

'CHEMICALS OF WAR'

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

AGENT ORANGE/DIOXIN

AGENT ORANGE VICTIMS &
WIDOWS SUPPORT NETWORK

GERM WARFARE

VIETNAM VETERAN WIVES
OMAK, WASHINGTON

MEMORIAL AWARENESS

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INFORMATION PAMPHLET



VIETNAM

PERSIAN GULF

QUILT TO PROTEST VETERAN'S CHEMICAL ILLNESSES

A CALL TO ACTION FOR ALL NIMBLE FINGERS

Vietnam Veterans Wives is promoting the crafting of an enormous quilt designed to draw widespread national attention to the desperate plight of U.S. veterans sickened by Agent Orange sprayed on them in Vietnam, and sickened by exposure to chemical and germ warfare in the Gulf War. The quilt will be displayed on the Mall in Washington, D.C. next year.

We anticipate the "Vietnam Agent Orange/ Desert Storm Germ Warfare/ Chemical Awareness Quilt" being constructed by approximately two and three million American women -- wives of veterans, POW's, MIA's, veteran's widows and veteran organization members.

The quilt will be done in an array of oranges, contrasted with Desert Storm blocks done in all colors of browns, blacks, and desert camouflage to represent the deadly germ warfare. The quilt will include the embroidered names of those who died in vain for their country--died because the government refused to recognize the grief and pain and complications from Agent Orange and Persian Gulf Syndrome.

Out of the 50,000 Agent Orange claims, only 2000 have been awarded. Of the thousands of Desert Storm Syndrome, all are listed under "PTSD" or individual disabilities, instead of Gulf Syndrome or chemical warfare. "PTSD" is also a result of Agent Orange exposure.

The quilt will have names of those who have already died, those who have become sick and family members. When the quilt is completed, it will accompany petitions requesting information pertaining to those who have made rulings on claims over 30 years, and about the whereabouts of lost and destroyed records that, we know, show service connection.

The battle against cancer will continue to spread though the efforts of the widows of thousands of Vietnam and Desert Storm veterans. These widows have been left penniless, denied compensation and left to die, just like their husbands. It is time to recognize our brave women who have stood by their husbands, to listen, to give their request, recognition for their husbands claims as a service connection for Agent Orange and for Persian Gulf Syndrome.

There will be no more "sweeping" the pain and the cover-up out of sight, for this quilt will tell the story of our men's horrible death. It is difficult to sit by and see the injustices to wives, families, and veteran's loved ones- we love America and want to believe in our government. It is clear that chemicals and germ warfare have both taken and crippled the lives of our loved ones. They are still dying their slow death.

All those interested in participating in the construction of this quilt, send self addressed stamped envelope to Jennie Le Fevre, Agent Orange Victims and Widows Support Network,

Shady Side, MD 20764 telephone number

Or call Vietnam

Veterans Wives at 1-888-680-1447

VIETNAM AGENT ORANGE/DESERT STORM GERM WARFARE
NATIONAL AWARENESS QUILT

Material

INSTRUCTIONS: Material 3/4 yard of solid orange fabric (Agent Orange)
Material 3/4 yard of black, browns or desert Camouflage (Desert Storm)

Embroidery floss or fabric marking pen

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

20 1/2 x 20 1/2

Cut two blocks: Each ~~22 x 22~~ in. square/one block is for the front second block for backing.

Embroider or write veteran's name in color of your choice on one block, other information that could be used on block, veteran's unit patch, rank insignia, picture of veteran, if veteran is deceased - birth and death date, veteran's age at death, cause of death, if veteran is alive - state veteran's condition, etc. Everything on block should be in good taste.

If you know how to sew, please volunteer to sew quilt together for those in your area who are not able to do so. Sew four blocks across the top and five blocks down using a 1/4 inch seam. Sew the backing blocks together in the same manner. The quilt will consist of twenty blocks, each block representing a different person. Place front and backing of quilt together, right sides facing, sew around all four sides, using 1/4 inch seam, leaving an opening for turning. Batting inside is not necessary. Quilt should measure about 80 x 100. Machine quilt or hand tie at the corners of each block with the ties on the back of the quilt. Sew one 18 inch tie at the four corners of the quilt, this is to tie all the quilts together in one huge quilt when we get them all to Washington D.C.

Please let me know when you have completed your quilt block, include your name, address, relationship to veteran, and your first name for our files. Those who completing the quilt for others, please provide me with your name, address, etc. plus information about every quilt block as stated above. Please keep the completed quilt in your possession until we come to Washington, D.C.

Mail inquires and information to: **Jennie R. LeFevre**

Shady Side, Md. 20764

(or call 1 888 826-9359 toll free) Telephone

(please mail self addressed stamped envelope when inquiring)

How you can help be a part of the Awareness Quilt

Quilt Square ~~22x22~~ 20 1/2 x 20 1/2

Any person or persons that would like to be a part of the Awareness Quilt can help in a number of ways. It doesn't matter if you are a Wife, a Mother, a Brother, a Sister, an Aunt or Uncle, or even Son or Daughter. If you would like to help in any way here are a few examples.

1. Locate sponsors and network with sponsors to donate \$1.00 per square for a trust fund that has been established and set aside for the Awareness Quilt.
2. Promote embroidery- We all know that you women and men have incredible talent, the more work and creative talent put forth on each individual square is and will be greatly appreciated.
3. Submit the name or names of loved ones who are an integral part of everything this quilt stands for.
4. Donate materials- Oranges, Browns and Black materials for quilt squares, Threads and needles used to embroider designs if you do not embroider yourself. Any item that has meaning to you or someone else that can be used as an idea for the quilt.
5. Help sew the quilt squares together with other members that you may know of to make a quilt that will be taken to Washington D.C. to form the actual Awareness Quilt.
6. Network as much information that you can about the Awareness Quilt and what it stands for and its purpose. Pass on all information that you know and share it with a friend or a loved one, and in doing so you can further spread the word and the cause.

The purpose for the Awareness Quilt is to let the American people realize the atrocities set against the Vietnam Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange, and the atrocities done to the Persian Gulf Veterans in Chemical & Germ Warfare. More and more everyday our veterans are dying on American soil not in other countries. How many will it take to realize what has been done to our countrymen. The time is now to promote the Awareness Quilt to let others realize the atrocities that are still occurring here in America.

Last but not least, we need help with song lyrics, letters from veterans from Vietnam and Desert Storm, help get petitions signed asking the **Department of Defense** to take responsibility for the untold deaths and destruction they authorized by using Chemical and Germ Warfare.

CONTACTS: JENNY LEFEVRE/

VIETNAM VETERAN WIVES/ 1-888-826-9359/ P.O. Box 1628 Omak, WA 98841

" VIETNAM/DESERT STORM MEMORIAL AWARENESS QUILT"



AGENT ORANGE - DESERT STORM SYNDROME
DIOXIN/CHEMICAL/GERM WARFARE

Vietnam Veterans Wives is promoting the crafting of an enormous quilt to draw widespread national attention to the desperate plight of U.S. veterans sickened by Agent Orange sprayed on them in Vietnam, and sickened by exposure to chemical and germ warfare in the Gulf War. This quilt will be a memorial to the veterans who are sick or have already lost their lives due to chemical exposure. Their names will never appear on THE "WALL" BUT THEY ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT. THEY RETURNED HOME ONLY TO BECOME SICK AND DIE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY AS A RESULT OF THEIR TOUR OF DUTY IN OTHER COUNTRIES. MANY OF THESE MEN ARE CURRENTLY ILL AND THERE HAS BEEN OVER 250,000 DEATHS DUE TO AGENT ORANGE AND 10,000 DEATHS DUE TO DESERT STORM CHEMICAL GERM WARFARE.

This quilt, our memorial and tribute, to these men will not be built of stone or granite but will be constructed by loving and caring hands, and it will show our feelings, express our love and gratitude in every stitch sewn in this quilt. We hope to display the quilt on the Nation's Mall in Washington, D.C. next year. There will be further plans for the quilt to travel from coast to coast and to be displayed at veterans reunions and other functions.

For those who do not have a veteran's name to put on the quilt, we suggest the following: Appliqued flowers, wreaths, American flags, patriotic designs, black barrels with orange band (representing Agent Orange), scuds bursting in air (representing Desert Storm) military items such as helmets, crossed rifles, airplanes, jeeps, army boots, helicopters, tanks, military emblems, head silhouette, tear drops (for many have shed for these men) and a design or idea of your own appropriate for the quilt.

The quilt blocks can contain embroidery, cross stitch, patchwork, applique, lettering or wording with fabric pencil, etc. There will be separate quilts for Agent Orange and Desert storm thus giving each recognition. The Agent Orange quilt will be outlined by the Desert Storm quilts used as a border that depict the deaths, destruction of veterans and possibly mankind because of the use of germ warfare.

The blocks and quilts should be completed and turned in no later than March 31, 1998. Please send the completed items to Danna Hughes, Vietnam Veterans Wives, Omak, Washington 98841 or call Jenny LeFevre at Agent Orange Victims and Widows Support Network, Shady Side, MD 20764. Please include self addressed envelope for further information and instructions for quilt block.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who are taking part in this effort, we are deeply moved by your willingness to share your creativity in this endeavor and it touches our hearts. For the larger organizations who would like to join the Quilt Coalition or be a sponsor please contact Mr. Mike Kelley, Vietnam Veteran Wives 1 (888) 826-9359 or Jenny LeFevre. All contributions may be mailed to "National Memorial Awareness Quilt", (1 888 826-9359) P.O. Box 1628, Omak, Washington 98841 or call Jenny LeFevre at