

September 30, 1999

Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, USN(Ret)  
1000 Wilson Boulevard  
Suite 3105  
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

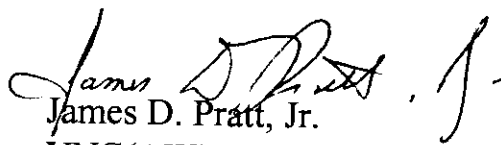
Dear Admiral Zumwalt,

It is with great respect that I write to you on behalf of my son, Paul, who was born in 1974 with spina bifida. Paul is a fighter. He had six operations in the last five years, has a learning disability, daily uses catheters, has bowel difficulties, etc. Nonetheless, he made Eagle Scout, works out daily, and is a fine young man.

I need to know if any branches of the service or any of their component organizations, departments, or contractors had any herbicides such as Agent Orange transferred through any of the following locations from 1966 to 1974: Wichita, Kansas; San Diego, California; San Francisco, California; Chicago, Illinois. This information has been requested by the Department of Veterans Affairs for my son's claim for spina bifida.

I realize this is a very difficult question but any clues or suggestions would be very helpful. I remember well when aboard ship how we would wait anxiously for the next Z-Gram. So I will wait patiently for your reply.

Very respectfully,

  
James D. Pratt, Jr.  
YNC(AW), USN(Ret)

Marrero, LA