

OCT 24 1988

October 19, 1988

E.R. Zumwalt, Jr.  
Admiral, U.S. Navy (RET.)  
1500 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia  
22209

Dear Sir;

Mr. Joe Cole in Washington State forward your letter to me. I have wanted to write to you to say thanks for sharing your story with the American people "My Father, My Son".

I served in I Corps on Swift Boats for eighteen months, 1966 to 1968, as a forward gunner. At present the U.S. Navy is helping to find the rest my crew (120). I have no regrets and I am proud of my service on Swift Boats and with the Navy.

I only wish the Veteran Administration would recognizing "Agent Orange" and the rest of the agents used in Vietnam as a harm to human life and to help us.

I have notice that there is a lot of arthritis showing up in Vietnam Veterans then with other of their same age group who did not serve in Vietnam. This is not a study report it is only a question I ask to Vietnam Veterans and the answer is yes 80% of the time.

It maybe another ten years before all the reports and studies are done on Vietnam and in the mean time the veterans sit and wait for help. We had a sense of duty to perform for our country in Vietnam and most of us did it with honor, it is a shame that our country does not have the same honor we had.

It is hard to reach the people on Veterans issue, because most major news teams look for something new to report and Vietnam is an old hat.

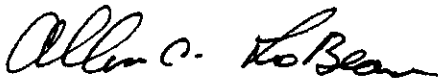
But, we will keep trying. One of the men with our very small group here (3 men) went to the local paper and ask for a "Veterans Corner" and we now print all the stuff that comes in from Joe Cole and other veterans around the country.

All we can do is keep pushing, and do the best we can. On the POW/MIA we are more less a free agent we follow no one group and we send the information out to anyone. But, the POW/MIA issue is much like the "Agent Orange Issue" it smell from one end to the other. It's hard to know who is telling the truth anymore on the POW/MIA issue on Agent Orange I believe Joe Cole is.

Enclosed is some information from difference groups around this country on "Agent Orange" and at present my last update on the POW/MIA issue, in which is already out of date. This update is mail out to all the governors of the United States, and other who ask for it.

I have a lot more stuff on Agent Orange if you are interested in Agent Orange I will be more then happy to mail out all the difference studies and reports I have (No, they aren't mine) We are mostly a POW/MIA group here, but we are also part of a network that pass information on to Veterans farther south. We are to small to do much else then to gather and pass information.

Sincerely,



Allen C. LoBean

Swift Boats, DaNang, Chu Lai, D.M.Z., 1966-68  
USS Noa (DD-841) Tonkin Gulf 1969  
Gunner mate 3 class Crew 120, Crew "W"