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Agent orange newsletter

Agent Orange is a herbicide and defoliant chemical used by the U.S. Military during the Vietnam War from 1961 to 1971.It is a mixture of equal parts of two herbicides, 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D. In addition to its harmful environmental effects, the chemical has caused major health problems for many people who were exposed. Health problems caused by exposure to Agent Orange are widely called Agent Orange's Disease. Agent Orange Symptoms Agent Orange Diseases is not a single disease, it now contains a long list of 14 types of health problems. The symptoms of each problem are independent. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the list of diseases associated with Agent Orange is as follows. Click the name of the disease to learn about the symptoms. AL Amyloidosis A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters the tissues or organs Chronic B-cell leukemias A type of cancer that affects white blood cells Cloracne (or similar acne disease) A skin condition that occurs shortly after exposure to chemicals and resembles common forms of acne seen in adolescents. Under VA rating regulations, you must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides. Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond adequately to the insulin hormone Hodgkin's Disease A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver and spleen, and progressive anemia Ischemic heart disease A disease characterized by a reduction in blood supply to the heart , leading to multiple chest pain Myeloma cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow lymphoma Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma A group of cancers affecting the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissues Parkinson's disease A progressive nervous system disorder that affects peripheral neuropathy of muscle movement, the condition of the early onset nervous system A that causes numbness , tingling and motor weakness. Under VA rating regulations, you must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides. Porfiria Cutanea Tarda A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in areas exposed to the sun. Under VA rating regulations, you must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides. Prostate cancer Prostate cancer; one of the most common cancers among men (including lung cancer) Lung cancers, Larynx sarcomas, torachea and soft tissue bronchi (except osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi sarcoma or mesothelioma) A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and vesphas, and connective tissues * The content is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or Always seek the advice of your doctor or other qualified health care provider with any questions you may have regarding a medical condition. Published 09/25/2006 10:14 PM ? Updated 01/06/2011 03:47 PM What information, services and benefits does the VA provide to veterans regarding Agent Orange? You can find information about Agent Orange on our VA website at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/ . Please visit this website for all VA information related to this topic. Thank you. Yes! You (probably) need an agent. The question is not really, do you need an agent?!, the question is When do you need an agent?! Agents are an essential piece of the puzzle for (most) any writer who wants to write full-time and are actually paid to do so. They are the first door of a series of multiple doors that have to open for you in this adventure. And the first is typically the hardest to open! You will often hear stories of writers who were rejected more than a hundred times before they finally found their agent. That's not because finding the agent is so hard, they're everywhere. It's actually because learning to throw them and being qualified enough to demand their attention takes a long time. I don't care how great your manuscript is, if you don't know how to throw it, no one will be inspired by your pages. I also don't care how amazing the entire reading of your manuscript is; if you don't understand the function of the first page, no agent is going to experience your book in its entirety. So there are lessons to learn here (we can cover the function of the first five pages of your manuscript is a separate entry) on your way to seeking representation. I used to hate agents because all they did was reject me and my authors. So I built a business that didn't require entry for a long time. I have authors who earn some nice pay checks for their books without talking to an agent or dealing with a commercial publisher. You earn more from an independent press than with a commercial press, so they sell fewer books, but the return can be immensely higher. That said, there usually comes a time when the equation changes and having an agent becomes imperative. ASIDE: My partner Robert Renteria (www.fromthebarrio.com) is really my only partner whose book will probably never need an agent. We aim to sell ONE MILLION books and put them in the hands of at-risk young people. This is not going to happen through the traditional distribution of libraries. This is happening from nonprofits, individuals, high schools, middle schools and universities who are buying the book en masse (see That's a unique situation! But the point is valuable: each author has their own objectives and determining those objectives will bring clarity to the agent's question. Most of my other authors be in the bookstores and so I have to go out and find the right agents for them again. Our books are highly developed, exceptional trips and I still have to know my marketing and launch them properly or our books will not be seen. One thing to keep in mind here is that authors looking for that first editorial break are in the toughest position and have to be vigilant to learn to understand the process and what agents/publishers are looking for. Sol If your book requires a commercial publisher (not because you're lazy, but because your demographic buys books in bookstores), then chase the agent. But do it with a strategy. (We can discuss that strategy in another post!) Any foreign establishment engaged in the manufacture, preparation, propagation, composition, or transformation of an imported device in the United States must identify a United States agent (U.S. agent) for that establishment. Information about the U.S. agent of a foreign establishment is presented electronically using the FDA Unified Registration and Listing System (FURLS system) and is part of the establishment's registration process. Each foreign establishment can only designate one U.S. agent. The foreign establishment may also, but is not obligated to, designate its U.S. agent as its official correspondent. The foreign establishment must provide the name, address, telephone and fax numbers and email address of the U.S. agent. The identified U.S. agent must complete an automated process to confirm that they have agreed to act as a U.S. agent. The automated process will forward an email verification request to the U.S. agent. They will be asked to confirm their consent to act as representative/link on behalf of the foreign establishment. If the U.S. agent denies consent (or does not respond within 10 business days), the Official Correspondent/Owner Operator of the foreign establishment will be notified and must designate a new U.S. agent to satisfy the regulatory obligation. Responsibilities of a U.S. Agent The U.S. agent must reside in the U.S. or maintain a place of business in the U.S. The U.S. agent cannot use a mailbox as an address. The U.S. agent cannot use only an answering machine service. They must be available to answer the phone or have an employee available to answer the phone during normal business hours. U.S. agent responsibilities are limited and include: assisting the FDA in communications with the U.S. answer questions related to foreign establishment devices that are imported or offered for importation into the United States, assist the FDA in scheduling inspections of the foreign establishment, and if the FDA is unable to contact the foreign establishment directly or quickly, the FDA may provide information or documents to the U.S. agent, and such action will be equivalent to providing the same information or documents to the foreign establishment. Please note that the U.S. agent has no liability related to reporting adverse events under medical device reporting regulation (21 CFR Part 803), or filing 510(k) Premarket Notices (21 CFR Part 807, Subpart E). The chemist was used by the United States Army while the Senator of Arizona served in Vietnam. It has been linked to glioblastoma cancer suffered by many veterans. Share on PinterestWhen news broke that Senator John McCain has glioblastoma multiforme, a deadly brain cancer, the nation quickly gathered around the 80-year-old politician and Vietnam War veteran. Joy Patterson was deeply saddened by the news. Her husband, Kenneth Patterson, also served in Vietnam and was also diagnosed with glioblastoma (GBM). I don't think Senator McCain will survive, sadly, just like our husbands who have gone before, said Patterson, whose husband died of the disease in 1996.He now works to help other widows of Vietnam War veterans get their disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The question in Patterson's mind and the minds of so many of these war widows is: Did Senator McCain contract glioblastoma by exposure to Agent Orange? Agent Orange, the toxic herbicide developed by Monsanto and Dow, was sprayed by the Department of Defense on wide swathes of Vietnam from 1961 to 1972 as part of Operation Rancho Hand.La idea was to eliminate the enemy and eliminate their food supply. But the plan was deeply counterproductive. The chemical has damaged or killed thousands of U.S. troops and Vietnamese civilians. And as Healthline reported last year, the effects continue to wreak havoc more than 50 years later. The VA has stated that nearly 3 million U.S. veterans who set foot in Vietnam from 1962 to 1975 were exposed to dioxin-contaminated herbicides, including Agent Orange.Multiple sources interviewed for this story, including scientists, doctors, veteran advocates, veteran lawyers and veterans and their families, believe McCain's glioblastoma is likely to be the result of exposure to Agent Orange.It's decades taken and a lot of blood , sweat and tears among Vietnam's veteran community to get to the point in 2017 where multiple diseases are now presumed to be caused by exposure to Agent OrangeThe list now includes prostate cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma, Parkinson's disease and ischemic heart disease. GBM is not on the presumptive list, but there is a growing consensus between neuro-oncologists and other experts outside the VA that should be. Angelo Venniro served in the army for 20 years and toured twice in Vietnam, where he was exposed to Agent Orange and was later diagnosed with GBM. Writing on her behalf, Dr. Katherine Peters, assistant professor of neurology at Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke University School of Medicine said: As a board-certified neuro oncologist and brain cancer researcher, it is my opinion that exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam was a significant factor in causing, contributing or aggravating brain tumors in Vietnam veterans. There are thousands of examples of these so-called letters of nexus from medical experts. Veterans or their loved ones are required to provide these letters to the VA to even have the opportunity to be approved for a disability lawsuit McCain, a former Navy pilot who spent more than five years in the infamous Hanoi Hilton POO camp, was in Vietnam from 1967 to 1973. Experts say Agent Orange was in the air, water and food in Vietnam.Claude D'Unger, an environmental scientist who has written numerous articles on environmental toxins to which American veterans have been exposed, said there is virtually no way in hell that anyone in Vietnam at the time was not exposed to it. Robert Walsh, a Michigan Veterans Disability Act attorney who has represented thousands of veterans in their disability cases at the VA, said one of the many possible dioxin exposure scenarios for McCain was when ships pumped portable water to aircraft carriers and other ships as part of refueling missions. The water came from wells in Da Nang, Walsh explained, and from other ports that were then contaminated and remain contaminated today with dioxin from these herbicides. Walsh said Navy planes would fly missions during Agent Orange's spray operations. This wasn't dusting crops. C-123 spray aircraft remained higher to prevent ground fire, Walsh said. Naval aviation personnel have described aircraft on the deck of the aircraft carrier hanger that literally drips with Agent Orange's slime. The flight crews had to wash these planes, Walsh explained: The crews would put it in their hands and clothes, and he was very focused. Then they washed the hanger cover with a hose. But these things steam, you can smell it, so you're breathing it, WalshWalsh said he's made a significant exposure case to naval aviation personnel on the aircraft carriers. McCain was wet during his service in Vietnam, Walsh said. Joe Moore, a lawyer for Bergmann and Moore, a well-known law firm representing only veterans with disability cases before the VA, has approximately 20 GBM cases. The firm has already won five of them, and they hope to win the rest. But it takes time, Moore said, and the VA makes families jump unnecessarily through the behind the hoop and forces them to re-litigate the problem every time. The link between defoliant and glioblastoma has been widely established outside the VA, Moore said. He added that if presented to a veteran with GBM he had passed as a period of time in Vietnam as McCain did, we would take that case, and we would win that case. Rudy Morris, who was two months old when he died of glioblastoma, joined the army at the age of 17, went to Vietnam at the age of 18 and came home to a different person at age 19, said his widow, Margee Morris. From July 1970 to July 1971, Margee said, Rudy was an oil tanker in Vietnam whose letters home talked all about Agent Orange and other toxic sprays and how it rained on him. He talked about the water bath that had been sprayed, said Margee, who developed the Facebook page, Vietnam Veterans with Glioblastoma Multiforme Stage 4 Brain Cancer. There is a public page, as well as a private page with 470 members, mostly widows whose husbands served in Vietnam and were diagnosed with GBM. When she sent her husband's first disability lawsuit, Margee said: I sent the VA a picture of him bathing in the dirty water in Nam when they were patrolling. Nothing has convinced the VA of the connection between being sprayed with dioxins and glioblastoma many years later. Despite growing consensus in the U.S. medical community that GBM can be caused by Agent Orange, Vietnam War veterans with this type of cancer and their families have found it difficult to obtain their VA disability benefits. A much smaller but significant number has approved disability cases. But the rest is still fighting. And waiting. And some of these widows, who come from a generation in which many wives stayed home and cared for their families, are now struggling to get ahead. Many are losing their homes, and worse. While each of these widows expressed their sadness at McCain's diagnosis in interviews with Healthline, they expressed common hope that this news will raise awareness of the issue and bring some justice for their husbands who served their country. They also want to correct some public misconceptions about Agent Orange and GBM. Kathy Josenhans, whose husband was a Navy veteran as McCain and diagnosed with GBM, died at age 57. She has become an advocate for her fellow widows and a moderator of the Facebook group. He doesn't like it when he sees misinformation in the media, whether it's from a liberal, moderate or conservative. She said she was upset when she saw a comment about McCain last week by Fox News contributor Dr. Marc Siegel. Could your [McCain] experience in Vietnam have increased your risk of cancer? Siegel then asked: Most studies have not shown a link between the Vietnam service and exposure to the herbicide used by the U.S. military in battle, Agent Orange. This comment does not well to Josenhans, who in a letter to Siegel, wrote: With the deepest respect dr. Siegel, there's a known connection between this deadly brain cancer and Vietnam-era veterans. There are a lot of opinions who have already linked this deadly tumor to dioxin and PCBs can also mimic dioxin. I saw your segment today and it took me a hard time sending you an email. I am widow of a Navy diver (6 years of the Vietnam era).... I have your medical records and I'm on my 6th appeal with the VA, still fighting for its benefits. Many widows have already won their claim for a 100% service connection. I thought you'd like to know. Greetings, a fighting widow. All the interviewees for this story expressed sadness and condolences to McCain and his family, and no one questioned McCain's bravery or service to his country. However, many said McCain could have done much more over the years by veterans and their families. And there is some unequivocal resentment among veterans that McCain refused to be treated for his cancer at the Phoenix Va and instead chose the Mayo Clinic. The Mayo Clinic is a hospital that has been removed from the VA Veterans Choice Program, which was created to provide health care closer to home to veterans. McCain, according to many sources, always urges his voters to seek attention at the Phoenix Va. McCain thinking he would be the most passionate person on this mission, Josenhans said. What has happened to Senator McCain is a tragedy for him and his family, but it is also an opportunity for him to do the right thing for his fellow Vietnam veterans with glioblastoma and their families. You have a chance to do this right. Morris said he has also contacted McCain several times for help and has never received a single courtesy response. I emailed you on your website. I didn't get any answers from him at all, he said. It's sad that he's a Vietnamese vet who wouldn't help us. Morris told McCain that while some families dealing with GBM had won their claims, most families have been denied. She also told McCain that widows were losing their homes and vehicles after the death of their husbands. I told him we had all the documentation to support us too, he said. So now he's going through what all of us have been through, and I wonder if he's thinking about whether serving in Nam caused his glioblastoma. In a statement last week after McCain's diagnosis was known, John Rowan, national president of Vietnam Veterans of America, called McCain a fighter who endured brutal treatment as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, and we know he will be a fighter now in his battle against brain cancer. Rowan went on to say that McCain's fighting spirit will do him good now, as he did 45 years ago at the Hanoi Hilton and other hells. Rowan added: We are saddened to learn that another Vietnam veteran has been diagnosed with brain cancer Vietnam veterans are too familiar with glioblastoma, which seems to visit our brothers and sisters at a much higher rate than our non-veteran companions. Para Para Rowan said: We have suspected that our exposures during our military service have caused this cancer group. Unfortunately, brain cancer is not on the presumptive list of exposure to Agent Orange, despite the efforts of our fellow veterans and their families. Thomas Bandzul, a veteran and veterans advocate, who is a legislative attorney for Veterans and Military Families for Progress, and a former associate attorney for Veterans for Common Sense, said McCain has not supported his fellow veterans as much as he should. Many veterans have told me about their pleas to McCain to help with his claims, Bandzul said. As far as I know, he did little more than an official write a letter to the VA, but he never supported a cause for a veteran to have increases in benefits or subsidies, with the exception of a uniform allowance for retired military personnel. Bandzul added: I don't know a single case in which he tried to help a veteran with anything, but I've been talking to veterans who were rejected from his office and received no help at all. McCain's voting record on veterans issues while in the Senate has been a mixed bag. His McCain Bill enacted in 1991, which required the defense secretary to publicitate information about men and women who were not accounted for in the Vietnam War, garnered widespread support. McCain was also a co-sponsor of the 2014 VA review that continued the veterans' waiting times scandal at the Phoenix Va. But in 2008, McCain claimed that he was in support of the gi bill for the 21st century, which was also supported by all major American veterans service organizations, and then did not show up for a vote on it. McCain even introduced a Gi bill that reportedly would have left the average veteran with \$20,000 in student loan debt. According to a variety of sources including GovtrackUS, Library of Congress, VoteSmart, and McCain for President, from 1993 to today McCain has voted against veterans bills 14 times while voting for veterans bills 11 times. In 2006 alone, McCain voted against providing \$20 million to the VA for health facilities, and voted against providing \$430 million for VA outpatient care. But in 2005, McCain voted to fund veterans' benefits, and voted to provide emergency funding for veterans services. On a Senate Armed Services Committee in

2016, McCain reportedly defended the University of Phoenix, the for-profit school that was widely criticized for its predation practices against veterans. McCain criticized the Pentagon and the Research Reports for going after school, one of McCain's biggest campaign donors. But in a later investigation, the Department of Defense confirmed the history of the Research Reporting Center and banned the University of Phoenix for three months from all U.S. military bases House, who joined the U.S. Army just after the Vietnam War, was ordered to bury multiple barrels of Agent Orange at Camp Carroll's army base in Sur La exposure leading to multiple serious illnesses. House fought for a decade with the VA to get his disability, traversing the country collecting evidence confirming what he was saying actually happened. House sent eight recorded letters to McCain. But I don't have any answers. She finally received her disability benefits in 2014. I was saddened to hear about Senator McCain's diagnosis. He has a tough fight ahead of him, said House, who hopes McCain's illness will make toxic exposures to American troops a front-page issue. John was the first politician to help me when I tried to prove there was a cover-up between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, House said. He knew all about Agent Orange's illegal burial that took place at Camp Carroll two years before I went to the press, House added. House said Americans need to know that Agent Orange is one of the most insidious compounds ever created by man. Its effects on our health and our environment will not go away for thousands of years. Keep killing. I'm going to say a prayer for John. John.

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