



Uploaded to the VFC Website

▶▶▶ 2019 ◀◀◀

This Document has been provided to you courtesy of Veterans-For-Change!

Feel free to pass to any veteran who might be able to use this information!

For thousands more files like this and hundreds of links to useful information, and hundreds of "Frequently Asked Questions, please go to:

[Veterans-For-Change](#)

If Veterans don't help Veterans, who will?

Note:

VFC is not liable for source information in this document, it is merely provided as a courtesy to our members & subscribers.





Meeting Agenda

Open Session Agenda

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE
BOARD ON THE HEALTH OF SELECT POPULATIONS

THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE HEALTH EFFECTS IN VIETNAM VETERANS OF EXPOSURE TO HERBICIDES (EIGHTH BIENNIAL UPDATE)

September 27, 2010

Keck Building, Room 105
500 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Open Session

- 1:00 p.m. Welcome; goals and conduct of the public meeting; introduction of committee members
Mary Walker, Committee Chair
- 1:05 p.m. Charge to the Committee
Victoria Cassano, MD, US Department of Veterans Affairs
- 1:20 p.m. IOM Veterans and Agent Orange Reports: A Brief History
David Butler, PhD, Institute of Medicine
- 1:40 p.m. Clinical Observations Concerning Auto-immune Conditions in Veterans
Margaret Kruckemeyer, RN/ARNP-C, Rehab Nurse Practitioner, Dayton VA Medical Center
- 2:00 p.m. **Autoimmune Mixed Connective Tissue Disease (MCTD) following extensive exposure to Agent Orange during service on Guam**
MSgt LeRoy G. Foster, Ret USAF
- 2:20 p.m. Activities involving the Vietnamese population
Vaughan C. Turekian, PhD, Chief International Officer, AAAS and representative to US-Vietnam Dialogue Group on Agent Orange/Dioxin
- 2:40 p.m. *Rick Weidman, Executive Director for Policy and Government Affairs, Vietnam Veterans of America*
Other veteran speaker(s), if time requested
- 3:00 p.m. Close Public Session

[Back to Meeting](#)

(1) Email from Ralph Stanton to Dr Mary Paxton:

From: Ralph Stanton [<mailto:rstanton@stjoelive.com>]
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 2:32 PM
To: Paxton, Mary
Subject: Foster

Hello Dr. Paxton

Would it be possible to get a copy of Leroy Fosters testimony before the IOM?

Thank you very much.

Thanks
Ralph

Ralph Stanton
816-262-0097
rstanton@stjoelive.com

(2) Reply from Dr Mary Paxton to Ralph Stanton:

From: Paxton, Mary <MPaxton@nas.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 2:42 PM
To: 'Ralph Stanton'
Subject: RE: Foster
Attachments: image001.jpg
Flag Status: Flagged

Good day, Ralph!

It has not been the practice of IOM's Veterans and Agent Orange committees to transcribe the testimony of people who speak in our open sessions. Speakers often do provide written statements to accompany their oral comments, which are then maintained in the project's public access file. Mr. Foster did not, however, present such a written statement to the committee when he joined us last September 27. Consequently, I don't have a transcript or statement from his presentation to send you.

Best wishes,
Mary

Mary Paxton

(3) Email from Leroy Foster to Dr Paxton:

I was saddened to learn that my testimony to the IOM AO commission on Sept 27 2010 was not RECORDED. I traveled a great distance to testify to those scientists and medical professionals about my knowledge of personally handling, mixing by hand and power spraying AGENT ORANGE HERBICIDES for the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War for ten years. I must recommend that future testimony should be recorded unless specifically requested not be RECORDED. Is this possible ? HISTORY SHOULD BE PRESERVED AND NOT LOST.

Open project information: [IOM-BSP-09-05](#)

(4) Reply from Dr Paxton to LeRoy Foster:

Dear LeRoy,

Please forgive my delayed response. I was hustling to finish up our response-to-review before heading off on a little vacation over Labor Day weekend.

When I received Ralph Stanton's request for your testimony, I was rather jolted to realize that we have not been recording our open sessions for the last couple of update cycles. It had been our usual practice, but as there had been no call for such recordings or transcripts, we dropped the practice. You are correct that we ought to be doing this, and we will resume recording open sessions for *Update 2012*. Although we would only transcribe them in special instances, current technology does make recordings placed in our public access files completely user-friendly.

Rest assured that your message was received loud and clear by the committee, but I do apologize that we did not record your presentation. You are absolutely correct that your testimony and that of all other interested parties should be part of the historical record of IOM's Veterans and Agent Orange committees.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will mend our ways!

Sincerely,

Mary Paxton

(5) Reply from LeRoy Foster to Dr Paxton:

Dr. Paxton, Thank you for your reply on this matter of importance. I would like the opportunity again to provide written testimony and oral testimony at your next hearings schedule if at all possible and if I am still here on earth. I hope that Sgt Stanton would accompany me so WE could tell you and show you first hand what Agent Orange has done to us. It is very important that our Nation believe us and Understand what has happened to us and what is happening to us.

I do know Senator Kirstin Gillibrand , Senator Charles Schumer and Congressman Brian Higgins (Walt Koch) are all very interested in my health issues from Agent Orange herbicides. They may make a special request for my testimony to the AO COMMISSION on Sept 27, 2010 which I gave from 2:00 to 2:20 p.m. as you recall.

I do remember I was very moved and felt compelled to drive 500 miles one way to tell my story of use of AO and my diseases as well as my daughter's and her new born baby's health problems with multiple birth defects.

The Buffalo VA Regional office called me last Friday and are going all the way back to Dec 1987 when I filed for bilateral ankylosing spondylitis which I was denied on my VA claim even though Buffalo VA Medical Center xrays showed I had the disease which has since developed into sciatica, spinal stenosis, osteoporosis, psoraitic athritis with inflammation, rheumatoid arthritis, degenerative joint disease which traveled up my entire spine to the cervical spine from the INFLAMMATION OF AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE. You remember my testimony on Autoimmune disease and the connection to Sgt Ralph Stanton's diseases which is how I found those testimonies to Congress, the VA and to the IOM on the exact subject by Admiral Zumwalt and Dr. Michael Zovick of the Oklahoma Agent Orange commission in the early 1990's as you recall. I was treated for the chloracne, sterility and inflammation (sciatica, arthritis, etc) in the Air Force on active duty. Little did I realize the damage being done to my body from Agent Orange handling years earlier. No one said a word.

I do know the VVA is sponsoring another town hall meeting at Penn State university on November 5, 2011 which I will attend and hopefully learn more about what is happening to me, my daughter, grand daughter and to my friends.

I really hope and pray to God that the research scientists and medical doctors really find out what is happening to us before we are gone. I hope there are answers.

Most appreciative of your efforts to help our nation's veterans exposed to Agent Orange and their children and grand children,

God Bless you Dr. Paxton and your staff and all the members of the IOM Agent Orange committee,

MSgt LeRoy G. Foster, USAF, Retired

I pray God touches your heart's in reaching out to our dying veterans from Agent Orange exposure through direct and indirect contact with it. It is a most compelling tragedy to understand and act to help those suffering so much from it.

In a message dated 9/7/2011 11:55:28 A.M. Eastern Daylight Time, MPaxton@nas.edu writes: