



Beginning in 1961, over an 11 year period, more than 21 million gallons of toxic agents, including 16 million gallons of Agent Orange, an herbicide and deadly carcinogen, were used to defoliate massive areas in Vietnam. Where did it all go? What were the lasting effects on human Life?

If you think all Vietnam Veterans are receiving service-connected VA Health Care for disabilities related to Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam, you are wrong.....

If you think all Vietnam Veterans are receiving compensation benefits for disabilities caused by Agent Orange dioxin, you are sadly mistaken.....

Our Ship's Store offers items for sale to our members, as well as to the public, including logo lapel pins, embroidered patches, and T-Shirts, all sporting the Blue Water Navy logo. Our unique Agent Orange Care Giver pin recognizes and honors family and friends who gave their assistance to veterans suffering the ravages of dioxin poisoning. Sale of merchandise and donations are the sole means of operational support for our 501c3 organization.



THE AGENT ORANGE CARE GIVER PIN

For the priceless act of giving comfort to those who have suffered or continue to suffer from Agent Orange diseases.



THE BLUE WATER NAVY LOGO PIN

Show your support for our Vietnam veterans by purchasing and wearing this pin.

**Join our Association from the Website!
Everyone is invited to become a member.**

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association
P.O. Box 1035, Littleton, CO 80160-1035
www.BlueWaterNavy.org
Contact: Navy@BlueWaterNavy.org

HR-969 & S-681



WE ARE

**a non-profit 501c3
veterans association
helping offshore
Vietnam Veterans
regain their VA Health
Care and Disability
Compensation Benefits
earned in Vietnam**

WE WERE THERE TOO!

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM HERE?

The Veterans Administration is withholding our benefits!

The Blue Water Navy served “offshore Vietnam,” within the ports and harbors and in near-shore locations while providing naval gunfire support and other services, in very close proximity to the men who served on land. The men offshore are disabled by the identical diseases as are those who served on land, and in some cases have higher rates of certain cancers than land-based troops.

The VA is arbitrarily excluding these sea-based Vietnam veterans from the “presumption of exposure to herbicide.” The VA does this by declaring that all toxic wind-blown and waterborne Agent Orange-dioxin magically stopped at the coast line, never moving seaward to contaminate men afloat with the Seventh Fleet. That includes men in the harbors surrounded on three sides by land. The VA finalized this by actually changing the definition of a “Vietnam veteran” to be limited to those who had their ‘boots on the ground’. This change occurred 11 years after the passage of the Agent Orange Act of 1991 that originally included all Vietnam veterans.

Those on land and those at sea are dying of the same diseases. The VA is imposing a contrived separation between our various forces who served together. **HR-969** and **S-681** will provide VA benefits earned by those who served offshore and were injured by their service in the Vietnam War.



Blue Water sailors such as those on the Destroyer USS Rich (DD-820) above provided vital services in the designated combat zone of Vietnam such as downed pilot search and rescue, helicopter refueling, naval gunfire support for shore based troops, and search and seizure of enemy vessels and supplies. The Veterans Administration does not consider these to be acts performed by Vietnam War veterans, rather by mere Vietnam Era veterans.

Representative Chris Gibson (NY) has introduced legislation in the 114th Congress, HR-969, to force the Veterans Administration to adhere to the original purpose of the Agent Orange Act. An identical bill, S-681, was co-introduced in the Senate by Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (NY) and Steve Daines (MT).

Your help is needed to ensure the passage of this legislation!

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

Please contact your entire Congressional Delegation and tell them you need their vote on S-681 and HR-969, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act and GET IT PASSED!

What Can You Do To Help Us?

Call, email, or write your Senators and Representatives and ask them to co-sponsor the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act.

Tell them to support and pass HR -969 and S-681. Hearing from YOU, their constituent, is always their strongest motivation.

Support American veterans who were injured in War, and make your elected officials do the same!

Contact them now!



A Veteran - whether active duty, discharged, retired or reserve- is someone who, at some point in time, wrote a blank check made payable to The United States of America, for an amount up to and including his or her life.