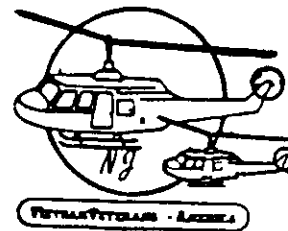




NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Post Office Box #1236
Eatontown, NJ 07724



GARY C. WALL

President

JACK BRONSON

1st Vice-President

SANDY GILLIES

2nd Vice-President

JAMES H. BURDGE, SR.

Secretary

CARLTON B. RHODES

Treasurer

Mr. Sidamon- Eristoff
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 11
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

Dear Sir:

As you are aware, the New Jersey and New York State Councils of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. have taken a position in opposition to the proposed ocean dumping of dioxin contaminated materials dredged from Newark Bay.

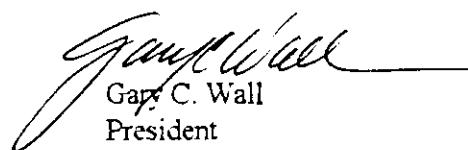
To gain a better understanding of the issue, we attended, in part, a "hearing" at your offices on January 27, 1993. Unfortunately, we departed the meeting in disgust and anger, caused by the attitude of those in attendance and the lack of any form or structure to the meeting. To be specific, the questions posed by concerned citizens were answered with arrogant and sarcastic responses by members of your staff and at least one other individual. Further, after attending the meeting for over two hours, we were unable to ascertain who was the responsible chair and the meeting was confused, almost chaotic.

There were far too many legitimate questions that remained unanswered or answered in an off handed manner. At our departure from the meeting, it was an overall impression that the permit issuance/temporary withdrawal was a "done-deal".

Within the next four days, we will send a listing of our questions and concerns to the new administrator for the EPA. Hopefully, those questions will be answered with the same sincerity with which they were asked.

In conclusion, it would appear that the protection of those who are employed at 26 Federal Plaza from a perceived threat (via your Entrance Security System), is of far greater concern than protecting the general public from the threat and devastating health affects of dioxin.

For the Members of the New Jersey State Council VVA.


Gary C. Wall
President