



# NAAV NEWS

JUNE 2021.....2nd QUARTER

*Publication of the National Association of Atomic Veterans*

## FROM THE DESK OF OUR NATIONAL COMMANDER



**Keith Kiefer**  
NAAV - Commander

I hope all of you are doing well. As we regain our independence, I hope you'll be able to reflect on the significance of Independence Day and enjoy time with family and friends.

As you read through this quarter's newsletter, you can get a sample of some of the activities occurring to advocate and educate for Atomic Veterans, their families, and others affected by the nuclear legacy.

We have been invited to participate in a number of events this year which we have had to take a rain check and/or give regrets for. Some of these are Marshallese "Constitution Day", the British "All Test Reunion", Tahiti invite by former president Oscar Manutahi Temaru for "Maohi Nui Lives Matter" event, our convention and the BNTVA convention.

On the legislative side, we have been getting more support and successes. We expect bills to extend and expand RECA to be introduced in the next few weeks. The State of Ohio passed a resolution supporting the Mark Takai Healthcare Parity Act. New York passed legislation dedicating an Atomic Veteran Memorial Bridge. Illinois made some progress on a memorial highway. A Resolution (H.Res.464) has been introduced in the House to nationally recognize July 16th perpetually as

Atomic Veterans Day. Mark Takai Healthcare Parity Act gained support with 17/126 sponsors in the Senate and House respectively. Polamares Veterans Act of 2021 gained support with 4/5 sponsors in the Senate and House respectively. Both the Mark Takai and Polamares language is included in the "Cost of War act 2021" Bill and "Honoring the PACT act of 2021. To my disappointment, the Secretary of The Department of Defense feasibility study for an Atomic Veteran service medal, that was due May 1, 2021, has been delayed. The most current information I have is that it will be out by the end of July. How soon it will be available to us remains to be seen. We are optimistic this will be completed this year.

Please, please, please make sure we have your up to date contact information. I made over sixty calls at least for which half of these phone numbers didn't work. This is costly and delays delivery of timely information.

I hope your state plans an event for Atomic Veterans Day.

We are planning in Minnesota to get together to recognize Atomic Veterans Day (July 16th) on July 17th. This is a day to remember those we have lost and recognize all Atomic Veterans service and sacrifice(s). Enjoy this time with fellow veterans, family and friends.

Until next newsletter stay safe, healthy and happy.

*Keith (K<sup>2</sup>)*

# FROM THE DESK OF OUR NAAV VICE COMMANDER

## AWOL



**Fred Schafer**  
NAAV -Vice Commander

Fred has been spotted in Oregon, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Kentucky, Arkansas and points between. If you have been trying to reach Fred via phone, email or mail you may have found the correspondence non responsive or received a “full” message.

Processing of membership, Q store orders and other tasks have been put on hold. We expect by the end of July Fred will be apprehended, thrown in the brig and soon be able to catch up on tasks.

We imagine after being thru COVID lockdown/restrictions Fred believed he was due for a long overdue vacation.

We understand the fish are running scared and food is plentiful. We thank you for your patience and understanding.



**GRILLING OUT**



**HAVING FUN**



**FATHER'S DAY WITH FRIENDS**

## ILLINOIS ATOMIC VETERANS HIGHWAY STALLS IN LEGISLATURE

On May 5th, 2021 HJR0030 passed the House committee 12 in favor, 0 against and one not voting. Unfortunately, the legislation has stalled out in the Senate. Rep. Tom Bennett vows to continue the effort to recognize Atomic Veterans in Illinois.

The legislation presently designates the portion of Illinois Route 171 between Illinois Route 83 and U.S. Route 45 as the “Atomic Veterans Highway”.



## I APOLOGIZE FOR BEING LATE WITH THE NEWSLETTER

Usually the last two weeks of June I am putting the finishing touches on the newsletter, but this year that was interrupted by the death of my wife.

She had been going downhill the past 4 years and despite the falls, broken bones and demintia, was able to live up to our promise we had made many years ago that we would not put either in a care facility unless it was absolutely necessary. If I would have put her in a home care facility with the COVID pandemic, I would not have been able to see her every day.

We had many friends where a member of their family was in a home and they were not able to visit them in those last moments. So I may be a bit late, but want to thank those who called and wrote, and thank our Commander for sending a plant on behalf of the membership, shown in the column on the right. It was a long battle but now she is in a better place without all the pain.



So, on behalf of me and my family, I want to thank you, it will take me a while to get back to normal, but have great support from family and friends. Blessings to all of you! BOB

## RECA SUNSETS 11 JULY 2022

Please keep in mind if you or others believe you have a Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) claim apply soon, even if you don't have all of the required documentation yet.

We understand legislation to extend/modify RECA is planned for introduction in the House and Senate in July. Please don't delay an application based on hopes for an extension.

Military Veterans Advocates (MVA) is spending two weeks (end of July and first week of August) advocating for veterans. Keith Kiefer (NAAV Commander) and Ken Brownell (NAAV New York State Commander) have been invited to join them meeting Senators and Congress members. Check out MVA and support them with an email/letter campaign (Bill of the week) and/or monetarily.

Bill of the week link can be found here: <https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/bill-of-the-week.html> please send emails and letters.

Support: <https://www.militaryveteransadvocacy.org/donate.html>

Many organizations like Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), Labrats, BNTVA, and many veterans organizations are supporting our efforts.



# LABRATS INTERNATIONAL



LABRATS in partnership with the Daily Mirror 'A medal for Heroes' campaign are challenging the UK Prime Minister.

In December 2020, the UK Government accepted the recommendation from the Advisory Military Sub-Committee (AMSC) not to award the UK Atomic veterans a medal in recognition for their service. Claiming that they did not meet the Risk and Rigour needed. On the 10th of June 2021, the AMSC reviewed further evidence provided by LABRATS, but still refused to award the medal.

## THE ADVISORY MILITARY SUB-COMMITTEE

c/o Honours and Appointments Secretariat  
Room G/39, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

E-mail: [honours@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:honours@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

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SA31 9EW  
[info@labrats.international](mailto:info@labrats.international)

10 June 2021

Dear Mr Owen

I am writing further to my letter dated 22 March 2021, in which I explained that the Sub-Committee would formally consider the information you provided in your re-submission regarding retrospective medallic recognition for Service personnel who participated in the British Nuclear Test Programme.

The Sub-Committee has now considered the information and met recently to discuss whether any new facts fundamentally altered the basis on which the original recommendation to the Grant of Honours, Decorations and Medals Committee (HD Committee) had been made.

In discussing this issue, the Sub-Committee considered the criteria for medallic recognition as set out in its Terms of Reference. The Sub-Committee were again conscious throughout the discussions of the novel and challenging surroundings in which Service personnel involved in the test programme must have found themselves. However, the unanimous conclusion of the Sub-Committee was that matters relating to health had already been taken into account, and that there are no grounds to revise the recommendation to the HD Committee based on the information in your re-submission.

I recognise that you and your members will find the decision of the Sub-Committee disappointing. However, I can assure you that careful and detailed consideration was

We are now challenging the UK Prime Minister through our 'Look Me In The Eye' campaign to meet with Veterans and their families. Since Atomic testing started in 1952, no UK Prime Minister has ever met with the veterans. Our Veterans, descendants, and supporters (including support from the USA) created videos in support of the campaign which can be viewed at <https://www.labrats.international/lookmeintheeye>.

As of the date of this article, the Prime Minister has not agreed to meet with us, we will continue to apply pressure across all parties within Parliament and utilising our celebrity supporters.



# LABRATS INTERNATIONAL (continued)



The All-Tests Reunion will be held September 20-24 at Pontins, West-Super-Mare, where over 100 veterans and their families meet at an adult only venue. This year, this event is even more important to our veteran’s mental health as last year was cancelled. We have received sponsorship from three organisations to enable us to host the event, with the sponsorship money being used to fund entertainment and to help people who are unable to afford the trip.

At this event, we will also be creating further look me in the eye videos and asking the participants to sign a banner, which we hope to use in a march in London, should the Prime Minister refuse to meet with us.

The reunion is a week-long event, with a visit to a local air museum, quizzes, competitions, videos and discussions. Many parts of the event will be streamed live via our Facebook page.

On the 27th of June, LABRATS and DOMINICRECA UK held a remembrance ceremony at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, Staffordshire. The 27th of June is the anniversary of the largest detonation (Bighorn) at Operation Dominic. Eric Barton who is the leading UK representative for RECA claims will be present, laying a wreath, along with other veterans to remember the fallen. That weekend is also Armed Forces Weekend in the UK, with events across the country.

**“We will remember them”**

LABRATS & RECA UK  
REMEMBRANCE DAY

On the 27th of June 2021,  
LABRATS and RECA UK  
will remember the fallen  
Nuclear Veterans across the world.

The 27th of June is the anniversary of the  
Bighorn test at Operation Dominic. 7.7mt.

The service will take place at the  
National Memorial Arboretum at 2pm.

Places are limited to 20 people and must  
be booked in advance due to COVID restrictions.

**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE CONTACT:**  
email [info@labrats.international](mailto:info@labrats.international)  
or call **0203 286 3988**.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

National Memorial Arboretum  
(Alrewas, Staffordshire)  
2pm start (more details overlaid / scroll down)

Sunday 27th June 2021

With thanks to Dave H  
Remembrance Art for the image

We continue to forge relations across the world, our website continues to grow with new members and supporters each day. We look forward to continuing our close relationship with NAAV and increasing the awareness of the Nuclear Testing programs across the world.

Alan Owen - - on behalf of the LABRATS International

# I DID NOT VOLUNTEER FOR THIS!

On the evening of March 19, 2021 I received word that my youngest son, Lance, had just passed away. I was, of course, shocked, but not completely surprised. He had suffered for a number of years from Addison's disease. He recently took early retirement from employment as a human resource manager, and had been looking forward to enjoying his lakeside home. He was sixty years old.

Addison's disease is attributed to improper functioning of the adrenal gland; so I was inevitably, once more, reminded of my daughter, Pat, who passed away in 1996; she too suffered, all through her teen years, from problems with her endocrine system. At the age of twenty, part of her pancreas had to be removed; in her forties, a malignant tumor was removed from her brain. Unfortunately, however, it had already metastasized to her lungs and she died at the age of 47.

When she was dying, I told her I would never give up being an advocate for the abolition of nuclear weapons. BUT at the age of 98, I admit to having slowed down a bit.

After my son's death I was moved to examine some of the documents about radiation exposure in my possession. What follows are a few statements based on those examinations.

I spent the summer of 1946 at Bikini Atoll on a rescue tug, part of the "salvage unit" in Operation Crossroads, the first test firing of nuclear weapons after the end of World War II. I have suffered health consequences from that experience, and I assert that the unpleasant circumstances of Patricia's and Lance's deaths are attributable genetically to my experience. Various people representing the government have stated that is not possible; however, in my professional capacity I have interacted with several geneticists, all of whom say otherwise.

In the 1990's I conducted research for my PhD in which I obtained questionnaire responses from a random sample of men who had participated in atmospheric atomic bomb tests. Twenty-one percent of my respondents replied that one or more of their descendants had health problems that they felt were attributable to their radiation exposure.

Recently. I have had occasion to review a report entitled IRRADIATION OF PERSONNEL DURING OPERATION CROSSROADS. Which was based on official U.S. Government documents, and presented by the esteemed authority on Radiation Health Physics, Dr. Karl Z. Morgan to the House Committee on veteran affairs in May, 1983. The report (formerly classified, but since de-classified) is 36 pages in length; the following are just two brief excerpts:

On page 23:

"Almost all radiation measurements in the field related to external doses. There was no systematic measurement at Bikini for internal doses which personnel might get and continue getting for the rest of their lives by the inhalation, ingestion absorption of fission products or alpha emitters like plutonium at Operation Crossroads.

Thus, every aspect of Operation Crossroads, especially after July 25, 1946, was fraught with danger for the 42,000 people present. The documents show that because of the indifference to

# I DID NOT VOLUNTEER FOR THIS! - (CONTINUED)

safety, the lack of caution in spite of grave ignorance, and other factors, it is probable that large numbers of personnel were exposed to very high levels of radiation, particularly internal doses from fission products and plutonium, which continue to irradiate long after the operation was declared closed and the target ships sunk.”

Concluding paragraphs:

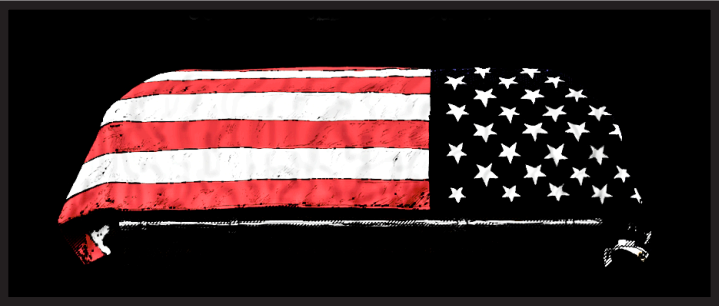
“The ‘hairy-chested’ ‘attitude of indifference’ to radiological matters contributed largely to the dangers to which the personnel were subjected. Such attitudes contributed to extensive violations of radiological guidelines (not wearing protective clothing like gloves, for instance) in direct contrast to the assumptions of the Defense Nuclear Agency.

The information in the documents does not allow us to make even rough estimates of the exposures. But it does allow us to dismiss as unwarranted any sweeping claims that the doses were “low” or “essentially insignificant” particularly as the Defense Nuclear Agency has made such claims without systematic reference to the veterans’ detailed accounts of their own activities – data we consider essential to any serious judgement on the matter.”

I conclude by observing that, in the period following the end of World War II, General Leslie Groves (Director of the Manhattan Project) was frequently quoted as being concerned about the possibility of claims being instituted by men who participated in Operation Crossroads. I can only wonder how much that attitude encouraged the “denial of harm” attitude which then prevailed among so many of the “top brass”

By F. Lincoln Grahlfs PhD  
NAAV Past Vice-Commander

## TAPS



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TOM HOWSER.....Stover, MO  
DAVID T. GARCIA.....Orlando, FL  
MURRAY BORENSTEIN.....Lakewood,NJ  
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SALVATORE J. VENDITTO.....Clark, NJ  
FRANK A. ZACCORO.....Spring Hill, FL

## SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL ATOMIC TESTING MUSEUM HOSTING ATOMIC VETERANS ART DISPLAY

Victoria Moore Fine Art, on behalf of Childrenofatomicveterans.Org and StillGlowing.Org is honored the Smithsonian National Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas, Nevada is accepting the initial artists proofs on Atomic Veteran's Day , July 16th, 2021.

We hope you can join them between 12:30 to 2:00 pm

755 E. Flamingo Rd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

From Victoria Moore's  
Atomic Babylon series ,  
"Civil Cold Warriors"

Learn more at [https://nationalatomictestingmuseum.org/?utm\\_source=local&utm\\_medium=organic&utm\\_campaign=gmb](https://nationalatomictestingmuseum.org/?utm_source=local&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=gmb)

The original paintings will be auctioned for the benefit of StillGlowing.org. At a future date. To bring awareness to the Atomic Veterans and their families.

Victoria Moore and Kathy Kirchner Sinai are raising funds for several nuclear related projects.



## JOURNALIST WINS TOP AWARDS FOR “ATOMIC VETERANS” SERIES



Some of you may remember Claudia Grisales attending the NAAV 2018 Convention held in Oregon. She interviewed a number of the attendees and subsequently wrote a three part series for the Stars and Stripes.

Journalist Claudia Grisales won a top award for her Stars and Stripes series about aging “atomic veterans” waging a final fight for health benefits after being exposed to secret nuclear testing and cleanup.

Her three-part series, “Conspiracy of Silence,” was selected as the top entry by the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Society for Professional Journalists.

Grisales was also a finalist in the Non-Breaking News category of the DC Dateline Awards, for her coverage of the death of Navy linguist Shannon Kent in Syria, whose family fought the regulation that forced her to deploy.” Said Tina Corney.



## **HELP FOR RICHARD GIVENS FROM CAMP DESERT STORM PARTICIPANTS**

Those of you that were at Camp Desert Rock, especially during the time of Operation Tumbler Snapper please contact - Michael Naha, Jr. by [e-mail \*\*mnayajr@aol.com\*\*](mailto:mnayajr@aol.com) or call him at **732-986-7768**.

His grandfather, Richard Norman Givens died at the age of sixty-one from ailments believed to be from radiation that we received at Desert Rock.

Michael is a student at Kean University and is interested in writing a book about his grandfather and others exposed. He would love to hear from you to fill him in on things that happened at Desert Rock.

### **NAAV Honored by being asked to be a Speaker in Tahiti**

NAAV was honored to be asked to be a guest speaker in Tahiti at the Maohi Nui Lives Matter event in July. Unfortunately, we have had to send our regrets. If acceptable, we will attend via a live video or prerecorded message. We hope to be asked again for a future event. We were honored to have Moetai Brotherson at our NAAV 2018 Convention. President Temaru had prior commitments and was unable to attend that year.



Oscar Manutahi Temaru is a French leader. He has been President of French Polynesia, an overseas collectivity of France, on five occasions: in 2004, from 2005 to 2006, from 2007 to 2008, in 2009, and from 2011 to 2013 and mayor of Faa'a since 1983.

President Temaru has been an advocate regarding nuclear issues for the Polynesian people. An example is him taking the French presidents to the International Criminal Court over nuclear weapons tests.

## BNTVA NEWS

Subject to COVID restrictions, the BNTVA is busy preparing for the annual conference reunion at Ironbridge, near Telford, the home of cast iron and the famous Iron Bridge, Shropshire. We will hear from scientists, Cold War researchers with particular specialisms concerning the tests from Wales, Australia and Canada, Armed Forces Commissioning and new representatives from welfare initiatives within the British nuclear community. These people will be sharing information relevant to the medal application and healthcare of our nuclear test veterans within the National Health Service. We will report further after the event takes place.

We have submitted a 90-page fresh medal application with attached evidence to the UK Advisory Military Sub-Committee after the rejection of the previous campaign. The focus has been on a demonstrated showcase of physical risk, and physical and mental rigour, including a moral injury to the veterans involved. Two RAF cloud samplers who flew through radioactive fallout from Operation Buffalo, Maralinga, Australia. and Operation Grapple, Christmas Island have spoken about their experiences as part of the application.

We have been pleasantly surprised by the interest in this application by the national, regional and local media, and the BNTVA has featured in a number of regional online newspapers and major news stations in the UK, including the BBC and ITV. Our lead supporter is the ex-veterans' minister, Johnny Mercer, two members of Boris's current Conservative Cabinet and the Leader of the Scottish National Party.

Currently, there are a number of RECA applications submitted and being submitted by British Operation Dominic veterans.”



The Charity for Nuclear Veterans

Reg Number 1173575

0208-144-3080

[www.bntva.com](http://www.bntva.com)

**REMINDER -- This Summer marks 75 years since Operation Crossroads took place! Most of those who participated, and for some their children as well, have died from the effects of exposure during those tests.**

## Ohio Legislature passes Resolution supporting Mark Takai Healthcare Parity Act



**Representative Adam Miller (left), Senate President Matt Huffman (center) and State Senator Tim Schaffer (right) at the signing of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1.**

Senator Bennet said: “I served with then Lt. Colonel Takai. His compassion and passion for our nation’s service members lives through ensuring these veterans get the care they have earned,” said Representative Adam Miller (D-Columbus). “I am proud to stand with my Ohio colleagues and implore Congress to make things right and show our veterans that we stand with them like they stood for us.”

“The VA has denied health benefits to cleanup veterans just like the vets who performed cleanup operations for Agent Orange during the Vietnam War,” said David England, Commander of the Pickerington American Legion Post. “I know that Agent Orange coverage for those individuals has now been recognized. It is now time for Congress and the VA to do the right thing on treatment for the Atomic Veteran and those that did the dirty harmful cleanups with little or no protection.”

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 will now be formally sent in a letter to the U.S. Congress.

## **NAAV HONORED BY BEING ASKED TO BE A SPEAKER IN OREGON**

NAAV was honored to be asked to be a guest speaker in Oregon at the Oregon Marshallese Community Association (OMCA) Constitution Day (May Day) event held June 5, 2021. I had to send regrets to speak in person. Fred Schafer and myself sent a prerecorded video. We also contacted NAAV members and Enewetak Atoll Radiological Cleanup Veterans to attend and support the Marshallese. I understand Linda Richards and friends, Steve Harrison, Greg Granlund, Johny Deardorff and his wife were in attendance.

Honored speakers included Gerald Zackios, Ambassador Embassy of the Republic of Marshall Islands and Eldon Alik.

A link to some of the event can be found here:

Watch “OMCA May Day 2021” on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/563121730?ref=em-share>



**Steve Hafrison**



**Greg Granlund**



**Gerald Zackios**

## **PLEASE HELP CUT OUR COSTS**

We are asking our members to help us cut costs. The more of our members that agree to receive the quarterly newsletter by email, the more we can cut our costs. Both printing and postage costs continue to increase. If you contact our newsletter editor, Robert Ruyle at [bobruyle34@gmail.com](mailto:bobruyle34@gmail.com), verify your email location and let him know you are willing to get the newsletter electronically (email). In addition to saving printing and postage costs, you will receive the newsletter up to two weeks earlier.

## **ASSEMBLYMAN BYRNE PASSES LEGISLATION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR ATOMIC VETERANS**

Photo courtesy of Brian Marschhauser Editor, Yorktown News News photographer Tabitha Pearson Marshall. Ed Gettler Past NAAV New York State Commander at the May 30th, 2018 Memorial Day event.



**ED GETTLER**

**Past NAAV New York State Commander catalyst for a Atomic Veteran Memorial Bridge**

On May 30th, 2018, Memorial Day, Ed Gettler was one of the speakers at Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Field, Yorktown, NY. He shared part of his Atomic Veteran story. (Part of his story can be read here...

<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/yorktown/articles/photos-yorktown-remembers-the-fallen-on-memorial>

It's reported there wasn't a dry eye in the crowd. His story caught the attention of the current Assemblyman Kevin Byrne.

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne and Senator Harckhan championed legislation to dedicate a pedestrian bridge in Yorktown, New York as an Atomic Veteran Memorial Bridge. We anticipate Governor Cuomo will be signing this into law. A dedication should occur sometime in 2022.

*SEE PRESS RELEASE*

Continued on Page 14



**KEVIN BYRNE**

Kevin Byrne is the current assembly member for the 94th Assembly District, serves as the ranking Minority member on the Health Committee, and chairs the Assembly Minority Program Committee, making him the youngest member in his Conference’s leadership team. He also serves on the Insurance, Labor, Transportation, and Governmental Operations Committees.

Peter Harckham is a senator from the State of New York. Harckham represents Senate District 40 in the New York State Senate.



**PETER HARCKHAM**



**TACONIC STATE PARKWAY BRIDGE**

Peter Harckham is a Senator from the State of New York. Harckham represents Senate District 40 in the New York State Senate. Assemblyman Byrne Passes Legislation to Recognize and Honor Atomic Veterans Assemblyman Kevin Byrne (R,C,I,SAM,ROS-Mahopac) is pleased to announce the passage of his legislation (A.1456) to recognize our nation's Atomic Veterans by designating the pedestrian bridge over the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Yorktown as the Atomic Veterans Memorial Bridge.

This bridge will be named in honor and memory of the 220,000 American service personnel who participated in the approximately 235 nuclear tests the United States conducted between 1945 and 1963, potentially exposing themselves to radiation leading to negative health effects later-on in life. Much of their work during this time frame was top secret and unknown to the public. This legislation seeks to both raise awareness as well as honor the remarkable service and sacrifices made by these brave military servicemen and women. The legislation passed the Assembly on June 2, 2021.

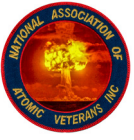
“In 2018, I attended a Memorial Day service, where local veteran and past state commander of National Association of Atomic Veterans Ed Gettler spoke and reminded all those in attendance of the brutal realities of war, specifically the early years of testing atomic and nuclear weapons. Our atomic veterans are often under-recognized and to change this we must continue to promote awareness of the incredible sacrifice made by these brave American service members who worked closely with atomic materials. That is why I believe this legislation is important not only to the community I represent, but to our entire state and the remembrance of these remarkable heroes,” said Assemblyman Byrne.

“The National Association of Atomic Veterans, Inc. (NAAV) is grateful to Assemblyman Byrne and Senator Harckham for leading the effort to recognize the sacrifice Atomic Veterans and their families have made in the interest of national security. We also wish to thank the past NAAV New York State Commander, Ed Gettler and New York State citizens for their advocacy and the important role they've played getting this legislation passed in the Senate and Assembly. Few know of these veteran's sacrifices since an oath of secrecy was in place until 1996, preventing Atomic Veterans from discussing their experience with their families or doctors. Many have taken their stories to the grave. It is our hope this monument will be the catalyst for others to learn more about the history of the Atomic Veterans and appreciate Governor Cuomo's consideration signing this legislation into law.” Keith Kiefer, National Commander of the National Association of Atomic Veterans, Inc.

You can view Assemblyman Byrne's remarks during the Assembly at

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zddpxiM5g0I>**

The Senate version of the bill (S7114), carried by Senator Peter Harckham, passed the Senate later in June. The legislation now awaits the signature of Governor Andrew Cuomo.



**NAAV**  
130 Cleveland Street  
Lebanon, OR 97355-4505

**IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE!**

**Change of Address, Membership or Renewal Write or E-Mail**  
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