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November 18, 2005
From: Mike Christie

Agent Orange outrage
Families demand compensation from feds
By KATHLEEN HARRIS, SUN OTTAWA BUREAU

OTTAWA -- Sick veterans and civilians from Gagetown, N.B., angrily demanded yesterday the federal government follow the U.S.'s lead and compensate victims exposed to Agent Orange.

Appearing before the Commons defence committee last night, the lineup of witnesses recounted heartbreaking personal stories and took aim at the feds for downplaying the scope of the exposure.

Ken Dobbie, who has been sick for more than 30 years after working on the military base in 1966, said thousands of former soldiers and civilians were exposed to poisonous defoliants, including Agent Orange.

"For our government to say that civilians were not exposed to the defoliation chemicals in any way is not only a callous dismissal of fact, it is a heinous lie," he said. "It infuriates and frustrates the people who are there and sick."

Dobbie urged the government to adopt a U.S.-style policy with a "presumptive clause" that awards compensation for soldiers and civilians who fell ill with any disease known to be caused by Agent Orange exposure.

Karen Ellis, an associate deputy minister with the Defence Department, was put on the defensive by MPs wearing orange ribbons in solidarity with the victims. She was accused of dragging out the investigative process and making the sick and dying prove their health problems are directly caused by exposure to deadly herbicides.

An emotional John Chisholm demanded the feds conduct a health study of dead and living soldiers who may have been exposed. The veteran shouted there's no justice in the federal process that requires victims to prove their illness was directly linked to Agent Orange.

"There's just no rhyme or reason to it. Where does one get off, and you wonder why people get upset," he thundered. "It's absolutely horrifying when you stop to think about it, when you see the people that we see, that we know, and you see the conditions that their bodies are in today after being in that training area," Chisholm said.

NDP MP Bill Blaikie urged the government to adopt the presumptive model, similar to what some provinces are using for firefighters who fall ill due to exposure to smoke.

"I would hope the federal government would look at that and take it as the example," Blaikie said.

<http://www.edmontonsun.com/News/Canada/2005/11/18/pf-1312356.html>

November 18, 2005

From Sheila Woods

Letter To Keith Martin MP

Mr. Martin

- I am writing you from Victoria, B.C.. I listened to the meeting that you ahem, participated in regarding defoliant spraying at Base Gagetown. I am so stunned and disgusted that I can barely write. As an M.P. you have embarrassed me. As a Canadian Citizen, you have embarrassed me. I can not, for the life of me, understand your demeanor when you were speaking to the victims of Gagetown. You were insulting, condescending and obviously very ignorant of the facts that were presented. Is it YOUR wallet that is being opened to pay for the treatment and pensions of these very deserving people? (And I do not only refer to the service men and women who served there - I speak also of the spouses, children and citizens of CFB Gagetown.) You act as if you were paying with your own ahem, hard earned money. What gives you the right to speak to them as you did? What were you thinking????

You have such gall that it offends me. To say that they have to 'prove' their exposure some 40 years after the fact is appalling. And then to state that the spraying of these toxic chemicals was done to 'save their lives' is beyond belief. I realize the odds of you actually reading this are nil, but nonetheless, you must hear how you have disgusted me with your attitude and behavior to these fine upstanding people. I will be telling every single person that I speak to, including MANY in your constituency, about your appalling and shameful behavior at tonight's meeting. You should be ashamed of yourself - and I certainly hope that this opens up many people's eyes about how you are 'representing' your constituents in Esquimalt and Juan de Fuca. What a joke.

November 18, 2005

From: Hugh Mackenzie

what a terrific job by the witnesses, if i lived in keith martins riding i would be demanding his resignation. did he sleep through the whole thing? this guy is unbelievable!

November 18, 2005

From: Sue Skipton

Agent Orange testimony rivets MPs

Last Updated Fri, 18 Nov 2005 06:41:10 EST

[CBC News](#)

Veterans and civilians exposed to toxic defoliants at a New Brunswick military base kept the House of Commons defence committee sitting late Thursday night as they took turns

blasting the investigations set up to help them.

- INDEPTH: [Agent Purple and Agent Orange](#)

The New Brunswickers were testifying about lingering health problems they say were caused by exposure to Agent Orange, Agent Purple and other defoliants sprayed at Base Gagetown beginning in the 1950s.

"As a result of my poisoning, I have diabetes, chronic pancreatitis, liver disease and brain atrophy, among other diseases," said Ken Dobbie, who had a summer job cutting brush at the base near Fredericton as a teen.

The Canadian military agreed to help test the defoliants on behalf of the U.S. military, which later sprayed the chemicals to strip leaves from trees in Vietnam.

The investigations being directed by a handful of government departments could take 18 months.

Pace of investigation, compensation criticized

The witnesses told the committee the whole process lacks credibility, including a compensation process they say is too restrictive.

For example, out of 191 cases reviewed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, only four people have been compensated so far.

"The DVA has made it next to impossible for any claim," said Wayne Cardinal, whose Black Watch regiment was hardest hit by the effects of the chemicals.

Gloria Sellars is the widow of a brigadier-general who died from complications from Agent Orange exposure at Gagetown. He was the first person in Canada to be compensated.

She told the committee the investigation is holding up compensation for soldiers who served under her husband, along with many others.

"These soldiers are the remnants, they truly are," she said. "They're desperate. They're dying."

MP intends to call for inquiry

John Chisholm, a soldier at Gagetown in the 1960s, recalls coming home doused in defoliating chemicals on a regular basis.

His first wife, who used to wash his clothing every night, later died a horrible death of cancer, he told the committee in emotional testimony.

"When you see the people that we see and we know, and you see the condition their bodies are in today, after being in that area, it's absolutely horrifying," said Chisholm.

"I've got a friend that's sitting out there in Vancouver, out there on Victoria Island, with half his guts sitting in a bag on the side of his hip. And he was with me."

Testimony like Chisholm's left members of the parliamentary defence committee shocked.

One of them, NDP MP Bill Blaikie, says he will fight to force the government to call an inquiry into the way the case has been handled over the decades.

November 18, 2005

From: ken Young

I need some help, what I am doing is a bit of research on the letters of rejection received from VAC for the AA clams. I believe, because of some of the people stories that we are actually receiving Form Letters. My rejection (according to the pension advocate's office) did not address any of my clams at all.

What I need is copies of the letters you received as rejection. Now I don't need the names or addresses but I would like to compare the wording. So if you can please block out any personal information you like, scan it and send me a copy to Kentar@telus.net or if you would rather you can Fax it to me at 250-758-8837 but you must let me know

in advance as I have to turn the fax machine on first.

Thank you in advance.

ken

November 18, 2005

From: ken Young

Dear Hon. Keith Martin Sir,

Yesterday your conduct and responses at the SCONDVA Meeting or NDDN meeting #59 has helped me make up my mind to leave the Liberal party. I have through the years always voted Liberal and for some reason that seems to allude me at this time, was always happy to do so. Your callous remarks and uninformed babble in some way made us wonder if you were listening to what was said and frankly I'm not even sure that you were at the same meeting as the others.

You sounded, for lack of a better word, stupid on Radio with only a few listeners and I would say that you had better hope that they do not televise the meeting that the whole country can have a listen and look at your display of LIBERAL Politics. Every party dies ONE VOTE AT A TIME and my vote is lost.

Cpl Kenneth H. Young CD (retired)

Nanaimo, BC.

November 18, 2005

From: Ken Young

Mr. Ken Young,

Thank you very much for welcoming me to the position of coordinator of the Base Gagetown and Area Fact-Finders' Project.

We are seeking legal advice on the point you make about protecting individuals in the sharing of information with us that might be connected to a previously signed non-disclosure agreement. Certainly, I will consider the point you make about involving those mentioned as part of our process.

Thank you,

Dr. Dennis Furlong

-

From: Ken Young

Sent: November 16, 2005 11:21 PM

To: n6facti@nb.aibn.com

Subject: Dioxin, Hexachlorobenzene, Arsenic and other toxins at Gagetown.

Dear Dr Furlongs,

At Base Gagetown and Area Fact-Finders' Project.

Dr, we have been waiting for a replacement for your predecessor with great anticipation and I for one would like to welcome you to the job as well as wish you God speed and good luck.

Having said that I would like you to know that most of the people affected from the Chemical Defoliants Spraying done in CFB Gagetown, have given up hope and trust in the process or at least as it had been outlined in the past. Most of the others still have some hope but are definitely skeptical as to timings and processes involved. All are somewhat at a loss as to why the people who wish to testify have so far not been given some sort of legal protection, as most of them do not wish to end up like Mr. Allan Cutler and some may still have jobs and livelihoods to protect.

I am going to take the time to try and put one point across as both the Government and the military and because of them the media, seem to be stuck on names such as Orange, Purple and White and some off the wall 7 days in 66 & 67 for some reason which we have yet to understand, where as the people who are sick and dieing, we are more mind set on particulate contaminants such as Dioxin, Hexachlorobenzene and Arsenic, of which one or more were contained in virtually all sprays and from the years 1956 through 1984 and are the real reason why this project was formed in the first place. People didn't get sick from the color nor the paint on the drums rather they became sick when their bodies began to rebel because of the Toxic Chemicals contained within them somehow entering their bodies and destroying vital organs and/or altered other bodily functions, including right down to the genetic level.

If I may make a suggestion, any report coming out of your office would carry more weight if there were at least one member of the Agent Orange Association of Canada (AOAC) and such chemical experts such as Meg Sears (MEng, PhD) Dunrobin, Ont.

Canadian Coalition for Health and Environment and/or Dr L. Wayne Dwernychuk, (Ph.D., R.P.Bio.) Senior Vice President & Principal HATFIELD CONSULTANTS LTD. West Vancouver, BC.

I didn't wish to talk your ear off but I needed to get this off my chest. Please keep me informed as your predecessor did and I will try and make my comments a bit shorter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Cpl Kenneth H. Young CD (retired)

November 18, 2005

From November 18, 2005

God bless you all each and every one who participated in the DND/VAC Committee Meeting #59. I listened to every word and couldn't help shedding a tear of joy and sorrow for what you have achieved for the thousands of people who are victims of this terrible travesty, thank you from the bottom of my heart.....

Paul

November 18, 2005

From: Marilyn Doherty

Gagetown Agent Orange search called publicity stunt

> Three-year probe a political ploy, says MP

> By The Canadian Press

> FREDERICTON -- The federal government's three-year probe into the use of Agent Orange and other toxic defoliants at New Brunswick's CFB Gagetown was met with derision during a hearing of the Commons defence committee.

>

> New Brunswick MP Greg Thompson called the inquiry a public relations stunt > aimed at keeping political pressure off the ruling Liberals as it prepares > for a general election, the Fredericton Gleaner said in a report Friday > from Ottawa.

>

> ``This is an exercise to get them through the next election without > addressing the need to compensate those people that were exposed to Agent > Orange and other dioxins," Thompson said.

>

> Gloria Sellar, who says her husband died from complications related to > Agent Orange exposure while stationed at Gagetown in the 1960s, said > Ottawa's plan was taking too long.

>

> ``They keep talking about the remnants that they are looking for in > Gagetown, but the remnants are the men and the people and the wives and the families," Sellar said in an interview.

>

> ``Digging about for barrels and things in the soil is time consuming and > expensive. They should just listen to these people."

>

> Sellar's husband, Gordon, died of leukemia shortly after he received > medical compensation for exposure to Agent Orange.

>

> Manitoba MP Bill Blaikie said the government should take a more lenient approach with its veterans. He said the onus should not be on the soldiers to prove they were harmed by Agent Orange and other defoliants used at the base.

>

> ``It is kind of natural for a government to respond by trying to minimize > the possibility of having to pay compensation, but I don't think that is > the appropriate way to deal with people who were exposed to this," said Blaikie.

>
> Karen Ellis, a senior official with the Defence Department, said the
> government had a duty to ensure it had all its facts right before
> determining responsibility.
>
> ``The government has an obligation to make responsible and informed
> decisions based on rigorous research and science," Ellis said in her
> presentation to the committee.
>
> ``The facts will help us find the right solution."
>
> In addition to the CFB Gagetown probe, which includes studying all
> defoliants sprayed between 1950 and 1980, the federal government
> plans to > look at spraying in all bases across the country.
>
> Former Tory provincial health minister Dennis Furlong is leading the
> investigation on the base which is expected to take another 18
months.
>
> Furlong replaced former Liberal provincial environment minister
Vaughn > Blaney who stepped down in September because of illness.

November 17, 2005

From: Art Connolly

Ken and I will be interviewed on CPAC at 8 PM EST on Prime Time Politics

November 16, 2005

From: Jonathan Silvers

My investigative report on Agent Orange airs tomorrow night (Thursday, November 17) on ABC News/Nightline. Ted Koppel hosts.

The report examines the US Air Force's mismanagement of a \$140 million, twenty-year health study on veterans exposed to chemical defoliants during the Vietnam War.

In New York, it's on Channel 7 at 11:30pm.

Elsewhere, please check your local listings.

Best,

Jonathan

[Jonathan is the journalist who interviewed Ken Dobbie and I in Kingston this summer.](#)

[Please be sure to watch!](#)

[Art :\)](#)

November 15, 2005

webmaster@agentorangealert.com

Dear Mr. Connolly:

Thank you for your recent correspondence.

I would like to assure you that the Province of New Brunswick and the Department of Environment and Local Government have been monitoring the federal government's activities around the issue of spraying and use of herbicides in Gagetown. This department will continue to work collaboratively with the federal government to ensure all facts surrounding this issue are brought out into the open.

As you are aware, the lead fact-finder for the federal government has recently resigned, which has caused delays in the process. However, we believe the federal government's proposed process, which includes public meetings, is sound and based on historic and

scientific research. This approach will result in gathering the facts needed for the Government of Canada to make the responsible decision and do the right thing for those individuals that have been negatively affected by the spraying.

MLA for Oromocto-Gagetown, Jody Carr, continues to monitor the situation, seeking answers and bringing this issue forward as a priority to all concerned.

The Department of the Environment and Local Government recognizes the significance of this issue to the citizens of New Brunswick; therefore, the department will continue to provide support and input as required.

Sincerely,

Dale Graham

Acting Minister

cc: Hon. Bernard Lord

Jody Carr, MLA

November 16, 2005

From: Art Connolly

Former health minister takes over Agent Orange probe

http://www.cbc.ca/nb/story/nb_furlongagentorange20051116.html

They finally have replaced Mr. Blaney. Talk about timing ...the day before the meeting with SCONDVA...coincidence Im sure!

It looks like a couple of changes.... implementation of advisory panels and a Conservative instead of Liberal running the show.

"In addition, Dr. Furlong will co-chair with Karen Ellis, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Environment for National Defence, the advisory panels overseeing the scientific and historical research in progress. The advisory panels, in conjunction with the federal government's Interdepartmental Steering Committee on Herbicide Use at CFB Gagetown, have the ability to influence the fact-finding tasks. The co-chairs will select the members of these advisory panels, ensuring an appropriate balance of professional ethics advice, as well as scientific and community --- including Aboriginal -- representation."

Im thinking they have taken this idea from Jody and Greg's submission!

Art

November 16, 2005

From: Art Connolly

News Release

Dennis Furlong New Fact-Finding and Outreach Coordinator

NR - 05.090 - November 16, 2005

http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/newsroom/view_news_e.asp?id=1811

November 16, 2005

From: Mike Christie

Orders of the Day Ordre du jour

Televised Télévisée

Briefing session on Agent Orange Séance d'information sur l'agent Orange

Witnesses Témoins

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. 15 h 30 à 16 h 30

To be determined À déterminer

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. 16 h 30 à 17 h 30

Agent Orange Association of Canada Agent Orange
Association of Canada

Kenneth Dobbie, President Kenneth Dobbie, président

As Individuals À titre personnel

Jody Carr Jody Carr

John Chisholm John Chisholm

Wayne H. Cardinal Wayne H. Cardinal

Arthur Connolly Arthur Connolly

Gloria Sellar Gloria Sellar

November 15, 2005

From: Dr Wayne Dwernychuk

I happened to come into possession of a can of herbicide purchased 'off the shelf' in a hardware store in the early 1960's. The contents were labeled as a mixture of 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D, the two constituents of Agents Orange and Purple. To my knowledge, there are no remaining samples of herbicide dating back to that date. As our work in Viet Nam involved Agent Orange, I was curious as to the dioxin content of this sample. This sample was for 'domestic' use on farms, etc., and may have been used for commercial use as well. The testing was done by AXYS Analytical in Sidney, BC ... 2,3,7,8-TCDD, the dioxin specific to Agents Orange and Purple, was 15,600 ppt. This can be considered a 'very' high number. For example, Health Canada has a guideline for consumable tissues set at 15 ppt for muscle tissue in fish and 30 ppt for liver and fat tissues.

My point here is that Agent Orange/Purple was manufactured in those early years with minimal quality control; as a result, the dioxin content was high. Brushkill probably contained dioxin in the level we found in the herbicide sample from the early 60's, and, in fact, it may have been even higher since the commercial manufacturing may have had less quality control than the domestic use supplies. In point of fact, since dioxin in the 2,4,5-T portion of Agents Orange/Purple was not discovered until the very late 60's, there was virtually no control of dioxin production when 2,4,5-T was being manufactured in those early years.

In our studies on dioxin over the past 16 years, if we would have found dioxin level (i.e., TCDD) anywhere approaching that of our 60's sample, alarm bells would have sounded.

Regards,

Dr. Wayne Dwernychuk
Hatfield Consultants Ltd.

November 15, 2005
from; Sue Skipton

Train vets shunted to desolate military base

Fri, November 11, 2005

By [STEPHANIE RUBEC](#), Free Press Parliamentary Bureau

OTTAWA -- Many of the veterans who travelled by train from Halifax to attend Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ottawa laid their weary heads down in abandoned housing on a desolate military base last night.

The veterans, who are all over 80, were shocked to find out that the cash they shelled out for the trip down memory lane would not cover hotel rooms. Instead they were taken to drafty, abandoned military housing at Connaught Ranges, a training centre soldiers only visit in daylight for target practice.

Cliff Chadderton, head of the National Council of Veterans Associations, said he began receiving confused calls from friends on the train tour after they were bused to the sprawling training centre in Ottawa's west end near Shirley's Bay and told they had to pay as much as \$10-a-night for the accommodations.

"It's just terrible," Chadderton said of the spartan accommodations the elderly vets have been put up in for their short visit to the nation's capital. "It is absolutely substandard." Some vets have opted out of the military housing and headed to a downtown hotel on their own dime.

[The organizers should hang their heads in shame](#)
Art

November 15, 2005

From: Janis Goodmurphy

Because we have the ability to do what our fathers can not do we must fight this battle for them and for ourselves.

November 15, 2005

From: Hugh mackenzie

While watching TV last night it was announced that the federal govt. has put up \$700,000.00 for federal inmates to obtain tattoos. i rushed to my calendar, and lo, and behold it was not april 1st. APRIL FOOLS DAY. i have been working on behalf of AGENT ORANGE victims for a very long time, we can't even get the govt. to admit the extent of the spray programs. perhaps i am being selfish, for what is more important, convicted felons or those who volunteered for their country. so much for the YEAR OF THE VETERAN.

November 14, 2005

From: Sue Skipton

Soldiers call for compensation for dioxin exposure on N.B. base

By The Canadian Press

STELLARTON — A group of ex-soldiers in Nova Scotia who say they were harmed by exposure to defoliants at a New Brunswick military base have asked Peter MacKay for help.

The deputy leader of the federal Conservative staged a town hall meeting in Stellarton on Thursday. The meeting was attended by former soldiers who spent time at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown four decades ago and say they were exposed to toxic defoliants such as Agent Orange.

They presented MacKay, the MP for Central Nova, with a number of letters asking for help, particularly compensation. The U.S. military tested Agent Orange, Agent Purple, Agent

White and other defoliants at Gagetown in 1966 and 1967 on less than 200 hectares of the sprawling base, which occupies much of south-central New Brunswick.

The powerful herbicides were widely used to clear jungle during the Vietnam War.

Military officials have also admitted to using dioxin-contaminated defoliants on the base in the 1950s, '60s and '70s.

While dioxins have been associated with illnesses such as cancer and diabetes, medical experts haven't acknowledged a definite link.

Hugh MacKenzie of Westville said hundreds of soldiers have already died of illnesses, such as cancer.

He also said many children, including his own daughter, have been born with birth defects.

"When we apply for a pension, we have to give absolute proof that we were affected by Agent Orange," MacKenzie told Mac-Kay. "Nobody knows which way to turn and you're aching and you're paining and you don't know why."

MacKenzie said ex-soldiers who want to prove they suffer from dioxin-related illnesses must pay for expensive tests they can't afford.

Veterans Affairs Canada has said it needs proof and won't hand out money to people without clear evidence of exposure and harm.

But MacKay told the meeting that standard is too high.

"The only proof you should have to prove is your military papers proving you were there," MacKay said.

MacKay promised to read the letters and get in touch with all of the ex-soldiers who were at the meeting in the coming weeks.

Veterans Affairs has approved just four applications for disability pensions related to defoliant use at Gagetown.

Nine others have been approved related to service in Vietnam.

A federal inquiry into the use of Agent Orange and other toxic herbicides has been stalled since last month when lead investigator Vaughn Blaney stepped down due to health problems.

November 14, 2005

From: ken Dobbie

Hi Everyone...

For a good look at Hexachlorobenzene follow this link

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/phs90.html>

Kenneth Dobbie

November 14, 2005

From: Art Connolly

UPDATE

The Standing Committee On National Defence and Veteran Affairs will be meeting on November 17, 2005 at 3:30 PM Eastern Time on Parliament Hill in Ottawa Ontario.

Invited to speak at the meeting is Ken Dobbie, Gloria Sellar, Jody Carr MLA, Wayne Cardinal and yours truly Art Connolly

It is my understanding that CPAC will be broadcasting the meeting on its internet simulcast located at

http://parlvu.parl.gc.ca/parlvuen%2Dca/Guide.aspx?viewmode=1&categoryid=-1¤tdate=2005-11-17&_eventid=-1&languagecode=12298

It is listed unde **NDDN Meeting** at 33:30 PM.

Any more information will be updated as it is known.

November 13, 2005

From: Art Connolly

GOVERNMENT ISSUE DIOXINS

Lest we forget these ancient vets;
Have we thanked these soldiers yet?
Dying from chemical defoliants
Test sprayed at Gagetown's Army Camp
Dither and Yawner head of the DND
and all the mean folks at VAC
bully old, sick and dying men
who defended our country away back when
They appoint an Ombudsman to watch their backs
whilst fending off these veteran attacks.
They started an investigation to check this wrong.
Investigate... but for how long?
Until these vets - they are all gone?
©Copyright June 26, 2005 by Billy Willbond

November 11, 2005
From: Jim Cadger

Former worker: Gagetown toxic barrels were given away

http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20051111/gagetown_barrels_051111/20051111/

November 11, 2005
From: Sandy Skipton

This brave soldier won't be attending today's war memorial. Why? He fought in Vietnam.

By [Earl McRae](#), Ottawa Sun

<http://ottsun.canoe.ca/News/OttawaAndRegion/2005/11/11/1301786-sun.html>

November 11, 2005
From: Art Connolly
An Agent Orange Poem by:
Paul L. Norton, USMC 68-69
Vietnam Combat Veteran

*The Agent
I am the reminder.
I am a herald of sorrow and anguish..
Pain and misery precede me on my
appointed rounds.
I collect on debts owed. I am the
keeper of receipts.
My list of diagnosis grows. I grow.
I am the Agent.
Through the years my disguises are
many.
The result is the same.
I am irresistible, unstoppable, though*

*once preventable, now terminal.
Final.
Look here to the dark angel of a
generation misguided and
mismanaged.
I am the way to this inglorious and
undeserved end.
I have the last word.
I am the Agent.
I am the instrument of early demise
ongoing.
I am a corrupter of men's ideal and
intentions.
I am the Agent.*

*Some will escape me. Not many. All
will know of me.
I know whom I have gotten and who
yet remains.
I have the last word.
I am the Agent. I am dioxin.
I am Agent Orange.*

November 11, 2005

From: Danah Woodworth

This is basically in memory of my Dad, who served to protect the many of us that are living in Canada, but while writing this, I thought about all the men and women who are and have served in the Canadian military now, including my husband.

I know that many of you are questioning why you served at this point, because of the lies from the government about the Agent Orange/Purple spraying but, there was a call that was placed and you and them answered and some are still answering. My Dad answered that call, and as previously mentioned my husband is answering that call now. I do believe that we will all get the answers and the results, because we stand for something. I only grew up in a military family, but watching my Dad put his uniform on everyday, watching him leave, I never really knew what it was for but that "my daddy had an important job". I am proud and pleased to admit that I grew up in this military family. So on this Remembrance Day, especially now this year of the Vets, I want to say thank you and please keep up the fight that is in our hearts now and forever.

Danah Woodworth

Middleton, Nova Scotia

November 10, 2005

From: Marilyn Doherty

Environmentalists test Canadians for pollutants

<http://www.cbc.ca/story/science/national/2005/11/09/pollutants051109.html>

November 10, 2005

From: Ken Young

Military Press Releases

When reading a Military Press Release about Gagetown or for that matter anything else, one must remember exactly who is actually

reporting something. It isn't the Spokes Person regardless of rank, position that they might hold or even how good they look on camera but it is in fact the Military Establishment. This is the same Establishment that until this very year steadfastly denied ever having used such Chemicals as Agent Orange in Gagetown. I find it hard to believe that we now find ourselves surrounded with chemical disposal, numbers affected and medical condition people who are portrayed as Military experts on the subject.

Retrieving information from the Military is like pulling teeth and one must remember when they do have something to say, it is always after they have been caught with their pants down and it is more Damage Control, then any true information.

Great words to follow are "Believe half of what you see and even less of what you hear".

So when reading a so called report, stop and look to see who is really behind the story and then read on with a knowing smile.

November 10, 2005

From: Marilyn Doherty

Canadians' blood awash in toxins

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/Front/463568.html>

November 9, 2005

From: Joe Gledhill

Hello All'

I received my military docs already...what a delightful

surprise.....and I HAVE MANY PEOPLE TO THANK,

INCLUDING WAYNE. KEN. MARILYN, ART, G .THOMPSON, J CARR AND OTHERS!

JOE GLEDEHILL

November 9, 2005

From: Art Connolly

This is the 5th month anniversary of www.agentorangealert.com.

I am proud to report that the site has received 752,498 "hits".

November 8, 2005

From: Wayne Coady

[Belleville - David Suzuki launches EarthCare at local schools](#)

Stirling Community Press - Stirling, Ontario, Canada

... A question was asked about the significance of **dioxins** and furans found at the mouth of the Trent River. Suzuki said **dioxins** are ...

November 8, 2005

TIMES COLONIST (VICTORIA)

PAGE: C10 (NEWS)

Military chief says herbicide spraying did not affect all soldiers

Canadian Press

FREDERICTON (CP) -- At least 150,000 soldiers are believed to have been at New Brunswick's Canadian Forces Base Gagetown over the last 52 years when herbicide spraying occurred.

But base commander Col. Ryan Jestin said Monday there is no reason to suspect they are all at risk due to exposure. In an interview with the Fredericton Gleaner, Jestin said any such figure would be small.

"If somebody was there when it was sprayed, or if somebody was there when Agent Orange was sprayed and they are sick as a result, that is why we have the process such as the Veterans Affairs pension," Jestin said.

There is also a process available for civilian employees to get help, he said.

Veterans Affairs Canada has approved only 13 applications for a disability pension. Of those packages, four relate to the use of the defoliant at Gagetown and nine others to service in Vietnam.

Overall, the department has received 216 applications in which 159 decisions have been rendered. The base commander said that while the 150,000 figure is an estimate, work to compile an exact list of who was present during the various sprayings has just started and could take as long as 18 months.

....Jestin said any figure would be small.

How dare you make such a statement Col Jestin. Are you qualified to draw that conclusion? Do you know how much dioxin and hexachlorobenzene is there? Is the testing complete? It must be in order for you to reach such a scientific conclusion.

I am just as qualified as you are Col. Jestin regarding this matter and I am saying that any figure would be large. I personally believe the testing was completed before it ever started. The conclusion has already been made in DND's mind. Why else would they award a contract of over 17 million dollars for a singles barracks before testing is completed. They know what the results will be.

You were the one man from DND that I believed Col Jestin. If you did say "any figure would be small" then I am now completely convinced that DND should not be trusted. Col. Jestin you also seem to be very informed on how people can "get help". You mentioned how veterans and civilian employees can get help. Please tell me how civilians who were not employees can get help. Im talking about wives, children and people who just happen to live in the area.

Art Connolly

November 8, 2005

From: Art Connolly

Please send an email to the CPAC (Parliamentary channel) and request that the SCNDVA meeting regarding Agent Orange at CFB Gagetown, being held on Thursday November 17, 2005 be either televised or taped for future broadcast.

http://www.cpac.ca/forms/index.asp?dsp=template&act=view3&template_id=196&lang=e

November 8, 2005

From: Lloyd Teakles

Art

I am glad that you have been invited to Ottawa for our cause.

I have had an opportunity to talk with some people working at veteran's affairs in the last few weeks. In one of our conversations I was told that before the mention of Agent Orange the success rate for applicants getting a pension was around 43 %. Now that Agent Orange has been mentioned the success rate is 0 %. This may have changed now, that was about three weeks ago.

It does seem strange that the same people that made up the pension board before Agent Orange are not allowed to make any more decisions. You think maybe that they have been told something.

Lloyd

November 8, 2005

From: Dr Wayne Dwernychuk

Just reviewing your website ... quite impressive. I thought, for those interested, there may be some room for the Hatfield website, particularly that section devoted to Agent Orange and Viet Nam:

http://www.hatfieldgroup.com/index.php?sitesig=hg&page=hg_004_RESOURCES&subpage=hg_004_Viet_Nam_Highlights

Regards,

Dr. Wayne Dwernychuk
Hatfield Consultants Ltd.

November 8, 2005

From: Dawna and Gordon

Congratulations Art and Ken for being invited to the SCONDVA Comittee meeting on the 17th of this month. I know you will both be great representatives for us all. Well done. Go Get em guys and God Speed.

Dawna A.