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Agent Orange and Dioxins: the Most Toxic Chemicals Ever Produced

Dr. Phil Leveque Salem-News.com

Little can be done for human dioxin poisoning.

(MOLALLA, Ore.) - Agent Orange, Agent Blue and Agent White are continually in the news and even more so that Veterans of Viet Nam are showing up with toxicity symptoms and death. Many of these articles are covered in **Salem-News.com**.

When poisoning of our Nam Vets first started showing up in the 1970's the Army Medicos told the troops it was just "jungle rot" from living in the tropical rain forests. After all, their clothes and shoes were literally rotting off their bodies.

These "weed killers" were used to cause defoliation of the areas where the Viet Cong were hiding but when it got on our own troops it caused severe skin reactions and breathing problems when they were inhaled. The main agents in these weed killers were Chlorinated Organic Chemical Acids. Any acid will cause skin and respiratory irritation.

I don't know how soon deaths were occurring from these but certainly these deaths were concealed from the general public. I got into the subject area by accident. In my regular medical practice I had some Viet Nam Vets whom then felt they were not getting adequate care at the VA Hospitals. After all jungle rot can be relatively easily treated because it is a fungus but fungus treatment didn't work.



Dr. Phil Leveque photo- Al Hayward

When I found out what was in Agent Orange et cetera, light bulbs went on over my head. I had written a small book **entitled Human Toxicity of Weed Killers** about 1952 which was probably the first such publication.

I was a well trained Chemist and also a Pharmacologist/Toxicologist in training and I was strongly aware of the toxicity of Chlorinated Hydrocarbon drugs like Chloroform and that those type of drugs were too toxic for regular medical use. Besides that, I was aware of the new Chlorinated Hydrocarbon Acid weed killers. My judgment was that if Chloroform as a "safe medicine" could be toxic and lethal these new weed killers could also be toxic.

I was considered to be a "tree hugging" nut by the Oregon Health Departments.

How could a weed killer possibly be harmful to humans? I had the first weed killer poisonings and DDT insecticide poisonings in the United States in 1952.



Courtesy: bsnorrell.blogspot.com

By the mid 1970's, somebody somewhere finally got enough smarts to acknowledge that the weed killers could be toxic and lethal but they concealed that also.

Along with this they finally determined that it wasn't the weed killers themselves that were really the culprits but another substance produced during the synthesis.

These were the DIOXINS and there are about 40 of them with one of them toxic to animals and humans in parts per billion.

Thousands upon thousands of Nam Vets were exposed to and absorbed these dioxin chemicals into their body fat where they started doing their damage.

They are severely damaging to the DNA/RNA chains in the body and the damage is progressive. They are virtually indestructible by bacteria et cetera and in the human body they persist and continue to damage cells and cause many kinds of cancers.

These cancers show up in almost random fashion and can occur many years after initial exposure. Many diseases are showing up some 40 years after exposure in Viet Nam, even to the children of the Vets.

These chemicals are also in wood preservatives for railroad ties, power poles and fence posts. In fact, they have contaminated all areas around where they have been used especially around farms.

Almost nothing positive can be done for humans poisoned by these dioxins.

DIOXINS ARE THE MOST TOXIC SUBSTANCE EVER PRODUCED!!

Dr. Phil Leveque is Salem-News.com's Medical Expert.

Dr. Leveque has a PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology, with degrees in chemistry and biochemistry,



working as an osteopathic physician and forensic toxicologist.

He is currently a non-practicing physician in Oregon who has testified in over 400 court cases as an expert witness and continues to share his wisdom through speaking engagements and special events, as well as with readers far and wide. Phil Leveque has always been a fighter, from his days in the Army during World War Two, when he captured 26 Nazi officers in a single day -by himself - to the rigors of being a Professor while also a full-time medical student.

He spent 25 years as a Professor, teaching in 10 different colleges and universities in the U.S., and two years teaching in Africa through the University of London where he had the opportunity to help train *the first physicians in Tanzania*. He was also offered the position of Chief Toxicologist for Baltimore,



Salem-News.com writer Chuck Palazzo in Vietnam with Agent Orange's ['Victims of Victims'](#)

Maryland, offered Chairman of Pharmacology in Texas and Deanship at the Osteopathic College in California.

He then settled down as a retired professor in Oregon, and continued to pursue an occupation as an osteopathic physician and forensic toxicologist.

Dr. Leveque was an integral force in the passing of Oregon's Medical Marijuana Act in 1998, and co-founder of the THC Clinic in Portland, Oregon. He was a vigilant patient activist throughout his battle with the Oregon Medical Board, earning him the moniker "Most dangerous doctor in Oregon" and continues to serve the public good as a national spokesperson. (For consult or to invite Dr. Leveque to your event, contact via email, below)

Do you have a question or comment for Dr. Leveque? **Email him: Newsroom@Salem-News.com**

<http://www.salem-news.com/articles/march212011/agent-orange-pl.php?message=1#comments>