



ATOMIC VETERAN'S NEWSLETTER

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Lift the Budget Caps!
Stop the Cuts in Veteran's Health Care!
Provide the VA with the Resources it Needs to
Care for Sick and Disabled Veterans!

Commander's Corner



I am writing this column in early October as our diligent editor has to work and would like me to have this done by Oct. 15 so we can deliver the newsletter by the end of December. First I would like to wish all of our illustrious members A Merry Christmas And a Happy Healthy New Year and to others of different faiths Happy Holidays. Now to the news, on Sep. 24, 1999 Senator Paul Wellstone proposed an amendment to the V A HUD appropriations act including Lung Cancer, Colon Cancer, Tumors of the brain and Central nervous system and I am happy to say that it was passed 76 for and 18 against, but this is termed as a sense of the senate and not a law, but it is still a good sign for the future. We also are still working on the Atomic Veterans Medal, something may transpire in November, so as you read this it may have already taken place. (I hope).

I would like to thank all the members that called their respective legislators for their support for S-1087 sponsored by Senator Tim Hutchinson in regards to Bronchiolo Alveolar Carcinoma. For those that did not call the phone number again is 1-202-224-2353. Senator Hutchinson would like to hear from our membership, if we all support this It will mean one less disease we have to worry about and then maybe we can go on to what's ailing you and we all can help you if we all work together we can accomplish a lot, so when your commander calls on you to help support our legislation Help us to Help you and we will be successful in our crusade for justice.

One year from now I will be leaving office as I have served my two terms in office, we are going to need new people for board members who are willing to participate in the operation of the association this means all board members if you are not able to do the jobs the commander assigns you, then don't run. I know there are many talented people out there who could contribute to our cause, from the private and the seaman first class to the colonels and the navy captains. I am giving you a full year to think about it The above is not a reflection on the present board or my staff they are all more than helpful.

I would also like to thank Hank Tingle and his wife Julie who from time to time come into our office and give us a lot of their time helping yours truly with the mountain of office work along with Grace Linkmeyer who pops in during the summer months your help is greatly appreciated by yours truly, and I say a hearty Thank You.

I have a major problem and you all can help me with it. Every time we send out newsletters we get over 200 back because of members being temporarily away or a change in address this gets to be very expensive. For the snow birds (people that go south for the winter) you can have your mail forwarded, vacation people can have the post office hold your mail until you return, and last but not least, the movers, we lose more members because they forget to send us a change of address card, change of address cards are free at your local post office. So all you snow birds and movers Please, Please Help us to Help you. Nuff Said.

With this issue we are going to have a small block somewhere in the newsletter with a box around it stating Dues Notice. If the date after your name on the label does not read 7/1/00 then you owe dues, our fiscal year is from July 1 to July 1. We will continue to publish it in all future newsletters so that you will always know where you stand. If we all participate in this we will save a lot of time and money. If you are having financial difficulties then call me and we will work something out on a temporary basis. Thanking you all in advance for your cooperation.

I would like to thank all the state commanders and members that called and wrote to their respective legislators to favor the legislation sponsored by U.S. Senator Tim Hutchinson for bronchiolo alveolar carcinoma to be added to the list of cancers on PL 100-321.

I would like to inform you all that this past summer, August to be exact, the National Association of Atomic Veterans celebrated it's 20th anniversary. We had a brief ceremony and my wife of 46 years baked a blueberry cake with 20 candles and we reflected on our accomplishments in the past 20 years, and we still have a long way to go to prove to our government that what they have willfully done to our membership was totally wrong. During wartime if the enemy takes a shot at you at least you can shoot back but our government who we gallantly served refuses to admit their guilt and continues to lie and beat around the bush, when will they ever realize that if you continue to treat our service men the way they do, they will have a hard time in getting people to serve in the

Atomic Veterans Newsletter



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

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NAAV fiscal year starts on 7/1. This is the date when members dues who pay annually are due. Look at the Label which is used on letters and newsletters to you. After your name is the date you are paid up to. Example: 7/1/98 or 7/1/99.

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.



armed forces just as they are now, they are offering all kinds of incentives to get people to serve. unless they do rite for the Atomic Veterans and all the veterans of all wars and police actions, they will find it hard to raise an army in the future. I hope and pray that in the new millennium that we will attain our goals and resolve the Atomic Veteran problem once and for all. Nuff Said. Respectfully,
Rudy Florentine, National Commander of NAAV
* * *

In the last two issues, we [the National Commander & I (his not received yet, as well as others)] have asked the Board Members, State & Area Commanders to submit a short resume & picture for inclusion in the newsletter. "**Placing faces with a name**"

Your Editor & Board Member - Richard U. "Dick"

Conant:

I served in the US Army from late 1946 until Feb. 1950. I came back from the front lines in Korea, having been called back to active duty the first of June 1950, landed in Japan and two days later was in infantryman observer in instead of returning 1951, which I assigned to security in assigned to In 1952, I US Army and joined the US Air Force within the same AFSWP Unit. During that time I participated in seven Tests [performing security duty around and under contaminated aircraft, as well as other security duties] in the US, two of these have not yet been released by the authorities for public information, and Project Ivy (seven months in that area of the Marshall's performing security duty at various locations and was on Kwajalein during the Mike & King shots performing security duty around, under, etc. in the rain, with contamination running off aircraft, etc. during rainy weather. While at our home base in Albuquerque we performed security for the housing, transportation, etc. of Atom Units at that location and others around the world. We also were the #1 security troops performing duty in and around the 4925th "world wide cloud chasers". I was discharged from active duty in Feb. 1958 for medical reasons. I reverted to the Inactive Reserves in the Army. In May of 1961 I was recalled and sent to Vietnam, returning [and placed under VA Care] in Aug. 1961. In June of 1964 I was recalled again and sent to Vietnam coming back in Dec. 1964 [again placed under VA Care]. [times in Vietnam were shooting and being shot at most of the time]. I am active in Atomic Veteran activities in NM as a NAAV Area Commander, serving as an Atomic Veteran representative on several committees at the VA Medical Facility & VISN 18, as well as being active in a local DAV Chapter as Adjutant & AMVETS. I have my own business as Manufacturers Agents, since 1968, in the western US.



Korea as an & ground to air the front lines, and being released upon stateside in March of expected - was instead the first military contingent of the AEC Albuquerque and was same until mid 1954. was released from the

Your Assistant Editor & New Mexico State Commander - Glen

Dale Howard:

My name is Dale Howard. I'm the New Mexico State Commander and Assistant Editor of the NAAV Newsletter.

I first became a member of NAAV while Wanda Kelly was Executive Director and became a Life Member after Rudy was National Commander. I've been an active Life Member of AMVETS and DAV for many years and held Post, State and National offices in AMVETS as well as Chapter offices in DAV. Several years ago I noticed that, of the 11 atomic vets in our local AMVETS Post, 10 had cancer. Of the other 41 members, only 9 had cancer. At that

time I was State Adjutant/ Executive Director for AMVETS in New Mexico which meant that I could bug all our congressmen since I represented of their Districts. I bugging them ever choose to ignore a form letter. Bill He listened to he tried to help us successor Bill still trying to find a these two. I have



veterans in each have been since. Mostly they me or answer with Richardson didn't. Atomic Vets and and so did his Redmond. I am replacement for represented

Atomic Veterans at the Albuquerque VA Medical Center since early 1995. I belong to the VA Veterans Advocacy Council, VAVS and Veterans Integrated Service Network #18 Management Advisory Council. I, Area Commander Dick Conant and the Past State Commander have, in the past, put out a State Newsletter for New Mexico Atomic Vets when we had information that we thought might be useful to them. Now we hope we can do the same thing with the National Newsletter.

A FEW FACTS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST

One of the tests that we don't hear much about, although there were 11,650 personnel involved, was the world's first thermonuclear blast in the megaton range. Mike, in Operation Ivy, was equal to double all the explosives used in WW II and about 1000 times as powerful as the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima. It was set off on Elugelab island in the Eniwetok Atoll at 07:15 Nov. 1, 1952. This shot of 10.4 MT completely vaporized Elugelab and parts of two other islands: lifted 80 million tons of solid material into the air to fall out around the world: made a hole in the ocean floor 200 feet deep and more than a mile across: had a mushroom cloud more than 100 miles in diameter on a 30 mile stem. Radioactive mud fell out followed by heavy rains that spread over large areas of the Marshal Islands. More than 75% of Mike's yield, about 8 megatons, came from the fission of the big U238 pusher around the secondary; in that sense it was less a thermonuclear than a big, dirty fission bomb.

Shot King on Nov. 16 was not just a firecracker either. It was an airdrop of 500 KT.

Some facts taken from Dark Sun by Richard Rhodes

Some veterans of Operation Ivy remember several incidents that were later attributed to Bravo. We find it hard to believe that identical incidents happened again 2 years later. Do you suppose that DNA historians were a bit less than perfect in putting their history together?

We prefer to believe that we were ahead of the Soviet Union in the nuclear arms race yet they had a deliverable hydrogen bomb long before we did and dropped one from an aircraft 7 months before we did.

The Soviet Union exploded a hydrogen bomb in the 60 MT range. Many times the size of our largest test.

LET'S GET UNITED AGAIN

For the past few years we have seen too many Atomic Veterans fighting with other Atomic Veterans. No one has gained anything from this. We have all lost. Some of the most intelligent, skilled, valuable, leaders, doers, people most dedicate to our cause have become enemies to others with these same qualities and will not work with them.

Injustices have been done. I would not imply that any one of these people does not have just cause to be angry. To choose sides and say I'm for this one or that one is no answer. We need every one who can help veterans that are hurting. That is what is important. Is personality clash a reason this happens? Yes. Is pride and ego a

reason? Of course. But you can't fault a person for these things. Every one of these people want the exact same things for Atomic Veterans and their families and have worked very hard in the past and are still working very hard for this cause. I wouldn't ask any of these people to like the one they consider an enemy, but, for the good of all who need your help, I do appeal to each of you to accept this person or persons for what they can contribute to helping Atomic Veterans. Make the first move. Tell them "I hate your guts" if you want, but also tell them that they are valuable to the cause and you want to work with them for the good of all. I have said many times that I will get along with the devil himself, if he is trying to do what I want done. You can too. Let's unite and show all the strength we can muster. "United we stand, divided we fall" is just as true for us as it has ever been for anyone.

Who are these people that I have been talking about? Since I do respect and admire each of them highly, I wouldn't dare make them mad at me by printing their names. But the initials of some of the most recent are - Oscar, Rudy, Rob, Vic, Pat, Jay, the 1994 takeover group and others. The list could go on and on but, since I have already made so many mad at me, I'd better stop. Have we forgotten why we joined NAAV to begin with? Dale

William Nelson, Board Member & Treasurer:

I was in the Navy aboard the USS Princeton LP11-5 at Johnston Island in 1962. In February of 1991, I lost my left eye due to a melanoma tumor. I now have a posterior subcapsular cataract in my good eye. I am compensated for the eye and for PTSD. Tp: 914-967-66273 Fax: 914-967-0499.

The Five Series Study: Mortality of Military Participants in U.S. Nuclear Weapons Tests

Institute of Medicine, Public Briefing, Oct/ 20, 1999

Opening Statement by Susan Thaul Study Director

More than 200,000 U S soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines participated in atmospheric nuclear tests between World War II and the early 1960s. Now, decades later, some have asked whether participation in those tests can be linked to death or illness among those who took part. To help answer this question, our study looked into the causes and rates of death among nearly 70,000 of these test participants those at three test series in the South Pacific--Operations GREENHOUSE, CASTLE, and REDWING, and two test series in Nevada -- Operations UPSHOT-KNOTHOLE and PLUMBBOB.

We used records compiled or maintained by the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Archives to identify this group of test participants and a comparable group of about 65000 service personnel who did not participate in nuclear tests. Then we tracked the death certificates in each group to learn cause of death.

In analyzing the data, we looked first at overall death rates and total deaths from cancer. We found no difference between participants and non-participants in either one.

We also investigated specific causes of death, focusing primarily on leukemia. Participants had an apparent 14 percent higher risk of death from leukemia than the comparison group, although that difference was not statistically significant and could be a chance finding.

Because the initial analysis plan had singled out leukemia as a primary target for investigation, we also examined sub-categories of participants. For example, land-based participants --those in the Nevada desert --had a death rate from leukemia that was 50 percent higher than military personnel in similar units who did not

take part in atomic tests. Sea-based test participants in the South Pacific, however, did not differ from their comparison group in leukemia deaths.

These leukemia findings do not resolve the debate over whether participation is associated with leukemia mortality. However, the set of leukemia findings is consistent with the results of other studies of military participants in nuclear tests and is broadly consistent with a hypothesis that these are radiation effects.

We also had some unanticipated results regarding two other kinds of cancer-- prostate and nasal. Death rates from prostate cancer were 20 percent higher among test participants than the comparison group, and even higher for nasal cancer. The prostate cancer findings have not and are therefore difficult to interpret. The nasal cancer finding is even harder to interpret, in part because this is the first study of atomic test participants to look specifically for that cause of death. Nasal cancer has not been among the cancers considered to be caused by radiation.

How could we better understand the associations we observed? One way would be to examine information on the size of the radiation dose received by each veteran to see whether participants with higher doses were at higher risk of death. But, at the time of the tests, such data were not collected specifically for medical research, dose measurement and records maintenance were neither complete nor consistent. In the ensuing decades, the federal government has used the available information to reconstruct doses - not for research purposes, but to support veterans' claims for compensation. However, after a review of available data by our expert advisory panel, we chose to not use the dose information, finding it unsuitable for research of this kind.

Is it possible to reconstruct information on dose that could be useable? Perhaps. Stronger supporting evidence could be acquired from a further study that would make use of such data. An efficient research design would focus on specific endpoints of interest, such as leukemia, and use carefully carried out, custom dose reconstructions done anew for selected participants, using consistent methodology. Then, for example, the pattern of radiation dose among the cases involving leukemia death could be contrasted to the pattern among a sampled set of participants who did not die from leukemia to assess a hypothesized dose-response association.

Today, though, we meet to discuss not what we *might* find, but the meaning of what we *have* found. 1) The participant group as a whole did not experience earlier deaths than those who did not participate in nuclear tests. We cannot rule out, however, the possibility of increased risk among distinct subgroups of test participants, which this study did not have the information to identify accurately. 2) We found an increase in leukemias consistent with a hypothesis that these are radiation effects * * * *

Representative Evans & Senator Wellstone:

These gentlemen are still pursuing the "justice for atomic veterans" crusade. Please give them the support by writing, e-mailing, faxing, telephoning to "your Representatives & Senators" as well as these two gentlemen direct - thanking them for their continuous efforts on our behalf. If only the other Representatives & Senators were as well versed and persistent!

"If you can't do great things - do small things in a great way."

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Ed: Per many requests, and my interest, for publication of the balance of an Article by William J. Brady "OPERATION CASTLE - A RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY NIGHTMARE" (two Sections appeared in 1998 NAAV Issues), I have received permission to publish the Third Section in this Issue. The Final Section will appear in the Next Issue.

* William J. (Jay) Brady retired in 1991 as Principal Health Physicist of Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc., prime support contractor to the Department of Energy and its predecessor from 1952 through 1955, after thirty-five years in radiological safety at the Nevada Test Site. "Right are reserved by William J. Brady, former technical advisor of NAAV."

Section III: OPERATION CASTLE - A RADIOLOGICAL NIGHTMARE

Could Clarkson as a representative of the government be sued to obtain compensation for radiation injury? Yes, but not successfully. Congress had passed the Federal Tort Claims Act of 1946, which allowed suits against the government, with specified exceptions. The Supreme Court added another exception known as the Feres doctrine, or the doctrine of intramilitary immunity, which made the government immune from liability for injuries related to military service. The courts included radiation injury in the Feres doctrine in 1980.

Could the AEC and its successor agencies be sued? Again, yes, but not successfully. Civilian Nevada Test Site (NTS) workers and so-called "downwinders" living in fallout areas downwind from NTS have sued the Department of Energy claiming radiation injuries, but another exception in the Tort Claims Act has been used for legal defense, the discretionary function exception. This exception maintains the government can make its own policy decisions without question and the courts have decided this also applies to policy decisions regarding nuclear testing.

Both military veterans and civilians might sue the contractors to the AEC and its successors, who provide support operations for nuclear testing, and any other agents, such as consultants working for the government on nuclear testing. This possibility was avoided by Senator Warner, who attached an amendment to the defense appropriations bill in 1985 protecting contractors and agents from such lawsuits and treating them as part of the government agency they worked for.

Thus, it appears CASTLE and other nuclear test series participants had no avenues available for obtaining radiation injury compensation, with the exception of compensation laws passed by Congress. After all, Congress provided a fund of \$950,000 in 1964 to compensate Marshall islanders exposed to high levels of radiation from BRAVO fallout. Since 1977, any native who needed thyroid surgery could receive up to \$25,000 and relatives of any native who died of a radiogenic disease could receive up to \$100,000. In 1983, an agreement between the U.S. and the Republic of the Marshall Islands provided a perpetual \$150 million trust fund to compensate displaced and injured Marshallese. Lawsuits totaling almost six billion dollars were dropped as well as future claims against the U.S.

The widow of the Japanese fisherman that died had received the meager amount of \$2,778, in U.S. dollars, from the State Department and the U.S. gave the Japanese government two million dollars compensation for the contaminated tuna fish scandal. The remaining fishing boat crew members received only \$151,000 of this, or an average of only \$6,864, but more than twice what the widow received. The U.S. government did not admit to liability in these compensations, only moral responsibility. Then, why not compensate American atomic veterans?

With intense lobbying by the National Association of Radiation Survivors, the National Association of Atomic Veterans, and the

larger veterans organizations, Congress did intend compensation of atomic veterans, but has been frustrated by implementing government agencies and their contractors. The 1981 Veterans' Health Care, Training, and Small Business Loan Act promised atomic veterans medical care from the Veterans Administration (VA, later the Department of Veterans Affairs) if veterans could prove service connection of their illnesses. Very few could. Even scientists talk only of probability of causation. The Veterans' Dioxin and Radiation Exposure Compensations Act of 1984, P.L. 98-542 listed fifteen so-called radiogenic diseases to make proof easier, but required a dose of five rem to be awarded compensation. DNA and its dose reconstruction contractor provided dose information to the VA that seldom met the test.

Dose reconstruction contractor Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) published internal dose screens with false parameters that effectively almost eliminated internal dose assignments for atomic veterans. This in turn kept atomic veterans from having recorded total external plus internal doses of five rem required by P.L.98-542. In most dose reconstruction cases, SAIC studiously decreased the assigned doses of atomic veterans, even though DNA and VA espoused the principle that veterans would be given the benefit of the doubt. When SAIC employees ran low on necessary dose reconstructions, where there were no recorded doses or those were missing, they attacked dose reconstructions already on record and lowered them. Their next targets were the film badge records themselves. Documents show it was the intent of SAIC to minimize doses of veterans who might claim compensation if given the benefit of the doubt, or even doses from reconstructions veterans had paid others to provide.

SAIC apparently acted on its own agenda with impunity because it had political connections through its board of directors straight to the Department of Defense. Because DNA answered to an undersecretary of defense while contracting to SAIC, a clear conflict of interest existed. In some cases, the Secretary of Defense, William Perry for example, or a nominee, Bobby Inman for example, were former members of SAIC's board of directors, and one board member, Melvin Laird, was a former Secretary of Defense. A GAO auditor, rebuffed when he attempted to audit an SAIC contract with the Pentagon, was quoted in the newspapers as stating that it was difficult to distinguish between employees of SAIC and the Department of Defense. SAIC, a very large government contractor, was convicted of Federal felony fraud in 1992 regarding a contract with the Environmental Protection Agency, has performed questionably and been involved in lawsuits regarding other government contracts, but has remained unquestioned regarding its dose reconstruction contract with DNA.

In 1988, Congress passed the Radiation-exposed Veterans Compensation Act, P.L. 100-321, which is called the presumptive law because it is presumed an atomic veteran's radiogenic cancer was caused by his presence at a nuclear test, without considering radiation dose. The law has a list of cancers different from the 98-542 list, and VA time constraints and other technicalities, make obtaining compensation difficult. For example, if a widow filed for compensation in 1978 and her husband died of a disease not on the 98-542 list but on the 100-321 list, she was not compensated until she filed again in 1988 after 100-321 was passed. If her

husband died from a disease on the 98-542 list, but was not assigned the required five rem, she is not compensated until it is added to the 100-321 list, and even then is not compensated from the time she filed under 98-542. Such inequities have not been resolved, however strange it is that a cancer caused by radiation under one law is not under another. Some progress has been made in adding cancers to the lists. Claimants' still must compete with unlimited government legal resources to file claims and appeals in lengthy processes where death often occurs before claim resolution. Of more than 15,000 claims filed, benefits have been granted to less than 50 claimants under 98-542 and just over 400 claimants, about one-third of them widows, under 100-321. Was this extremely poor VA benefit award record and lack of compassion intended by congress? [ED: final segment to appear in next issue.]

**"Post Traumatic Stress Disorder" by Victor Fenton, NAAV
State Commander, South Carolina**

I feel at this time that I should write about PTSD since I have been doing quite a bit of research on it. Also of interest is the fact that I have been diagnosed with it. Several other friends of mine also were diagnosed with it and also awarded service connection for this disorder.

If one is obsessed with thoughts on the nuclear detonations to which we were exposed and one spends all their time thinking about them, plus one researches their involvement in the nuclear test or their being present at Hiroshima or Nakasaki, Japan helping the Japanese recover from their experience of being bombed with Atom Bombs; I would dare to say that person is also suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. This would also entail their preoccupation or completely engrossed in thoughts of the nuclear test and the subsequent health effects from which they suffer; this is PSTD!

Sue Rabbitt Roff, Centre for Medical Education, University of Dundee, United Kingdom, in her study titled Outline Proposals for a Profile Study of Veterans of Atomic and Nuclear Detonations touches on PTSD in the 8th chapter in her study. I feel writing this would give far more belief than my writing about my own problems. In her study she states:

**THERE IS A DOCUMENTED SYNDROME OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
DISTRESS AMONG MANY ATOMIC AND NUCLEAR VETERANS**

A major reason for requiring more than a quarter of a million members of the armed forces to be present at the weapons tests which began in July 1946 was to examine THEIR EMOTIONAL RESPONSE TO NUCLEAR WARFARE. Reports on the psychological stresses experienced by the 'indoctrinee forces' began to appear in the 1950's. Recent studies of veterans of these forces suggest that there is a syndrome with 'Major Thematic Consistances' which according to Vyner include:

1. a belief that they are dying of a disease caused by radiation,
2. a belief that they will die early,
3. a disrespect for the medical profession as a whole because they have been unable and sometimes unwilling to help but,
4. a longing to find that one doctor who will have all the answers,
5. a heightened concern for the future health of their children and grandchildren,
6. anger at the government, based on the belief that the government knowingly placed them in a dangerous situation and is now refusing to accept responsibility,
7. guilt over their own anger at the government,
8. the belief that they were used as guinea pigs,

9. a willingness to be in the service again but,
10. a refusal ever to be involved with nuclear weapons again,

11. the belief that most people think they are crazy for believing that ionizing radiation is dangerous and/or the cause of their illness.

This syndrome results in (1) a preoccupation with health and radiation and (2) a series of identity conflicts. It is exacerbated by the sense of "invalidation" many atomic veterans experience in trying to get their Department of Veteran Affairs to accept their ill health as service-related and therefore compensable.

Do any of the 11 beliefs sound familiar to you? They do to me because they are my beliefs. As a result, I feel a great bitterness and anger at my government for their lack of compassion and caring about the atomic veterans. This includes the Veterans Administration and the Department of Defense!

For those that go to the VA Hospitals and the doctors really don't want to hear about your beliefs. They only say, I don't want to talk about that..... I just want to treat you. I have told many a M. D. in the V.A., how can you treat me if you don't know what the hell is causing my problems?

The truth of the matter is that most of the doctors that treat your physical problems are in reality uneducated and ignorant due to the fact they do not have that special training to diagnose and treat radiogenic diseases and injuries. As a result of my telling the doctors they are ignorant due to a lack of training..... I have really gotten into it hot and heavy with the VA Doctors.

Remember in a previous article; I went to the University of South Carolina Medical School adjoining the Brian Dorn V.A. Hospital and asked the Director of the Radiology Department..... What do you teach your students (medical) about nuclear radiation injuries and diseases? The Director told me "Nothing!" As you will recall, he stated: "A Medical Doctor would have to go to a Specialty Type Training, where they would learn to understand radiation injuries and the diseases. So if that doctor gives you problems that you can't agree with, if you are talking about nuclear radiation health problems..... tell him you believe he is ignorant since he doesn't have the proper medical training. It is the truth! I believe that 99% of VA Medical Doctors aren't trained to treat nuclear radiation injuries or diseases. Probably 100% would be more like it!

Get the book from NAAV titled "No Immediate Danger" by Dr. Rosalie Bertell. She is a world famous individual trained in the research of cancer. In her book on page 72 she stated: "In 1972, the Japanese Atomic Bomb Hospital in Hiroshima, Japan opened its doors to Marshallese radiation victims." There are few other medical centers in the world able to recognize or treat this type of "radiation sickness."

So, take this article to the VA Hospital and ask them that you wish to see a doctor that is trained in the diseases and injuries caused by nuclear radiation. I'll bet you won't find one trained.

However, if you wish to see a doctor trained in Psychology or Psychiatry, I would be willing to bet you will find good doctors that understand your beliefs as they are stated in the first part of this article. I thank God, for men like Dr. Craig Morin and Dr. Colin Doyle, both of who treat my Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. They both are fine doctors and they have helped me a great deal! So, if you have sleep disorders and other problems worrying you about how our government has mistreated you and countless other Atomic Veterans, ask to see a psychiatrist and psychologist they

can help you!

I would also highly recommend the book titled "Invisible Trauma" - the Psycho-Social Effects of the Invisible Environmental Contaminants, by Henry H. Vyner, Medical Doctor. Atomic Veterans are mentioned throughout this book it is a very good read! You will learn all about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder!

US Representatives & Senators "Attitudes"

Ed: We have received copies of communications from several States. Approximately 50% were favorable, the other 50% were from NO support to Perhaps (for various reasons such as: the Budget will not stand for the increase, etc.). If these percentages hold true, then some are just telling us what we want to hear and are not voting accordingly. There is a strong indication that the "NO" supporters lack an understanding of "what is an Atomic Veteran?" and the Legislation already in place for same, plus other that is pending. Continuous Education for the "Aids" to these persons, in particular, is vital. I hope to receive more information and enter same into the Data Base which then can be published in graphic form in the future.

from: Dorothy M. Stranco, 7400 Washington Street. New Port Richey, FL 34652 July 23, 1999 To Our NAAV news Editor,

I, Dorothy M Stranco, Florida State Commander of NAAV, do hereby affirm that the following statement is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, This letter was from a conversation with Dr Neil E Otchin and also with my past attorney who at that time was a clerk of the court, a document was made for COVA, copies can be had - send a self addressed envelope to above address Dr Neil E Otchin in the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards in Washington D.C.

Dr Otchin confirmed to me and to a clerk of the court that he had been appointed by his chief, Dr Susan H Mather, to examine the claim of my late husband, Michael W Stanco, which had been forwarded from the office of the Department of Veterans Affairs under Secretary of Health It is my understanding that this review was performed on or about October 18th, 1996.

Dr Otchin was asked whether he reviewed the entire folder or just a portion thereof Dr Otchin responded that he was given a large folder but that he did not review it in its entirety and could not say whether it was all of the records in this VA claim or just a part Dr. Otchin was asked whether the portions which he reviewed included the dose reconstruction by Dr. Bernd Franke and the bone assay of Dr. H. P. Sharma. Dr Otchin responded that he was aware of these documents, which contained 98 rem in the bones, because he reviewed the critique of them in the reconstruction provided by the military (Defense Special Weapons Agency or herein "DSWA") he indicated that he had not re-examined the original studies.

Dr. Otchin stressed repeatedly that he was not at liberty to explore dose estimates or claims issues outside the scope of the questions framed in the letter provided to his office by the Compensation and Pension Service In this case, that letter gave the DSWA dose reconstruction as authoritative and governing and he was constrained to make his determination on the basis of that estimate alone. Likewise the only information on the patient's history to determine the likelihood of the diseases arising from causes other than in-service radiation.

Specifically, Dr. Otchin mentioned asbestos, benzene, and smoking. Dr. Otchin said that of those, only smoking might have applied to this veteran, but because the disease involved cancer of the large intestine, smoking was not a factor.

Dr. Otchin was asked if, in his review of the patient's history, he had become aware of this veterans exposures to medical x-rays while in service He suggested to me and the clerk of the court, that such doses were highly uncertain given the state of x-ray equipment at that time. Dr. Otchin said he had not examined that issue because it was outside the scope of what he was given in the letter. He

stated that had the matter been raised, he would have referred the issue to a VA radiologist for an opinion. Dr. Otchin reiterated that "WE don't examine anything outside the scope of the letter", We are circumscribed to the area set out in the letter from Compensation and Pensions", and "We use the dose given by the military Defense Nuclear Agency unless instructed otherwise."
FURTHER THE DECLARANT SAITH NOT

This is my letter to contact our Congressional delegation, that they introduce or sponsor legislation to close down part of the bureaucracy that maintains DOSE RECONSTRUCTION, TO DIVERT THOSE FUNDS TO THE VA EARMARKED FOR COMPENSATION AND MEDICAL TREATMENTS OF ATOMIC VETERANS.

Respectfully, Dorothy M Stanco - Florida State Commander of NAAV

from Stars & Stripes 10125-1117:

"Outraged" over an unannounced decision to discontinue helping veterans file their benefits claims, attorneys representing the American Legion Oct. 12 filed a lawsuit against the VA in the U S Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, DC.

In response to a recent ruling by the U S Court of Veterans Appeals for Veterans Claims (Morton vs West), the Veterans Benefits Administration "ordered VA regional offices, in writing, to no longer help veterans develop their requests for disability compensation at the outset of the claims process," the Legion said.

The order instead called for the withholding of assistance until the VA found the claim "well grounded," the Legion said, reversing long-standing VA policy to assist claimants. The Legion said it petitioned the court to block the order because it would "violate federal statute, judicial precedent and VA regulations requiring the department to assist veterans"

VA regulations also require public notice or comment on major policy shifts, argued the Legion.

"It is immoral to make the claims process more difficult," said Legion National Commander Al Lance. "It is unconscionable to do it by deceitfully eviscerating existing law. This directive puts the entire financial and procedural burden on the veteran, increasing probability that solid claims will be rejected on a technicality. That is a disgraceful way to treat the defenders of freedom, many of whom come to the VA wearing the irrevocable wounds of battle."

from Stars & Stripes 10125-11/07 (Commentary) "Executive Travel Gives Veterans Jet Lag"

Ed's "gist": The President's world travel is fit for a king - results from a recent GAO Study show that this President's flagrant abuse of foreign travel privileges by the Oval Office places the cost of trips amounting to pillaged tax dollars from the US Defense Budget. His disdain for the military during his youth hasn't changed, and is degrading the military of yesterday, today and tomorrow At issue is not only the immediate expense of these trips but the huge number of "staffers" that accompany same, to the "tune" of \$72 million, and \$605 million (84%) [figures are for 3 trips only to Chile, China and Africa] of that was siphoned at the expense of American military readiness. Several allied expenses such as security, salaries for military and other personnel are excluded from these figures. The \$605 million taken from the US defense budget could have purchased 3,000 of the smart bombs US forces ran low on during the Kosovo fiasco. Since 1990, US armed forces have been used in 37 foreign missions, compared to 22 between 1980 and 1989. Obtain a copy of this issue of S&S for more fund reductions and how they also affected the VA "till." Looking into the last year of Clinton's presidency, it appears that foreign junkets will be "more Instead of less." Items such as this are the reason why the funding

To the majority of politicians, if it isn't *millions* then not to worry!

Nominations for Board Members:

Ed: It is not to soon to consider Nominations to the NAAV Board of Directors. For those who may desire to be nominated, they should consider sending a short resume' to the Editor for inclusion in one of the first three Issues of 2000 [To: Dick Conant, 2424 Venetian Way SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105]. Please enclose a picture of yourself with your resume. We need to nominate Board Members who have the Time, Energy, Resources, Ability, Etc. to further the "Cause" - NOT JUST TO FILL A "POSITION!"

The 2000 Publication Deadlines for inclusion are: Jan. 15; Apr. 15; Jul. 15. The Publication of Oct. 15 will be too late.

"Your'e ON THE SOAPBOX"

Dear Commander Florentine,

I am still hoping to make contact with anyone who was at Desert Rock, Nevada from Sept to Nov 1951. I was in headquarters 111 Corps. We were the first ones there. I did finally get the government to admit that they radiated me and that my thyroidecotmy was a result of my exposure to radiation at Desert Rock, Nevada. I am now in a wheelchair, i have inclusion body myacitus, and the government says I'm 10% disabled. I guess 100% is when you're in the grave.

Commander could you help in getting the word out that I'm trying to contact anyone who was in Headquarters 111 Corps at that time period. Thanks

James H. Leveridge
320 Cody Circle
Billings, Montana 59105-3713
Phone 406-252-0212

From Commander Florentine,

I have been remiss by neglecting to list our hardworking colleague Boley Caldwell III as NAAV Data Base Custodian. Boley has worked very hard for NAAV over the years and has done so for the past three years while fighting a myriad of medical problems. He has dedicated himself for many years to the fight of the Atomic Veterans, and spent much of his own money to keep the data base active. We hope that with the austerity program that we have been on for the past several years to get us financially stable we can once again subsidize his data base.

I am glad to see that our friend Victor Fenton is back at his old job as Research Consultant. Vic, your name will be listed in it's proper place in the next issue. Welcome back and keep up the good work.

A word for our widows. We get letters all the time telling us about the hardship enduring the loss of husbands. It is especially hard for me because I have to realize that I have failed these Patriots, because I have not been able to all the laws passed that we need . We work constantly to do what we can to further our goals, but as you know they do not make it easy. We will fight diligently until we reach our goals of helping the Atomic Veteran and the Atomic Widow.

Rudy Florentine

Dear Sir:

I am writing you because I read your article in the Atomic Veteran

News Letter about how the Government lost the records of several veterans. Well, I was one of them.

Let me tell you that I was on the Crossroads, Able and Baker Atomic Bomb mission. I was a MMR in the Navy stationed on the USS Albermale AV51. Also was attached to the Atomic Bomb Commission - had Top clearance - was investigated by the F.B.I., etc. I also volunteered for going on the Islands of Bikini and Enewetak, Were dressed in what I think was scuba gear and had decimeters on our bodies to measure the radiation. We were exposed to hike going in toward the islands. We had labs on our ship and several other ships had some too. We had Top secret clearance because we had to check on the air conditioning on these ships as well as the bunkers on the islands. When I got out of the Navy I requested my records but was told they were lost and or a part of them were found but never received anything. When I worked at the VA Hospital after many years after my discharge I was examined but I don't know why ? and never received those results either. Everything seemed to be hush hush. I am 71 years now and in poor health, but received no compensation from the government or any recognition one way or the other.

I have high blood pressure, arthritis, pacemaker, ansioplasty and diabetis. I lost my wife of 48 years on June 12 of this year and don't have anything to live for now. My one son, 38 years old, committed suicide in 1995, because of divorce. He blew his head off and I found him and really haven't slept good since. I get these flash backs. My wife was diagnosed with cancer that same year and now she is gone. My other son try's his best to comfort me. I hope you will excuse my rambling on and my spelling. As you probably know by this letter which was written at 3 AM, that my final years is the pits.

Anyway, I just had to write about the above issue about lost records.

Thank you for listening to me. God Bless! Sincerely,

Richard Smikowski, 3743 S. 86th Street, Milwaukee, WI
53228-1711

From the Editor to All State & Area Commanders:

Based upon communications being received by this Editor from Atomic Veterans it appears that the *main* reason Atomic Veterans are *being denied* compensation and medical treatment is because the VA *is consistently* utilizing the *reconstruction of Dose Estimates* which have *been proven to be a farce*. In my opinion, *attacking the further use of Dose Estimates* by the VA should be *our #1 priority*. Refer to the letter in this issue by Dorothy M Stanco, State Commander - Florida, and remarks on this subject which I have entered in prior issues.

Each State & Area Commander should entertain the action of creating petitions "*to Sponsor and/or Cosponsor Bills in their respective Houses Legislation to force the Defense Department to do away with the Contract of the Agency that maintains "DOSE RECONSTRUCTION" and to "divert those funds to the VA earmarked for Compensation & Treatment of Atomic Veterans ONLY"*" and have them signed by all of the members, families and other interested parties and send them to their U.S. Representatives & Senators. This needs to be an all out effort on everyone's part in order to succeed. Take this approach - NO EFFORT, NO RESULTS. IF WE DO NOT ALL PARTICIPATE IN THIS ENDEAVOR, THEN WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO GRIPE. This effort needs to be made in the immediate future by sending these petitions to the Washington, D.C. Offices of these folks **before they convene in January 2000**. I rest my case. *Get started now while it is fresh in your minds!*

To whom it may concern:

I am an undergraduate at Brigham Young University working on my senior thesis paper for my history major. My topic is on shot Hood of the Plumbbob series of 1957. I am specifically writing on the experiences of the 2,000 marines who were near ground zero at this test. I am searching for participants' -- preferably many of the marines' -- personal accounts and any other primary sources, revolving around the Hood detonation of July 5, 1957. I plan on investigating how marines were exposed to hazardous beta particles caused by the dust emitted by the device. If you are veterans of Hood, or know of ones who I can contact either by e-mail or phone, I would greatly appreciate this information. Thank you for your web page and your time. Sincerely,
F Charles Roecker IV, (801)370-2403, 450 N 1130 E, #3,
Provo, Utah 84606 - e-mail: fr3@email.byu.edu

US Army Atomic Veterans desiring information on radiation exposure may find same by contacting the Department of the Army Center for Health Promotion & Preventative Medicine (USACHPPM), Medical Health Physics Program, 5158 Blackhawk Road, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD 21010-5422.

Means Testing Benefits All Veterans

If a veteran is non-service-connected or 0 percent service connected and not receiving money from the Department of Veterans Affairs, then he or she is subject to the means test. This is a measure of a family's income and assets. The means test was established by the Veterans Health Care Amendment of 1986, which requires that the Department of Veterans Affairs collect financial information from these two groups of veterans.

Health care centers must collect means test information from those veterans subject to the requirement. If a veteran agrees to make the required copayment, however, then he or she is not required to disclose personal financial information.

If a veteran fails to provide means test information, then the health care center/medical center cannot submit workload for that veteran's care. Without this information the facility providing your care may not receive appropriate funding, which has a negative impact on the services we can provide for all veterans.

If you are subject to the means test, please complete, sign and return it when you receive your annual notification for renewal. By doing so, you help yourself and your fellow veterans.

If you need more information about the means test process, contact your local VA health care center.

Thresholds effective through Dec. 31, 1999 [Ed: may change a/o Jan. 1, 2000]:

- (1) Veterans with no dependents:
 - (a) Category A: \$22,351
 - (b) Category C: \$22,352
- (2) Veterans with 1 dependent:
 - (a) Category A: \$26,824
 - (b) Category C: \$26,825
- (3) Veterans with 2 dependents:
 - (a) Category A: \$28,320
 - (b) Category C: \$28,321
- (4) Veterans with 3 dependents:
 - (a) Category A: \$29,816
 - (b) Category C: \$29,817
- (5) Veterans with 4 dependents:
 - (a) Category A: \$31,312
 - (b) Category C: \$31,313

[Ed: For veterans with more than 4 dependents and for the formula and other data considered, check with your local VA health care center.

"U.S. VETERANS: THEY DIDN'T RUN AWAY WHEN COUNTRY CALLED."

WHAT IS A VETERAN? HE'S THE GUY WHO PUT HIS LIFE ON THE LINE FOR HIS COUNTRY AND AS SOON AS THEY STOPPED SHOOTING AT HIM, THEY START TAKING HIS

BENEFITS AWAY...HE NEVER GOT SOME KIND OF A DEFERMENT OR RAN AWAY SOMEWHERE...HE WAS PAID A PITTANCE WHILE IN THE SERVICE WHILE OTHERS WERE MAKING TOP DOLLAR AND ENJOYING IT..WITHOUT HIM YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ALL YOUR FREEDOMS. HE WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO SURVIVE, BUT HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF SEEING HIS BUDDIES FALL SO YOU CAN ENJOY THE THINGS YOU TAKE FOR GRANTED. YOU SHOULD BE PROUD SEEING HIM IN UNIFORM..HE KNOWS LONELINESS AND THE FEELING OF SEPARATION FROM HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND IN SOME CASES NOT SEEING HIS CHILDREN GROW UP AND IN SOME CASES IS HAVING A TOUGH TIME READJUSTING BUT EVENTUALLY BLENDS INTO THE "RAT RACE"...HE COULD BE YOUNG OR OLD...COULD BE YOUR NEIGHBOR OR THE GUY YOU PASS ON THE STREET OR SAT NEXT TO AT THE BALL GAME.,,HE COMES FROM THE BIG CITY, THE SMALL TOWN, THE RURAL AREAS...HE DOESN'T HAVE A SUPERCARRIER NAMED AFTER HIM .. THOSE SHIPS ARE NAMED FOR EVERYBODY, BUT THEY JUST DON'T GET AROUND TO NAMING ONE "USS VETERAN"...FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT GUY OF ALL, "OUR VETERAN"...THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE THAT FLAG, TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE RED IN IT,..IT REPRESENTS ALL THE BLOOD THAT HAS BEEN SHED THROUGHOUT AMERICAN HISTORY...LET'S BE THANKFUL AND PROUD OF OUR VETERANS, NOT JUST ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS AS "VETERANS DAY" ETC., BUT ON OTHER DAYS ALSO...LET'S GIVE HIM A FAIR SHAKE, FOR HE HAS GIVEN US MORE THAN ONE WITH HIS SACRIFICES THROUGHOUT HISTORY, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FORGET TOO FAST ALL THE SACRIFICES MADE BY PAST AMERICANS, IN WHICH SO MANY DIED, SO THAT WE CAN ENJOY OUR FREEDOMS...THE DRAFT DODGERS WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT, BUT THEY SURELY KNOW HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THOSE FREEDOMS. I THINK YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHAT A "VETERAN" IS ,,,GOD BLESS THEM, PAST AND PRESENT. from: Chief Charles "John" Popp, USN (Ret), Operation "Crossroads."

From: Carolyn J Martin [mailto:carolyn.martin@rscs.net]
Subject: Operation Greenhouse

A friend was at Enewetak for Operation Greenhouse. He has asked me to get some information on this event. I have been having trouble finding anything on this operation Could you guide me to some info? My friend is not well and has lost most of his eye sight. He is a great guy and I want to help him as much as I can.

Thank you for your time - God Bless.

Mail to: <Eyler01@aol.com> Subject hello: Charles H. Eyler was in US Army 1962-1965. Went to YUCCA FLATS PROVING GROUNDS 1964 about 5 to 10 mi from it just off route 66 called Commo A site A, it was joint exercise desert strike. I now have LEUKEMIA, came down with it 1991, 20 yrs. after the fact that I was in that area. I have one doc say that is where I got it from but the VA is STILL STONE WALLING ME. If you have any info that could help me I would be thankful. Thank you, Chuck

Mail to: <Titan33@earthlink.net> Subject: Elton Youngberg Please help me find information relating to the involvement of Elton Youngberg in the AEC. I would be very Grateful.

State & Area Commanders: T=Telephone; F=FAX; E=e-mail Address; C=Cellular; M=Mobile

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Norman Dukas
200 Lake Dr.
S. Milwaukee, WI 53172-1236
414-762-0192

Wyoming

Vacancy

Notice: We would like to publish the Fax #'s & e-mail addresses for all of the Board of Directors, State & Area Commanders, as well as Reconstruction Coordinators who have same in order that Members, State & Area Commanders may communicate with each other in a timely manner at low cost on issues. For those of you who are interested, please send them to the Editor at: see newsletter front cover.

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 responder; underground nuclear test program participants; nuclear cleanup workers from Eniwetok and Johnson Atolls; air crew. 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

Castle:

Keith W. Dallman
68 Elmore St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
413-532-8613

Crested Ice:

Gregory H. Maas
367 Wilshire
Park Forest, IL 60466
708-747-1883

Crossroads:

Boley Caldwell III
2310 Apollo Way
Mesquite, TX 75150
214-279-3018

Eniwetok Cleanup:

Rich Doherty
P.O. Box 14
S. Easton, MA 02375
(Write for information)

Dominic I & II:

John H. Watkins
P.O. Box 991
Leicester, NC 28748
704-649-1095

Hardtack I:

Joseph J. Jahoda
86 Surrey Lane
Tenafly, NJ 07670
201-568-0945

Hardtack II:

John H. Watkins
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Leicester, NC 28748
704-649-1095

Hiroshima/Nagasaki:

East Coast -
Robert Orr, USMC
565 King St.
Northumberland, PA 17857
West Coast -
Victor Tolley

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408-684-2039

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POWS:

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Greenhouse:

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715-832-0584

Tumbler/Snapper:

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804-822-2515

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503-479-2049

Teapot:

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615-562-1742

Trinity:

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Hedgeville, WV 25427
304-754-9738

Wigwam:

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

More Info Requests:

From: DiNDeb@aol.com
[mailto:DiNDebc@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, October
18,1999 10:11 PM

My stepfather is a veteran
100% disabled, however,
not from the bomb testing.
He was a civilian working for
an excavation company
near the site at the time of
the testing. He is now dying
with acute leukemia and my
mother is trying to find
information about victims of
the testing, and if he would
qualify for benefits. Will
someone let me know where
to write for information?

Thank you, Dianna Yielding

Needs Assistance:

Because of multiple problems of
late, we are in need of financial
assistance. Perhaps someone
could assist us. I am an Atomic
Veteran, Life Member of NAAV
with a pending PTSD Claim.
Thanks. For further details:
Charles T. King, Sr., 906 Minerva
Ave., Louisville, KY 40223
502-339-5635.

"We search for beauty in distant
lands while we crush the violet
beneath our foot."

Nagasaki Occupation 2nd Marines Tel 1-870-356-4506
Life Member NAAV Fax 1-870-356-4506
P.O. Box 1496
Glenwood, Arkansas 71943

DONATIONS:

John Fegley
Raymond L. Waters
Angela J. Bernardini
Phillip T. Garcia
Hershal Fox
James M. Lein
Joseph P. Ferber
Anthony Debenedicts
Henry C. Adams
Norton L Billington
We heartily thank the above for
their generosity. Won't you join
them!

MEMORIALS:

Edward G. Lostutter - MI

William P. Masterson - OH
Col. Thomas M. Davis - TX
Charleen Grey - WY
Joseph J. Piskura - PA
George F. Hickey - AR
Norman Decato - NH
George R. Jones - PA
Clarence R. Barton, Jr - PA
Norman R. Irvine - WI
Gerald A. Perkins - WA
Howard V. Jordan, Jr - CA
Bernard W. Stephens - OH
Max R. Morgan - CA
Arthur F. Murray - AZ
"May God Bless our Fallen
Comrades!"

25 October 1999
A PARTISAN CONCERN ?????

In the matter of defending this country - those of us who were called upon to go forth in the military services did so. We did so for the sake of all of our country: men, women and children.

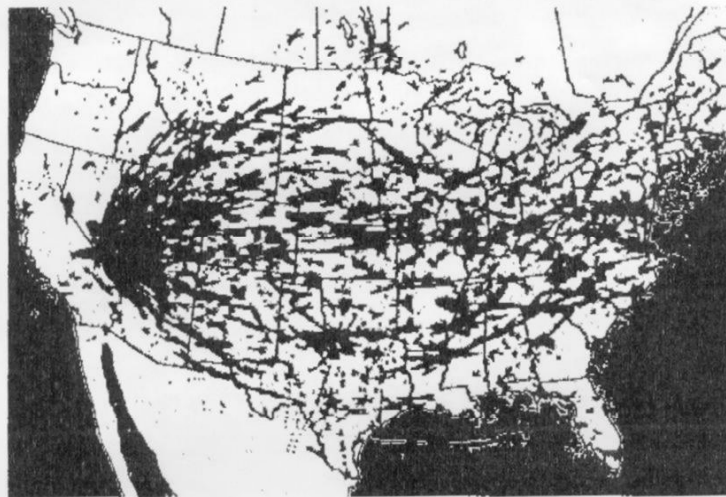
As I look at the bill HR 1286 "Justice for Atomic Veterans" which is now in the House Veterans Affairs Committee, I see 30 co-sponsors, 29 Democrats and 1 Republican. It appears that the care of these veterans that served the whole country is now a partisan affair.

We want to thank those members of the House who are co-sponsors of this bill and ask veterans to note who they are this next election. We have no representative from Arkansas co-sponsoring this bill at this time.

The significance of the effects of radiation is of concern to more than just veterans as we consider the Test Ban Treaty in our Congress.

Nagasaki Atomic Veteran - Hershal O. Fox
cc. Stars and Stripes, NAAV- National Association of Atomic Veterans, Arkansas Democrat Gazatte, Keith Schwenk - Mississippi, Rosalie Petty - Oklahoma, Linda Norton - Iowa

Areas of the Continental United States Crossed by more than One Nuclear Cloud from Aboveground Detonations



On a PBS television show former Los Alamos National Laboratory director Norris Bradbury's relatives stated that he warned them to stay up-wind during nuclear test times.

**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:
Signature _____ Date _____

Annual dues \$15.00. Life Memberships \$200.00, payable in quarterly installments of \$25.00 or more. Do not send cash. Make check or money order payable to NAAV and send to: NAAV, P.O. Box 2558, Ventnor, NJ 08406-0558.

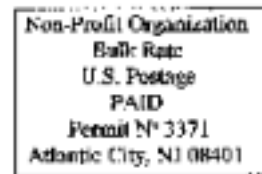
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Address Correction Requested



Dated Material