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February 6, 1992

Mr. Don. W. Wilson
Archivist of the United States
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are writing to urge there be a contingency freeze on all Agent Orange document files held by the federal government. A notice published in the December 26, 1991, Federal Register indicates that some files at the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control concerning the Agent Orange Project may be archived or destroyed. This is totally unacceptable to us.

As you may know, in 1983, Public Law 96-151 mandated that the Department of Veterans' Affairs conduct a major Agent Orange epidemiological study of U.S. ground troops that served in the Vietnam war. In 1983, the Department of Veterans' Affairs signed an agreement with the Centers for Disease Control to develop a protocol and complete the study. However, the study was not completed as mandated.

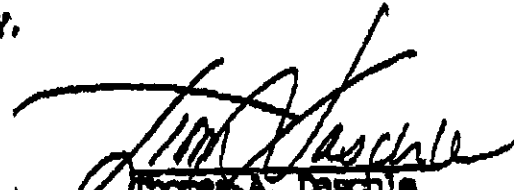
The American Legion and the Vietnam Veterans of America have filed suit against the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and the Department of Veterans' Affairs for failure to comply with Public Law 96-151. In view of this lawsuit, as well as the current and potential scientific value of the information, we believe that all records, including internal memos, advisory opinions, records of meetings, status reports, scientific evaluations, and even minor files containing data gathering and use, should be held in place.

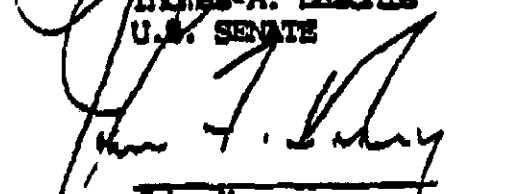
Again, we request that all government held Agent Orange files including those in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control, the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Department of Defense, remain in their current locations. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Lane Evans
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Martin Lancaster
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Thomas A. Daschle
U.S. SENATE


John Kerry
U.S. SENATE