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From: "Luis Szyfres, MD, MPH"
To: "SENATOR Won-Pat.Judith"
Subject: REPLY TO SENATOR WON-PAT ---AGENT PURPLE
Date: January 24, 2007

Dear Senator Won-Pat:

Agent Orange, Agent Purple, Agent Pink, etc, is the name to which all herbicides are referred **in error**. The name, **Agent Orange**, has become synonymous for, and collective of, all **herbicides** used during the Vietnam War. **Agent Orange**, is also the term for the harmful effects of **herbicides** (again, in error). People do not have **Agent Orange disease**, rather, a disease, or cancer caused directly or indirectly from exposure to a **herbicide** containing **dioxin**.

The Dioxins used during the Viet Nam war, were manufactured in different concentrations. To recognize the concentrations of Dioxins in the drums, the military were placing color stripes in them. When the concentration of Dioxins were up to 40 ppm, *orange stripes were placed on drums, and it became known as Agent Orange.....if the concentration of Dioxins were up to 45 ppm, a Purple Strip was placed in the drum, and called Agent Purple....See table below.....*

List of the herbicides (agents) used during the Vietnam War, and the amount of TCDD (dioxin) contamination present in the agents (per the USAF Herb Tapes):

Description	TCDD (Dioxin) Amounts
Agent Orange	1.77 to 40 ppm
Agent Blue (Purple)	32.8 to 45 ppm
Agent Red (Pink)	65.6 ppm
Agent White (Green)	65.6 ppm
Silvex	1 to 70 ppm
2,4,5-T (Current)	0.1 ppm or less

The critical issue, is that besides the stripe color:

[A] ALL THE OF THEM WERE STORED IN GUAM, AND WERE DISEMINATED THROUGH THE ISLAND BY WIND, TYPHOONS, INFILTRATION, EVAPORATION, AND RAINS

[B] THE MILITARY NOT ONLY SPRAYED THE DEADLY DIOXINS IN VIETNAM, THEY ALSO SPRAYED....GUAM! (REF: INTERVIEW OF MR. JAMES HERRON,BY EX-SENATOR B.J. CRUZ AND ME)

Example of the effects of the use of Dioxins in Vietnam

*Demand for military **Agent Orange** resulted in higher levels of **dioxin** contamination than in the 2,4,5-T produced for civilian applications in the U.S. *The U.S. Air Force military operation **Ranch Hand** began spraying Agent Orange on areas of South Vietnam in August 1965 (though it was used prior to this date). *18 million gallons of **Agent Orange** were used in South Vietnam. ***Agent Orange** caused Vietnamese farmers to lose about 70% of their crops. (One of the goals for using **herbicides** was to deprive the enemy of food.) ***6250+** square miles of South Vietnam can not be farmed because of defoliation. This is still true almost 30 years later.

Agent Orange, dioxins, and other chemicals of concern in Vietnam: update 2006.

(J Occup Environ Med. 2006; 48(4):408-13. Schechter A)

The objective of this study was to find sites in Vietnam where **there was human exposure from Agent Orange herbicide sprayed between in 1962 ...44 YEARS AGO!** as determined

by congener-specific measurement of dioxins, including 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzodioxin (TCDD), the dioxin that contaminated Agent Orange, in blood.

METHODS: Blood was collected from residents of eight heavily sprayed regions in the south of Vietnam and analyzed for TCDD, & in some cases the dioxin-like dibenzofurans & dioxin-like PCBs.

RESULTS: **Marked elevation of TCDD in Vietnamese blood was found in a location.....** **44 YEARS AFTER THE EXPOSURE TO AGENT ORANGE**

Teratogenesis is a medical term from the Greek, literally meaning monster-making, which derives from teratology, the study of the frequency, causation, and development of congenital malformations (misleadingly called birth defects). Agent Orange is the code name for a powerful chemical used by the U.S. military in the Vietnam War. Agent Orange was used from 1961 to 1971, and was by far the most used of the so-called "rainbow herbicides" used during the program. Agent Orange (as well as Agents Purple, Pink, Blue and Green) contained dioxins which caused serious harm to the health to those exposed, as well as their children and grandchildren. Dioxins are recognized as strong carcinogens and teratogens, very persistent in the environment and in the human body. The containers in which they are stored in Guam, have been leaking for a long time.



Photo-01=A Vietnamese girl with no arms reads using her feet to hold a book at the Peace Village in Tu Du hospital February 3, 2004. The hospital's chef de service Doctor Ng Thi Phuong Tan suspects many of the children are deformed in the womb due to exposure to Agent Orange. Two-thirds of the children at the Peace Village are from areas that were heavily sprayed by the highly toxic defoliant during the Viet Nam War. [Reuters]



Photo-02=Two boys's eyes open wide in at the Peace Village at Tu Du hospital in Ho Chi Minh City February 3, 2004. [Reuters]



Photo-03=Hoa (R) and Nhon, both born with stunted limbs and 12 fingers, stand at their front door at their home in Dong Ha, north of Hue in central Viet Nam, February 4, 2004. Three Vietnamese who say they or their families became ill from Agent Orange defoliant used by the United States in the war nearly 30 years ago have filed the first lawsuit against makers of the product, a victims group said. [Reuters]



Photo-04=A girl born without eyes sits in a cot at the Peace Village at Tu Du hospital in Ho Chi Minh City February 3, 2004. [Reuters]

Sincerely yours,

Luis Szyfres, MD, MPH