

VVAG - VIETNAM VETERANS ACTION GROUP



From the Desk of the Secretary

16th May 2009

I have received no reply from Judith Collins in response to the submissions I sent to all the MP's. I did receive a supportive letter from the Honourable Tariana Turia which included a copy of a letter from Judith Collins which stated that she would not reply to me directly and referred the matter to Robin Klitscher, Why? I have a letter stating they will not deal with VVAG even in the presence of our Lawyer.

There are several issues:--

Ministers of the Crown supporting an illegal document and process: There was no mandate/ratification for John Campbell and Terry Culley to represent the membership of the RNZRSA/EVSA in the negotiations of the MOU nor a Lawyer present to protect the rights of the Vietnam Veterans and their families.

There are also many Vietnam Veterans who are not members of any organisation. The NZ Government are a party to a War Crime in breach of the Geneva Convention in allowing the production and supplying a deadly chemical/herbicide. The use of which has caused millions of deaths and severe health issues.

This could cost the NZ Government and taxpayers billions of dollars because this would also include our international allies and the Vietnamese people.

Court action is the last resort but it is impossible to deal or negotiate with people when they refuse to talk with you. Legal action appears to be the only answer.

Should this issue go to Court there will be no settlement out of Court , Public and International exposure, Criminal charges will be laid. A please explain to the Veterans and the NZ public of why they have failed to resolve the Dioxin issue.

Should the NZ Government do the right thing for the Vietnam Veterans and the NZ public with the Dioxin issue. It could cost as little as \$300,000,000 and ongoing not much more than \$100,000,000 per annum

This path will enhance the public image of the NZ Government both locally and internationally by doing the right thing and resolving the Dioxin problem for NZ

The Vietnam Veteran is being discriminated against compared with status quo of Paritutu residents in major medical assessment. All Vietnam Veterans should have their DNA damage checked and also Dioxin levels. This is not happening because the Government already know the answer and want to avoid the expense and the liability of the damage caused. What about our children and future generations??

The NZ Government are Guilty of Misfeasance and Failure of duty of care. This demands compensation for 40 years of Government criminal neglect.

Yours Faithfully, Bruce Weir Secretary VVAG