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More About Dioxin - Dioxin Committee

Sunday 27th June 1999

As coordinator of the Dioxin committee, I must say Ralph Spooner's theory has shown a renewed interest in the Veteran Community, on the subject of Agent Orange, this deadly defoliant was used to deplete ground cover. A spraying Program code-named Operation Ranch Hand, rained 24d and 245T out of the sky for some Seven Years.

The consequence of this program has left a sickening legacy, Dioxin has the ability to be both an immunosuppressant and carcinogen basically resulting in genetic changes mental illness and physical deformities, so far it has led to an alarming amount of premature deaths in our veterans community, ranging from MNS, Cancers, Suicides, etc and all documented.

In 1958 United States personnel received out of court settlement from seven different Chemical Companies, Australia and New Zealand received a small share.

Australia's Evatt Royal Commission Report 1985 Agent Orange Not Guilty.

One would call it the greatest fraud of the century, I don't like saying this, six weeks prior to the hearing, the Hawk Government denied the commissioner access to the chemical files, creating the 1983 Archives Act. This information will not be available till 2003. This denial is a sad situation in light of the now current Vietnam Veterans Health study.

The Primary Aim of the Dioxin committee and fellow service men and families is to partition Federal Members to allow us access to Government Publications of Files;

Acknowledge the role of chemicals and other unknown agents in contributing to the ill health of veterans. In reference to the health study the DVA terminology is not designed to ascertain the causes of a medical condition.

I would like to move a motion that as a group, start proceedings to partition our Members in releasing vital information hidden in Canberra.

Our best approach is to get our facts to the people. Our organisation the FESR is just the group to do it.

Concluding this overview I would like to mention, that my information sources are from Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia and Author Jean Williams, this seventy four year old lady lives in Nambour and has spent many years researching Chemical Warfare and the effect on mankind. I have spoken to her and mentioned the probability of her attending one of our meetings.

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