

VVAG - VIETNAM VETERANS ACTION GROUP



From the desk of the Secretary.

Media Announcement 16th September 08

Updates 22-09-08



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The membership of the Vietnam Veterans Action Group (VVAG) will close at the end of this month 30th September 2008. VVAG has currently over 800 veterans and family members registered.

First, I would like to point out that VVAG does not presume to represent Vietnam Veterans and family members that are not members of VVAG, should a class action be filed in Court. The Lawyers have an extensive range of supporting documentation dating back over the last 30 years with the latest updates. All indications so far in the investigation are very promising. VVAG are currently awaiting Counsels Decision and written opinion to determine exactly which direction we will take.

For those that are sitting on the fence to see which way the Lawyers decision goes before deciding if you wish to join VVAG it will be too late as the 30th September is the closing date for registration. If your decision is to join you can log on to our **website** **www.vvanz.com (v vanz.com)** click on the home page and click on the registration form and this can be filled out online. The cost for the registration is \$NZ25.00 or \$AU20.00 the bank account details are on the registration form. For those that don't have computers find someone who has and get them to do it for you. All Advocates/Pension officers would have access to computers or go to an internet café and get someone to help you. Alternatively you can download and fill the form and post to NZ Secretary VVAG 65 Queenwood Road Levin 5510 or Australia VVAG P.O. Box 702 Burleigh Heads Qld 4220. For the Widows and the surviving family members of the Veteran there is no registration fee required, just simply fill in the details online and click send. Check out our website www.vvanz.com for updates.

VVAG has been only going for about 18 months and everyone has had the opportunity to join and become a member. So anyone missing out it's your own fault. No one has to join, it's your decision. **But should this end up to Court only those registered will be represented will benefit from any possible outcome.**

The decision from our Lawyers is expected within the next month. This decision from Counsel will have far reaching effects for all Vietnam Veterans and their families.

The RNZRSA, EVSA and the NZ Government has refused to have dialogue with our Barrister last year. The respective bodies have had their opportunity to alleviate the course of legal action but enough is enough and their actions in trying to resolve the outstanding issues is likened to putting a small bandaid on a wound that needs major surgery. The MOU is only assisting about 1% of affected persons. Hence legal action.

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There is a ground swell of dissatisfied Vietnam Veterans over the handling of the MOU and a series of legal actions are pending. **“The Failure of Duty of Care”** is very real as are the possible criminal charges that the persons responsible could face.

Some of the Acts under the Crimes Act that are under investigation are: ---

Section 25 states in part “Ignorance of the Law is no Excuse”

Section 71 “Accessory after the fact”,

Section 116”Conspiring to pervert the course of justice”

Section 160 “Culpable homicide”

Section 164 “The acceleration of death”

Section 165 “Causing death that may have been preventable”

We are losing far too many of our mates far too young and this is not taking into consideration the family members because of the “Failure of Duty of Care”

The evidence is mounting up almost on a daily basis. With the NZ elections due on the 8th November VVAG should have a month’s grace to expedite a resolution from Government.

Should a possible class action be successful then VVAG would look at the Australian “Failure of Duty of Care” as we were a part of 1ATF command in 111 Corp, followed up by also looking at the American Government for a similar thing as they were the ones who did the majority of the spraying. **“Sprayed and Betrayed”**

Another issue that is being investigated is the legal liability of NZ Government in conjunction with Ivon Watkins Dow in allowing the manufacture of 24D/245T known as Agent Orange that contained a deadly dioxin known as TCCD and the transporting the same to Asia for use in the Vietnam War. The production of this deadly herbicide is in direct breach of the Geneva Convention rules in which NZ is a signatory to.

These are some of the issues being investigated. If your happy with your current situation that’s OK but what about your children and your future generations. The documentary of “A Ghost in your Dreams” conclusively proves that it’s very much intergenerational. We have paid for our “Duty to our Country” now is the time to pay for your duty to your family and the unborn generations to come.

Should this end up in Court and with no resolution in prior discussion there will be no settlement out of Court. All the perpetrators of the misfeasance/malfeasance in the treatment of the Vietnam Veteran and their families will be named and shamed; all the facts will be aired and made public through the national and the world media. This is all about paving the way for the remaining 99% of Veterans and families and finding out the legal liability of the Government in its performance of its duties.

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For anyone wishing to join VVAG or make a donation please go to our website www.vvanz.com

New Zealand Residents:--

Bank:--Westpac, Branch Levin

Account name Vietnam Veterans Action Group

Account number 03 0667 03 56793 00

Australian Residents: ---

Bank: -- Commonwealth Bank, Branch Nerang

Account name Vietnam Veterans Action Group

Account number BSB 064451 1 0316809

On behalf of the Executive and members of the Vietnam Veterans Action Group (VVAG) I thank you for your support.

Bruce Weir Secretary/ Founder VVAG