

AUG

1992

VIETNAM VETERAN
AGENT ORANGE HEALTH STUDY
P.O. Box # 1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724



America is #1
Thanks to our
Veterans



America is #1
Thanks to our
Veterans

Handwritten signature/initials

James H. Burdge, Sr.
4th August, 1992 National Coordinator & Founder

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., (Ret.).
Chairman;
~~Agent Orange Coordinating Council~~

RE: ENCLOSED COPIES OF LETTERS.

Dear Admiral Zumwalt;

With regards to the Agent Orange issue, and the National Archives, in Washington, D.C., enclosed please find the following:

- a) A Letter That The VV/AOHS Received From Mr. James J. Hastings, Of The National Archives.
- b) The Response From The VV/AOHS To Mr. Hastings Of The National Archives.

I trust that you will share the enclosed, with the members of the ~~Agent Orange Coordinating Council~~.

Keep in touch..

With the best interest of the Vietnam Veteran, their families, and those who STILL feel the effects of exposure to herbicides in mind,

I remain;

Handwritten signature of James H. Burdge, Sr.

James H. Burdge, Sr.
National Coordinator & Founder;
VIETNAM VETERAN/AGENT ORANGE HEALTH STUDY

cc/file



SEARCHING FOR THE TRUE ANSWERS!!!

VIETNAM VETERAN
AGENT ORANGE HEALTH STUDY
P.O. Box # 1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724



James H. Burdge, Sr.
National Coordinator & Founder

3rd August, 1992

COPY

Mr. James J. Hastings
Director;
Records Appraisal And Disposition Division
The National Archives And Records Administration
Washington, D.C., 20408

RE: YOUR LETTER AND REVISED JOB DATED 7/31/92.

COPY

Dear Mr. Hastings;

I am in receipt of your letter dated 31st July, 1992, and your revised records disposition authority job #N1-442-90-5, that was included with your letter that consisted of five (5) pages.

On behalf of those Vietnam Veterans', their families, and the future generations of children, who are, or will be taking part in the research of the Vietnam Veteran/Agent Orange Health Study, I would like to Thank your agency, for deciding on not destroying any of the documents that pertain to the Agent Orange issue, that are under your authority.

In the five (5) page document that was included with your letter of 31st July, 1992, it stated in several areas, that reconsideration for disposal of these records in question, would be during the year 2012. Under Agent Orange Project, #1, does not mention the year 2012, #3 does not mention the year 2012, #5c does not mention the year 2012. My question would be, "Why Not"???? The same applies to #6a&b. "Why Not"????

Also, I would like to know what the twenty-two (22) Accession Numbers stand for???

(1)

SEARCHING FOR THE TRUE ANSWERS!!!

COPY

MR. JAMES J. HASTINGS

3rd AUGUST, 1992

RE: YOUR LETTER OF 7/31/92.

Also, if this is the final rule of your agency, why is it that items are crossed out and the disposition for almost each item is written in???? If this is a final rule from a Federal Agency, I would think that the final rule would be typed, not written by hand!!!

Please clarify the items that I have spoke of, in my letter, concerning the new rules on the Agent Orange files, and since I have some unanswered questions, the cut-off date that you spoke of, in your letter should not be binding in this matter, as how can you expect someone that is doing research into the health effects of Agent Orange on Vietnam Veterans', their families, and future generations of the Veteran, be able to make constructive comments on a rule, by a Federal Agency, when there are so many unanswered questions on the rule.

I trust that you will respond to my letter, in the near future, and allow me more time than the 4th September, 1992 cut-off date that was stated in your letter of 31st July, 1992.

With the best interest of the Vietnam Veteran, their families, and those who STILL feel the effects of exposure to herbicides in mind,

I remain;

James H. Burdge, Sr.

James H. Burdge, Sr.
National Coordinator & Founder;
VIETNAM VETERAN/AGENT ORANGE HEALTH STUDY

cc/file
[REDACTED]

National Archives



Washington, DC 20408

JUL 31 1992

COPY



Mr. James H. Burdge, Sr.
National Coordinator
Vietnam Veteran/Agent Orange Health Study
P.O. Box 1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724

V.V.A.O.H.S.
P.O. Box # 1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724
(908) 544-1082

Dear Mr. Burdge:

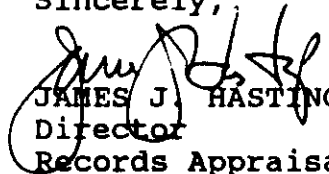
The National Archives has concluded its appraisal of the Centers for Disease Control's Agent Orange project records (Job No. N1-442-90-5). Both agencies have agreed that the disposition of several series of these records cannot be authorized at this time.

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the revised job. Several series of records, documenting the administrative history of the project, scientific methodology, and epidemiological data have been scheduled for permanent retention. The paper records will be transferred to the Southeast Regional Archives Branch in Atlanta, where they will be made available to the public. The epidemiological data, in electronic form, will be accessioned into the National Archives in Washington, DC, where the Center for Electronic Records will maintain and make available the permanent record.

After careful review, we have determined that the remaining series are of continuing but indeterminate value. These records remain unscheduled, in part because of current litigation. Two series, the input data sheets and the veteran's medical records, will have additional scientific value for years to come. Accordingly, we have deferred a final decision on the disposition of these records. Please note that the date cited in the body of the request for disposition, 2012, is for reconsideration of the value of the record, not a date for disposal. The records will be reassessed for permanent value at that time. We feel that the final decision should be made in light of the outcome of the litigation, and after sufficient time has passed to place the records in proper historical perspective.

Any comments that you may wish to make on this revised schedule need to reach us by September 4, 1992. Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,


JAMES J. HASTINGS
Director
Records Appraisal
and Disposition Division

COPY

Enclosure

Center for Environmental Health and Injury Control (CEHIC)

Plans, directs and coordinates a national program to maintain and improve the health of the American people by promoting a healthy environment and by preventing premature death and avoidable illness and disability caused by non-infectious, non-occupational environmental and related factors.

Agent Orange Project

(1) Designs, implements, and conducts epidemiologic studies of the health status of American Vietnam veterans exposed to herbicides, chemicals, medications, and environmental hazards or conditions; (2) develops study protocols, including interviewing instruments, and clinical laboratory, and interviewing procedures for research participants; (3) establishes procedures for and maintains a continuing review and monitoring of research efforts; (4) develops data collection systems, including data analyses and interpretation schema and methods, and formats for reporting findings; and (5) analyzes data and prepares reports of study findings. This project will end on September 30, 1990.

1. ROUTINE DATA COLLECTION ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS--routine administrative records related to the minor aspects of data gathering. The records include such items as error correction sheets, miscellaneous forms, routine status reports, miscellaneous duplicate material, practice questionnaire forms and a variety of other routine records.

DISPOSITION: ~~Do not send to a Federal Records Center. Destroy when no longer needed for administrative purposes.~~ *DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT WHEN NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES AND AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION. **

2. SCIENTIFIC ADMINISTRATIVE FILES (c. 1983-90)--Records relating to Congressional inquiries, audits and other activities regarding various research efforts. Included are status reports listing the reasons for exclusion of certain men from the study, computer printouts, and general correspondence files. Because of continued strong Congressional, legal, public and press interest in these studies, we are recommending a lengthy retention period for the records.

DISPOSITION: ~~Maintain at CDC. Transfer to the Atlanta Federal Records Center when no longer needed for administrative purposes or when three (3) calendar years old, whichever comes first. Destroy when thirty (30) years old.~~ *DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT IN 2012 OR AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. **

3. STUDY METHODOLOGY RECORDS (c. 1983-90)--These records include study protocols, the supervisor's manual, the interviewer's manual, one copy of blank forms used for the studies, copies of the contracts with each of the 13 contracting agencies and related documentation.

DISPOSITION: Permanent--Maintain at CDC. Transfer to the Atlanta Federal Records Center when no longer needed for administrative purposes or when three (3) calendar years old, whichever comes first. Transfer to the National Archives (Atlanta Branch) when twenty (20) years old.

VOLUME: 20 cubic feet
CLOSED SERIES
FILED BY STUDY THEREUNDER CHRONOLOGICALLY

received
AUG. 3 1992

D.A.O.H.S.
P.O. Box #1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724
(908) 544-1082

* TRANSFER TO THE FRC FOR THIS ITEM IS AUTHORIZED.

COPY

4. DATA COLLECTION FORMS (c. 1983-1990)--Original forms and microfiche of forms containing original information on participants in the various studies on Vietnam veterans (These forms include information derived from pathology review panels, tumor registries, patient interviews, birth records and other sources.) These forms comprise the primary source data which are the basis for all statistical research projects on the effects of Vietnam service conducted by CDC. The records include such items as substantive status reports, completed questionnaires, pathology review forms, clinical information forms, substantive edit sheets, validation reports, and related records. Many of these records were used as the primary input source for the records identified in item 5, Electronic Records. Because of the importance of these studies and the fact that this research is likely to be reviewed in the future for accuracy and scientific approach and methodology, it is required that these original source records be maintained for a substantial period of time.

~~DISPOSITION: Transfer to the Atlanta Federal Records Center. Destroy when thirty (30) years old.~~ *DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT IN 2012 OR AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER.**

5. ELECTRONIC RECORDS DERIVED FROM THE STUDIES OF VIETNAM VETERANS EXPOSURE TO AGENT ORANGE:

- a. One electronic copy of all final data sets of studies including the cancer study telephone interview, pathology and related reports, random digit dialing screener interview, SEER (Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results) data, military records data, selection data, and the data base management system (DMBS), as well as the cohort telephone interview, quality control data, and data relating to reproductive outcomes and child health, medical examination, and psychosocial and neuropsychological evaluation. The primary input sources for these data sets are identified under items 4 and 7 of this schedule.

DISPOSITION: Permanent--Transfer one copy of each final data set to the National Archives in 1990. (NOTE: Where possible, the data tapes will be formatted in accordance with regulations noted in 36 CFR 1228.188, Transfer of machine-readable records to the National Archives.)

CLOSED SERIES

VOLUME: LESS THAN ONE CUBIC FEET

- b. Systems Documentation--Includes pertinent information regarding the tape specifications, variable names and column layouts for each file, and hardcopy and computerized version (when available) of each code book.

DISPOSITION: Permanent--Transfer in conjunction with the transfer of electronic records under item 5a above.

VOLUME: 2 CUBIC FEET

ARRANGED BY SPECIFIC STUDY

COPY

- c. Additional copies of computer tapes and system documentation.

~~DISPOSITION: Destroy when no longer needed by CDC for administrative purposes.~~ *DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT WHEN NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES AND AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION.*

* TRANSFER TO FRC FOR THIS ITEM IS AUTHORIZED

6. FINAL REPORTS OF STUDY RESULTS (c. 1983-90):

- a. A record copy set of all final published reports and related manuscripts

DISPOSITION: Permanent: Transfer to the Atlanta Federal Records Center. Transfer to the National Archives (Atlanta Branch) when ten (10) years old.

CLOSED SERIES

VOLUME: 2 CUBIC FEET

ARRANGED BY STUDY

- b. Additional copies of publications and manuscripts

DISPOSITION: ~~Destroy when no longer needed.~~ DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT IN 2012 OR AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER *

7. PARTICIPANT MEDICAL FILES (c. 1983-90)--This item supersedes disposal authority of certain accessions in the Atlanta Federal Records Center placed under item 70 of the CDC Records Control Schedule (see note below). Consists of personal medical records of participants in the various Agent Orange studies and certain related records. The records consist of X-rays, medical charts, hospital records, and other miscellaneous records relating to the medical history and status of study participants. Many of these records were used as the primary input source for the records identified in item 5a, electronic records, final data sets. These records contain sensitive medical data on individual study participants and their families. The records will continue to be the subject of interest among the Vietnam veterans who participated in the various studies for many years to come. The retention period of these records needs to be increased from 20 to 60 years because of their long term legal value in protecting the interests of the U.S. Government and the participants in the study.

DISPOSITION: ~~Transfer immediately to the Atlanta Federal Records Center. Destroy when sixty (60) years old.~~ DISPOSITION NOT AUTHORIZED. RESUBMIT IN 2012 OR AFTER COMPLETION OF LITIGATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER

(NOTE: This item supersedes only the established disposition of the accessions mentioned below. These records were placed under Item 70 of the CDC Records Control Schedule B-321. All other accessions placed under Item 70 are not involved in this revision.)

ACCESSION NOS.---Total Volume 697 cubic feet

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442-86-0124
442-86-0126
442-86-0128
442-87-0001
442-87-0002
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COPY :

* TRANSFER TO THE FRC FOR THIS ITEM IS AUTHORIZED.

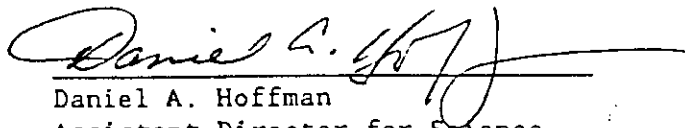
ACCESSION NOS. (Continued)

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442-87-0072
442-87-0073
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442-88-0037
442-88-0038
442-88-0055

Concurrences:

CONCURRENCES WITH CHANGES

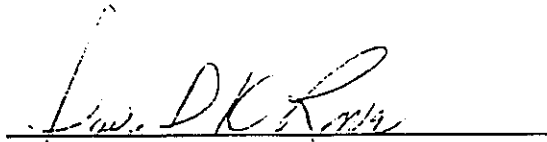
DH
29/92



Daniel A. Hoffman
Assistant Director for Science
Center for Environmental Health
and Injury Control

5/25/90
Date

(see left margin)
INITIALS DATE



David K. Rowe
CDC Records Officer

5-30-90
Date

DKR 7-7-92
INITIALS DATE

COPY

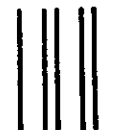
National Archives
and Records Administration

Washington, DC 20408

Official Business
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Records Administration
NARA-362

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Mr. James H. Burdge, Sr.
National Coordinator
Vietnam Veteran/Agent Orange Health Study
P.O. Box 1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724

