of any organization that did not have some who felt that the current could do better. We are by nature, infallible. Of times egos and personal vendettas get in the way of practical solutions to problems. For the success of NAAV to continue, we as members need to bury our personal 'hatchets' and become unified. It is our duty to listen to the ideas and suggestions of all members who desire to take an active part. Time *is not* on our side. Let's go forward in a unified manner. 'Nuf said!.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dale Howard for his assistance in putting this publication together.

More Info:**U.S. Sees No Thyroid Harm from Hanford Nuclear Plant:**

Atlanta (Reuters) - There is no evidence that radioactive byproducts from nuclear weapons production in the 1940s and '50s increase thyroid disease among residents of Washington State, federal health officials said last month. [Editor: Another bureaucratic study, cost unknown, clearly supporting the 'party line', as we Atomic Veterans know too well. Funding for these studies, because the result is pre-established beforehand, is a 'waste' as are the 'dose estimates' which we are familiar with from Mr. D.M. Schaeffer with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, formerly the Defense Nuclear Agency or DNA, another name change necessitating in additional wasted funds for letterheads, telephone directory changes, etc. We should partition our Representatives & Senators to disband this agency and divert that funding to VA for compensation and medical treatment where the funding will do the most good and not be hampered by any further erroneous data from them].

Reunions:

National Association of USS LCS(L) 1-130
Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia, PA.
August 4 - 8 1999
Contact: "Jeff" Jeffers, P.O. Box9087, Waukegan, IL
60079
Tel: 847-623-7450 (W) 847-360-0560 (H) FAX:
847-623-7450 *51

"Praise Loudly Blame softly."

We are looking for ways to receive assistance in performing some of the everyday chores of making the organization function better. With limited funds, it is not practical to hire persons to do some of these chores. If you have suggestions towards accomplishing some of these chores, or would be willing to assume some of those, then please offer your suggestions and or willingness to serve by contacting the National Commander.

“The Way I See It!”

By New Mexico State Commander Dale Howard

Have you ever said to yourself; Self, what can I do that will help, not just myself, but my fellow Atomic Veterans? I think most of us know other Atomic Veterans that are hurting, with medical and/or financial problems, because they honorably served their country. Some of us [Dick Conant and myself to name two], feel that we should do all that we can do to make our fellow Atomic Veterans aware of programs that are already in place to help those who need medical care. We haven't stopped trying to get our elected representatives to correct the laws that now exist, and make all radiogenic illnesses presumptive. We have even tried for years to get a radiation medal for those who deserve it and want it. We know that exposure to nuclear radiation caused our cancers, and other conditions, and our government denies responsibility. The fight has gone on for so many years to get just a few cancers/conditions made presumptive for when we must file claims. It seems that everyone, except our own government, knows that the required dose estimates are just a dirty joke and that all radiogenic conditions should be made presumptive. But how do we convince our members of congress to do it? Too few members of congress are veterans and too few remember what times were like when there was a real danger that communism would take over the whole free world and our country along with it. How many of them remember how the Cold War and nuclear arms race started? Do they remember the late 1940s and early 1950s when Communism took over all of eastern Europe and much of Asia; when the USSR had 200 heavy bombers and China had 5 to 15 Armies just over the border of Manchuria from Korea - **just daring us to set one foot over the border to start WW III?** Do they remember the spies and traitors like Fuchs, Gold, Greenglass and the Rosenbergs who sent all our nuclear secrets to the Russians? How this caused our civil and military leaders to think that the USSR might be ahead of us in the nuclear arms race? How many think that Joe Stalin would not have used the H-bomb on us if he had developed it first and had the means to deliver it? These points and many others caused the rationale of the times. Our military leaders, and right on down to NCOs and below, were so driven by the urgency of the times and fear for the safety of our country that they could justify [at least in their minds], the, **at times, near total disregard of test participants safety and then falsifying the records to cover their own rears.** You cut corners and so did I, we had to get our jobs done now. If a few rules had to be bent, they got bent. This was the mentality of the times and if our present members of Congress didn't experience it, they wouldn't understand it, or even believe it. The “Official Records” don't show it. How many of us have been shocked and horrified reading the lies and cover-up in the “Official Records” of our tests?

Have you ever tried to get the records corrected? I have. It can't be done. With a few exceptions like Senators Wellstone, Murry, Rockefeller, Rep. Evans and a few others, those in congress believe the “Official Records” or just don't care. We have to keep trying but I don't believe we will ever see full justice, while any of us still live. We had better use what is already on the books, Medical Care. Remember how in the 1980s and early 1990s it was almost impossible to get information on VA programs and health care: when you could get some Medical Care for radiation caused cancers and conditions but would get kicked out on a regular basis because “your condition was not service connected”? Some of us tried to get help from the big veterans organizations National Service Officers to file for priority medical treatment under PL 97-72. But most knew nothing about PL 97-72 and would say “file a claim” and not help with what you asked for. We had to do it on our own. That was back when there was something like 1700 claims filed and less than 25 granted. There was really no place to get our questions answered.

In the Spring of 1995 some atomic veterans met with the Albuquerque VA Medical Center Assistant Director and Volunteer Services Department Chief to complain about the problems encountered by atomic vets trying to get medical treatment at the facility. They complained that there was no way to find out what the VA policy on treating radiation exposed veterans was and that the doctors and medical staff didn't know and even the hospital staff didn't understand the eligibility rules. I understand the meeting was lengthy and Assistant [now Associate] Director Spencer Ralston was impressed. Mr. Ralston took it on himself to see that this segment of the veteran population would no longer be neglected and started working on a system to alleviate the problem. He and others worked out a plan that would include atomic veterans in an existing program, the Veterans Advocacy Council and start a new program, the Radiation Exposed Veterans Advisory Committee, to address problems of radiation exposed veterans. I was invited to become a member of these groups, was honored to accept and attended my first meeting in May 1995. These groups were composed of the VAMC Director, Associate or Assistant Director, Department Heads, representatives from VA Regional Office, veterans organization NSOs, NM State Veteran Service Commission Director and me. In these groups you meet the top people, people that can [and do] take care of the problems that we bring up for our veterans group. We have been treated very well. Every problem that Dick or I have brought up [mostly complaints from NM Atomic Vets] has been taken care of to our satisfaction. As you might imagine, there were some clashes in the beginning for the advisory committee but I think things worked out well for all concerned. Things got much better for me when Dick Conant became (cont'd Page 6)

“The Way I See It” by D. Howard cont’d:

Active in NM NAAV in 1996. We have been given “Fact Sheets” on VA rules and how they applied, updates on everything that changes and instruction on how things work at the VAMC. When the VISN Networks came into being, we were invited to become members of the Management Advisory Council. Several of our suggestions have been incorporated in the VISN#18 plans and aims. Any information that we get that we feel would be useful to Atomic Vets, we send to the National Commander and put it in our New Mexico Atomic Vet Newsletter. You might find it useful to check at your own VA Medical Center to see if there are any such programs in place that would be of help to Atomic Vets in your area. It does take a lot of time and effort but we feel that it is worth it. You will find, as we did, that the VA Medical Centers employ a lot of very good people.

Letters to NAAV

To the Editor; 21 Dec. 98

Just a short note with a brief question to all Atomic Veterans: How interested do your U. S. Senators and House members seem to be? Do they answer your letters in good time, or does it take several weeks or months to receive something they have sent to other Atomic Veterans?

Oklahoma has two U. S. Senators and six House Representatives. I have had some interest from one of each with the other Senator taking thirteen months after I wrote to him seven times and one visit to his Oklahoma City Office. One of my House Reps have never answered me by letter. None are interested in me. We are something they would like to forget.

Charles Bettis
Okla. State Commander

3 Sept. 97
Dear Pat,

There is an error in my State Commanders info. The Street number is correct, but the zip should be 73142 and telephone is 405-722-2780. (These items have been corrected - Editor).

I am currently serving on Senator Inhofe’s Veteran’s Task Force and I’m in with Rep. Istook’s Okla. City Office

Manager Altha Ripley. I write Wellstone and others in Washington, and local station Fox 25 had several of us on T. V. a few months back, which went statewide. Senator Rockefeller is another I try to keep in touch with.

The other six Senators and Representatives from Oklahoma have little concern about the Atomic Veteran, especially Senator Nickles. I wrote him 6 letters from Feb. 97 to Feb.98, with one visit to his Okla. City Office before I received a form letter from him. It’s hard to get these people interested in us.

I’ll keep trying.

Oklahoma State Commander
Charles Bettis
6717 NW 128th Terrace
Oklahoma City, OK 73142-6036

9-1-98

Dear NAAV Treasurer,

Some time ago I attempted to resign my membership in NAAV because of economic hardship.

But I received a response from the president stating that I would remain a member and dues would be suspended until I could afford to pay them again.

I am now able to pay them again and enclose dues for one year.

If this is not correct or if you have questions, please contact me.

Thanks to the president and the organization for its kind treatment.

Sincerely Yours,
Herbert Noble

861 Raymond Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55144-1508

Auburn, Washington
April 26, 1998

NAAV

Dear Sir,

I am a member of NAAV, a veteran of Operation Castle. I

have looked forward to your article on this operation and must say the article on Castle in the Winter/Spring, 1998, is one of the most informative. I was a member of an Army unit stationed on Eniwetok and witnessed shot Bravo. We were lined up on the beach and told to look in the direction of Bikini as "something may happen". I remember vividly that morning and the days following as well as the cloud itself.

I am looking forward to receiving the additional two parts of the series.

Sincerely,

Walter Leppirt

2510-24th St. S. E.

Auburn, Washington. 98002

From Fredrick H. Schafer

17 July 1997

Oregon State Commander

P. O. Box 190

Lebanon, OR 97355

We have a get together in Portland on July 16th our birthday, and several Vets enjoyed themselves with breakfast and news media. Great fun, you should get several new members from this event.

Also, Albany, OR has the biggest Veterans Day parade on the west coast and we always have something in the parade and attend the Veterans Celebration that night at the dinner. Please have anyone interested in joining us call me.

Thank you for donations from the following:

ERNEST MACDONALD	FREDERICK B. RINEHART
BETTY KING WEISSMAN	ART WAGGONER
OMER H. FAFARD	RICHARD ANDERSON
ALBERT G. PARRISH	RAYMOND L. WATERS
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ANDREW E. JACKSON	JAMES F. GHELLER
RAYMOND L. WATERS	HENRY GIMMEL
PETER J. DALE	GENEVIEVE A. DALE
FRANK A. FANCIEULLO	RUDY FLORENTINE

MEMORIALS TO OUR FALLEN MEMBERS

Francis J. Coyle of MA	Warren D. Barnes of NM
Everett Blondell of OR	John Keyser of OR
Adian Brooks of OR	Ralph Payne of OR
Albert H. Stewart of OR	Thomas Foggo of CA
Ford Harrison of TX	Col. Andrew Lyman of VA
Mary Moor of CT	Raymond L. Dunn of MI
Geralt Perkins of WA	William A. Mitternacht of LA
LTC. Edwin W. Jones of CA	Archie Holt of AZ
Ross M. Witter of WA	Lee R. Richmond of NV
Martin R. Fornell of PA	William D. Petrie of TX
Jack H. Robinson of KY	Norman L. Scarce of SC
John Demoulin of WI	Col. Thomas M. Davis of WV

The Last two on this list were very close to me, Harry C. Carswell and Harold F. Biernesser, both of PA. They were my shipmates during World War Two. They were two of the finest fighting men, and true patriots, that went into a contaminated area to rescue P. O. Ws from the Bataan Death March in Nagasaki. I will miss you and I salute you. Rudy Florentine, National Commander

Special Memorial for: William R. Webster

From: John A. Dutro, MD - Bonnie W. Robinson - Linda & Larry R. Karns - John & Karen T. Robinson - And his Fellow Comrades in NAAV.

Received via FAX copy of letter to Stars & Stripes by Linda Norton:

Herbert (Herb) Homes passed away on Feb. 14th. Herb had been an active participant in Atomic Vet affairs and had served on the Board of Directors of NAAV.

Al Kelsch, 752 S. Elm St., Buffalo, MO 65622, would like to make contact with anyone who served with Co. "A", 127th Airborne Engineer in Operation Buster-Jangle, NV testing grounds during September thru December 1951. E-mail Kelsch@todays-tech Tp 417-345-6761.

For those who may be traveling through Albuquerque, NM a point of interest might be the Atomic Museum located on Kirtland AFB (East) which is near I-25 or I-40. The Museum is open daily and has displays of many artifacts of the "Atomic Age". Since the deluge of declassified document, the Library portion has increased tremendously in volume. The Library also has complete histories (with false info in many cases) on all of the Tests. Copies can be made of documents by paying a reasonable fee. Web sites: National Atomic Museum Store - URL: <http://www.atomicmuseum.com/index.htm>. Summary: Complete selection of books, video tapes, CDs, etc.

From a Recent "Stars & Stripes:**Independent' Groups Charge Clinton VA Health Budget \$3 Billion Less Than Needed.**

Four major veterans groups tore into President Clinton's proposed \$44 billion fiscal year 2000 budget last week, asserting as nearly as \$3 billion less than adequate for veterans health care, which amounts to \$17.3 billion of the total. In submitting their 13th annual independent budget, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Veterans of Foreign Wars said the shortfall was "so significant" that it imperils the health and benefits of millions of American veterans." ***** The organizations said the president's budget would eliminate "almost 8,000 full-time employees from VA health care." ***** "The claims backlogs still range in the hundreds of thousands," the veterans groups said. ***** And said that "the VA's inability to significantly improve the quality and timeliness of benefits claims has been and continues to be one of the most serious and persistent problems." [Ed: It appears to me to be exceptionally easy for the "establishment" to find funds for all types of causes - except Veteran Causes].

Stump, Stearns, Wellstone Slam White House VA Health Care Budget Proposals:

President Clinton's budget shortchanges veterans and is based on faulty assumptions, House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Bob Stump, of Arizona, charged Feb. 1. ***** "The administration's proposed spending level for VA health care is a slap in the face of every veteran," Stump said. "It ignores the increasing cost of caring for veterans, especially the aging veterans of World War II who depend on VA health care."

Editors note: It appears to be easier and easier for the Washington bureaucrats to send Troops into "harms way" (some 44 brush fires I recently observed on a CNN report) with total disregard and apparently no consideration of funding to take care of their wounds, illnesses, and other. Fortunately we still have a few dedicated persons in the House of Representatives and Senate who are on the side of veterans. It is much easier to send troops into harms way than go one's self, apparently - as many of our current officials in Washington are not veterans. They are either ignoring, or don't care, about the **fact - that if it were not for the past efforts and sacrifices of veterans and their families -the lucrative positions which they now hold might well be that position of making small rocks from large one's for some foreign power!**

It is imperative that veterans contact the Administration, their Representatives and Senators by any means and

outline their views on the pending budget and other legislative subjects regarding veterans. Also, please contact the offices of Stump, Stearns, Wellstone and Evans and thank them for their support.

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Are You an active member - the kind that would be missed,

Or are You just contented that your name is on the list.

Do You attend the meetings and mingle with the Flock,

Or do You just meet in private and criticize and knock.

Do You work on committees so that there is no trick,

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique.

Please come to the meetings and help with hand and heart,

Don't just be a member, But take an active part.

If You are unable to take part physically. Can You take part in some way?

Think this over members, You know what's right from wrong.

Are You an active member, or do You just belong?

** Author Unknown **

"LATE SCOOP!"

In answer to a faxed inquiry by Dale Howard to Senator Wellstone asking if the Senator had reintroduced or was going to reintroduce the "Justice for Atomic Veterans Act", Senator Wellstone's Office sent 16 pages of the Congressional Record on 3/8/99. Excerpts follow:

Senator Wellstone introduced it as Amendment #27 to S-4, Senator Warner's [and 30 cosponsors] "Soldiers', Sailors', Airmen's and Marines Bill of Rights Act of 1999". He introduced it with the 10 cancers/conditions that was contained in S-1385. The Amendment was replaced with a modified version that contained only Lung and Colon cancer and Tumors of the brain and central nervous system. The modified version of Amendment #27 was added to S-4, which passed by a vote of 91 to 8.

Senator Wellstone made a brilliant speech with his introduction in which he pointed out [1] the proof and support given at the April 1998 hearing on S-1385 [2] the letters of support by DAV and American Legion [3] the support of the Independent Budget for fiscal year 2000 by AMVETS, DAV, PVA and VFW that includes funding for this bill and [4] the support by VA Undersecretary Kenneth Kizer.

{Editors Note. If you use the Internet, check out the Congressional Record on "Thomas" and see if you agree and think it is obvious that Senator Wellstone tried to sneak the complete version of S-1385, 10 cancers/conditions, through to passage}.

State & Area Commanders

If your state does not have a State Commander, contact the one in the nearest state. To volunteer to be a State Commander or an Area Commander in your State, call 1-800-784-NAAV or write to NAAV, P.O. Box 2558, Ventnor, NJ 08406-0558.

Alabama

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334-382-6021

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616-546-3629

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Lee M. Meadows,
11408 Gladewater Dr.,
Matthews, NC 28105
704-847-8835

Reconstruction Coordinators

Volunteers are needed to serve as Reconstruction Coordinators for nuclear bomb tests and other radiation-risk activities not listed including Naval nuclear propulsion workers; medical radiation workers; industrial radiation workers; DoD support of nuclear weapons development; Naval radiation waste workers; nuclear maintenance workers and handlers; nuclear accident responders; underground nuclear test program participants; nuclear cleanup workers from Eniwetok and Johnston Atolls; air crews. The above exposures were determined by the Veterans Affairs Committee on Environmental Hazards, August 1993, in response to a Congressional Mandate in PL 102-578. Call NAAV at 1-800-784-NAAV.

Buster/Jangle
Wesley E. Curtis,
3329 Santa Clara SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
505-256-1993

Hardtack I
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86 Surrey Lane,
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201-568-0945

Castle
Keith W. Dallman,
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413-532-8613

Hardtack II
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704-649-1095

Crested Ice
Gregory H. Maas,
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708-747-1883

Hiroshima/Nagasaki
East Coast-Robert Orr, USMC
565 King St.,
Northumberland, PA 17857
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Mesquite, TX 75150
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516-589-5514

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Rich Doherty,
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S. Easton, MA 02375
(please write for
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Hedgeville, WV 25427
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Tumbler/Snapper
John Primiano, 524 Beech
Tree Ct., Danville, VA
24541, 804-822-2515

Wigwam
Richard M. Moeser, 4475
E. Spanish Moss Ln.,
Flagstaff, AZ 86004-7590
520-526-8831

“Count that day lost whose low descending sun views from you hand no worthy action done.”

“You will never see the top of the world if you try to carry it on your shoulders.”

“It is the person who does nothing that never makes a mistake.”



**National Association of Atomic Veterans
Membership Application**

1. Name _____ Spouse _____ Date _____
2. Address _____ Zip _____
3. Tp() _____ FAX() _____ e-mail _____ Date of Birth _____
4. Branch of Service _____ Dates _____
Service # _____ SSN _____
5. Ship, Marine & Army Divisions & Units, Air Force Squadrons, etc. _____
6. Place and conditions under which you were exposed to radiation _____
7. Illnesses that may have been caused by your exposure to radiation _____
8. Illnesses and birth defects of children and grandchildren, if any _____
9. Claims filed with VA? When? _____ if denied, explain why
and send copy of VA's denial letter _____
10. Reasons for filing claims _____
11. If atomic veteran related to you is deceased; please send copy of death certificate with
Date of Death _____ Cause of Death _____
Illnesses that preceded death _____
12. Name, address and telephone number of person who filled out this form if different from
above: _____
13. I give NAAV permission to publish any of the above information:
Signature _____ Date _____
14. NAAV may also publish my name, address and telephone number:
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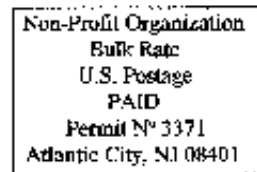
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