

NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

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JUL 12 1993

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July 8, 1993

E. R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Admiral, United States Navy (Ret.)

Dear Admiral Zumwalt,

I'd like to thank you for your letter of February 16, 1993 to EPA Administrator Browner relating to the dredging/dumping of Dioxin contaminated sediments into the ocean.

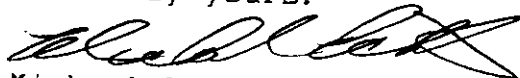
I regret that our efforts could not stop this initial dumping from occurring. Legal action by certain environmental groups also failed in their attempt to get a restraining order delaying the dumping. As usual, the deck was stacked and we really knew that the dumping would occur. However, prior to any new dumping permits being issued, these permits will be subjected to much more stringent testing of Dioxin levels in the sediment. A small victory. The publicity arising from this issue has forced the EPA and Corps of Engineers to hold a Dredged Materials Forum for all concerned parties involved in this issue (a copy of the Forum's review is attached).

We entered the Dredging/Dumping picture due to the fact that the Diamond Shamrock Agent Orange production facility was causing the Dioxin contamination. Now, the USEPA has taken over, from the State of New Jersey, the cleanup of the Diamond Shamrock Superfund site. There is a public oversight committee being formed to monitor the progress of the cleanup. Our organization will be part of that committee.

Our voices cannot be silenced on the issue of Dioxin.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely yours.



Michael Eckstein, Committee Chair
Agent Orange/Dioxin Committee

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A NOT-FOR-PROFIT NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

cc: Jack "Doc" Bronson, President, NJ State Council - VVA