

Gary Spurgin
9141 Waterman Drive
Providence Village, Texas 76227
214-537-2417
gary.spurgin@yahoo.com

October 17,2017

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Gary Spurgin. In 1972 I was deployed with the 96th Bomb Wing OMS TDY to Andersen Air Force Base from Dyess Air Force Base. Once in Guam I was assigned to the 43rd Squadron OMS later to become a Crew Chief on the 52-d Bomber. Of the 18 months I was in Guam I worked launch and recovery and was on the alert status crew.

When I first arrived in Guam I was in the base barracks for approximately 2-3 months, then moved to Tent City for about 3 months. The balance of my time in Guam I was in Marbo Barracks with the exception of the time I was on alert status then I would be in the alert building on the flight line.

I was never made aware that I was being exposed to Agent Orange and Agent Blue herbicides along with the solvent TCE. Even though I was located on a tropical island on the flight line and in the barracks always seeing the brown grass that should have been green with all the rain. I knew it was sprayed often but not thinking the Military would be spraying something that was harmful to my body or that the planes were being washed with the solvent TCE mixture. Finding out the water I drank, brushed my teeth, my food was prepared with and the water where I showered was contaminated now explains some of the issues I have suffered.

The health issues that I believe I have suffered with due to my exposure to Agent Orange, Agent Blue, TCE Solvent and a contaminated water system are the following:

- Type 11 Diabetes for which I have to take 2 different medications to control along with diet. (For which there is no family history.)
- Squamous Cell Carcinoma on my back.
- Squamous Cell Carcinoma Penile cancer. I had to have multiple surgeries to be followed up with radiation which in turn formed scar tissue within the urethra making it difficult to urinate at times and I had to go back at one time and wear a catheter.
- Erectile dysfunction for which no meds have helped.
- At age 33 before my penile cancer my 2nd wife and I decided to have a child of our own she had had two previous children with a previous husband with no issues. When she became pregnant she had an anembryonic pregnancy which caused a miscarriage. During this type pregnancy a fertilized egg implants in the uterus but doesn't develop into an embryo. While researching this

subject I have found low sperm count can lead to this type pregnancy. Medical research suggest that exposure to these chemicals can contribute to loss of sperm count which now I can't help but believe it was from the exposure to harmful chemical while in Guam that we suffered the loss of our child.

- Neuropathy & swelling in both feet and ankles making it hard to stand or walk for any length of time. Major muscle spasms in my legs and hands.
- Tinnitus (for which I have received 10% disability).
- Hearing loss.
- Enlarged prostate that I have to take medication for daily.
- Polyps in my colon that have been removed and grown back in the same location.
- Hemorrhoids.
- High Cholesterol.
- Gum Disease.
- Lower back disc degeneration & spinal stenosis

I am asking that Guam be added to the list of places where the Vietnam ERA herbicides were known to be used, stored and disposed of. I believe myself and all veterans should be honored by our military and given the benefits and medical attention they deserve by being exposed in Guam to the harmful chemicals that they were unaware of.

I certify that the statements in this letter are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sincerely,

Gary Spurgin