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ARIZONA

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Recd 9/24/03

## United States Senate

September 19, 2003

Mr. Thomas A. Townsend

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Townsend:

Thank you for contacting my Tucson office. I understand you are reporting a contamination problem regarding the water supply and distribution system operated by the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

In order to be of assistance to you I have contacted the Secretary of the Navy on your behalf. In the meantime, if you should have additional information to provide or need other assistance please contact Bob Currie in my Tucson office at (520) 670-6334.

Again, Mr. Townsend, I wish to thank you for presenting me with this opportunity to be of service to you. Every effort will be made to assist you in this matter.

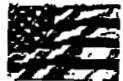
Sincerely,



John McCain  
United States Senator

JM/tbc

9/24/03  
spoke at length with Bob  
Currie on the subject. Gave  
him a briefing on the subject  
and will send on some current  
wingsong letters -



Thomas Townsend  
447 E 8th St  
Moscow, ID 83843-3013

13 OCTOBER 2003

Senator John McCain  
Tucson Field Office  
Attn: Bob Currie  
450 West Paseo Redondo, Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Replied, letter to  
Tucson office.

Dear Mr. Currie,

Enclosed are two recent letters concerning the Camp Lejeune water contamination issue which may have been sent to you earlier, my records don't make note of that.

The Washington Post claims to have an article on the subject ready for publication next week: 13<sup>th</sup> onward, the CID Criminal Investigator is taking depositions and Senator Jeffords is asking for a Congressional hearing.

I personally would like Environment & Public Works to have a joint hearing with Armed Services on this particular issue. There are plenty of witnesses that will testify, under oath, that they were directed to destroy water quality records and that the Navy/Marine Corps went out of their way to block ATSDR from any health assessments of Camp Lejeune and from 1980-1985 knew of contamination, but because of the liability and ego issues chose to remain silent and did so until 1999 or 2000. Some folks, mostly the troops still don't know of their exposure.

This appears to be a conspiracy to cover violations of environmental laws which may well become a criminal conspiracy as the case is opened up. Hope the Senator is willing to stop this type of action in the future.

Regards,  
Tom Townsend



Mr. Thomas Townsend

THE LEADERS AND BEST

24 OCTOBER 2003

Dr. David Williamson  
Director, Division of Health Studies  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
1600 Clifton Road, N.E. (mail stop E-31)  
Atlanta, GA 30333

CC'd  
Sonnenfeld  
McCain

Dear Doctor Williamson,

The Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch of your Division has conceded that the August 1997 PHA for MC3, Camp Lejeune and the ATSDR publication Volatile Organic Compounds in Drinking Water and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes, August 1998 are statistically invalidated due to utilization of incorrect water distribution system data in their development.

The author of the 1998 ATSDR publication is noted as Dr. Nancy L. Sonnenfeld. Dr. Sonnenfeld also is noted as an advisor in the preparation of the Camp Lejeune 1997 PHA.

Dr. Sonnenfeld and Dr. Wendy Kaye are co-authors of a professional "Original contribution" published in the American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 154, No. 10: 902-908 entitled Tetrachloro-ethylene in Drinking Water and Birth Outcomes at the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune, N. Carolina.

In the Tarawa Terrace dependent housing area of Camp Lejeune, a non-contiguous portion of the base, the predominant contaminant was tetrachloroethylene (PCE) as the Journal submission indicated. That does not mean that PCE was not a contaminant present in the raw water source wells or the finished water from either the Heddnot Point WTP or the Halcomb Boulevard WTP, both of which provided water at different periods to the

remainder of the base dependent housing areas and military  
troop billeting areas.

Concentrations of PCE are recorded in water quality monitoring data for a number of supply wells for both WTP's over a number of years and that pressure may alter the conclusions previously derived.

Perhaps, in view of the skewed/invalidated data in the two prior ATSDR studies requiring extensive re-evaluation following water distribution simulation modeling, Doctors Sonnenfeld and Kage may wish to revisit their conclusions published in the Journal.

This suggestion is not to imply any erroneous findings or conclusions in the Journal publication. There is however a great deal of public misunderstanding of the geological, hydrogeological and geographical nature of MCB, CMC; the physical separation of the Tarawa Terrace dependent housing area, on which their study focused, from the remainder of the base proper and the vast changes in the potable water distribution system with the construction of the newer WTP (Holcomb Boulevard) in 1972.

NEW SUBJECT: A letter from Dr. Falk dated 17 October 2003 was reviewed on 22 October which made the statement "As you know, the ATSDR Camp Lejeune survey progress report has been peer-reviewed by far experts outside the agency who are nationally recognized scientists and academic professors in their respective fields of environmental health and epidemiology."

Actually I did not know that since I had not been so informed. I have previously asked several times for the names and professional credentials/vitae of the peer review panel as well as the author(s) or advisors on the July 2003 progress report and have yet to receive a response.

As you are well aware there are many affected families

that have concluded the previous ATSDR reports are unreliable and the conclusions/assumptions not supportable because of the basic failure of the initial project team (1984-1985?) to confirm/verify the actual water distribution/transmission infrastructure prior to 1972 and for the period 1972-1985.

This basic initial error changes the assumptions of exposure rates, the magnitude and locales of the exposed population(s) and now requires the process of revising/re-calculating the health study to conform to reality.

Whether the water distribution infrastructure data was incorrectly or deliberately skewed or presented by Marine Corps Base personnel to the ATSDR team or misunderstood is an important factor; however, is a matter for EPA-4 Criminal Investigative Division to determine. Some individual from MCB passed data to an ATSDR staff member and those individuals will have to answer for their actions.

A point I wish to leave with you and the ATSDR staff of your division is value of peer review. There have been objective peer reviews of three separate ATSDR reports concerning the NPL site and the peer review panels, in every instance, have totally missed the underlying fact, in truth the foundation of the studies, that there were significant changes in the areas served by the WTP's at MCB, CLNC in 1972. All the studies / RHA's assumed the distribution/transmission system serving some 100,000 persons and having some ± 100 supply wells was a constant from 1968-1985 and that was not the case at all.

I thousands of individuals exposed to long-term usage/exposure to various VOC's and other contaminants such as THMs were excluded because of this initial failure to verify the exact distribution patterns that existed prior to 1972 and from 1972-1985.

I am still outraged by the date concerning PCB exposure at some 30 infants at Hazelton Gant housing or the 163 outcome of interest when I know ~~32~~ 456 children were born at the Naval Hospital between 1968-1985. And I know personally or indirectly more families that have endured wrongful deaths or adverse health effects than your date reflects.

Speaking for myself I always knew where my water supply came from when I lived at Camp Lejeune over the years and I am sure that my fellow marine and Navy neighbors also knew. You can understand why we, as a group, have been skeptical at the results presented to date.

I am tempted to continue assaulting ATSDR; however, the errors of the past can only be corrected today and move on with a study revision effort pending completion of the water modeling program plus additional tasks.

As a parent who lost a son to this negligent operation I don't expect your staff to feel remorse or guilt for studies based on a faulty data base.

What I would like ATSDR to do at this stage is:

- (1) Inform all participants in the ATSDR/Navy survey that the study results were skewed and consequently invalidated because of faulty initial data.
- (2) Inform these participants that the study will be re-constructed following completion of the water modeling program which needs to be explained as to purpose and scope.
- (3) Notify formally the Department of the Navy, HASC, Office of the Navy Judge Advocate, USPHS /Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as to what transpired and the remedial action being undertaken by ATSDR in progressing forward.

(4) Begin negotiations with the Department of the Navy and the Department of Defense to seek their material and financial assistance in the notification of all military personnel that served at MCB, CLNC from 1958 to 1985. Notification is defined as formal written communication with each individual informing them of their possible exposure, the nature of the contaminant(s) to which exposed, possible adverse health effects that may be experienced and nature of the availability of medical assistance from the Department of Veteran Affairs.

The responsibility for the logistics of the notification efforts cited above and the financial support for same rests upon the DOD/DON since they are the designated PRP's at this site.

ATSDRC has a responsibility to require full disclosure of the conditions created by the operation of a public water system that operated in violation of federal and state environmental laws, especially the Safe Drinking Water Act.

(5) Re-open the in-utero health survey for all children born at Camp Lejeune that lived at MCB, CLNC during their gestation period between 1958-1967 or to the earliest date that groundwater contamination can be verified as being present.

(6) Review the exclusion parameters previously utilized which are far too restrictive and unduly dismissed thousands of persons exposed to a contaminated public water supply. Exposure to and usage of MCB, CLNC water during the entire 1958-1985 period shall be considered as "source - connected" exposure unless proven otherwise. The venue of residence is not material if the ground dependent utilized MCB derived water.

(6) Continued. For statistical purposes, persons residing on base may be classified as Potentially higher/long-term exposed whereas persons living off base, but utilizing base facilities and drinking or otherwise utilizing base water could be classified in a lower priority classification, but not totally excluded.

Final determinations, if such exist, may be modified or determined by the results of the water modeling of the On-base distribution systems.

The actions requested above are not inconsequential in nature, magnitude or scope. However, considering that the Department of the Navy/USMC failed to notify former inhabitants of the contamination problems for some thirty-two years, and that notification came from ATSDR not the DoD/USM I feel justified in requesting their action at this time.

As for ATSDR's potential workload I would note that ATSDR has been involved with Camp Lejeune since 1992 and we are still awaiting a definitive explanation of what transpired and a lucid cause and effect relationship statement.

Many former CIVC inhabitants, mostly the unmarried Marines and Navy members, remain unaware of their exposure. ATSDR cannot continue to ignore their exposure nor of the dependent military families. The in-utero study had original priority and was justified. The passage of time reveals the exposure was all-encompassing.

As one who is aware of the adverse health effects on the total population I expect justice to be done for: (1) the infant that have passed or today continue to suffer adverse health effects related to a contaminated public water supply system, (2) for the civilian mothers and dependent children that may have been affected and that includes all of those family members since 1958 as noted earlier. (3) the Marines and Navy personnel

serving at Camp Lejeune, as ordered to do so, that also were subject to exposure and also may be adversely affected.

The Camp Lejeune contamination incident is probably the largest NPL site study undertaken by ATSDR and poses new problems not only in the numbers of individuals involved but also in the range of contaminants, the existence of groundwater contamination for so many years, the long human exposure periods and the nature of the governmental PRP.

This is not a modest study of modest communities and the likes of W.R. Grace and Company or Dow Chemical. The MCB, CLNC mess involves thousands of exposed individuals, constantly on the move, and a DOD/DON that chose to sweep the damages under the rug and to maintain silence for over three decades.

As for my suggested actions I do not think they are too much to ask for considering that some of us have served this nation faithfully since the 1940's, through hot wars and cold wars and haven't asked for much since then. We surely did not <sup>ask</sup> for our lives to be imperiled as they have been in the pine forests of Coastal North Carolina.

Tempus fugit. Let us go forward —

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_, USA 14-1 annex

MAJOR, USMC (Retired)

CC: Director, CDC/ATSDR  
CMC, HQMC  
HQMC (Code 14)

DON, OJAG (Code 15)

EPA 4, CID

SECNAV

Senators Jeffords, Craig, Crofts, Werner and McCain

JOHN McCAIN  
ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,  
SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

# United States Senate

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December 3, 2003

Mr. Thomas A. Townsend

~~447 E. 1st S.~~

~~12/12/2003~~

Dear Mr. Townsend:

In response to my latest inquiry on your behalf, enclosed you will find the letter that I have received from the Department of the Navy, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps.

After reading the letter over, I think that you will find it to be self-explanatory. Should you have any further questions regarding this situation, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

John McCain  
United States Senator

JM/tbc  
Enclosure(s)

Return letter from HAWC  
MGEN. Tony Cerwin is  
filed @ 18 NOV 03 the  
date it ad enclosures were  
mailed to Sen. McCain.



Mr. Thomas A. Townsend  
447 E 8th St.  
Moscow, ID 83843

7 December 2003

The Honorable John McCain  
Tucson Field Office, ATTN: Mr. Bob Currie  
450 W. Paseo Redondo, Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Subj: Camp Lejeune Water Contamination Inquiry

Dear Senator McCain,

I want to thank you personally for taking the time to inquire of SECNAV the conduct of the Marine Corps relative to the contamination of the water supply and the adverse health effects resulting therefrom.

The material granted by MG GEN Tony Corwin USMC, Legislative Assistant to the Commandant, is far more informative than a similar response made to Chairman Warner several years ago and less disingenuous than the previous version. That was noted on the first read.

I plan to share the material with my Marine/Navy secretariat for their review and possible reclama(s) to noted errors and missing data. My Secretariat comprises four Marines, all of whom lost children to chemical contaminant poisoning, and one LCDR, MC, USN with lymphoma cancer.

In closing I would hope the Senator would note that HSCMC says not one word about the thousands of Marines and Sailors or their family members exposed and forgotten about now that they no longer are on active duty.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Thomas A. Townsend  
Major, USMC (Ret)  
USMIA '54

Mr. Thomas A. Townsend  
447 E 8th St  
Moscow, ID 83843

7 December 2003.

The Honorable John McCain,  
Tucson Field Office      ATTN: Mr. Bob Currie  
450 W. Paseo Redondo, Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Currie,

Enclosed is a dated but remarkably accurate description of how the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) operates when investigating a federal facility on the NPL.

The Marine Corps is using the ATSDR as their flesh jacket to deflect litigation and to string the health assessment out forever.

The only assessments/studies they have accomplished since beginning in 1991/1992 have been three publications: (1) 1997 Public Health Assessment, (2) Publication Adverse Volatile Organic Compounds in Drinking Water and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes (1998) and (3) Progress Report July 2003. These have all been compromised because ATSDR failed to realize, for one reason or another, that the water distribution system for MCB, CLNC changed radically in 1972 when a new water treatment plant came on line.

That fact alone, because the major dependent housing areas were involved, left out some 6,000-7,000 infants from their in-utero survey.

ATSDR has managed to minimize/marginelize the magnitude of the damage very cleverly. My birth records from N.C. Division of Public Health reflects 33,456 births at the U.S. Naval Hospital CLNC between 1968-1985. ATSDR, as cited on page 4 of Hemic's letter, has gored that down to 12,598.

I believe they now have whittled the affected infants down to 163 "outcomes of interest". The outcomes being chosen by HTSDR and do not include the majority of problems that my group knows about.

Not wanting this to drag on I'll close on a statement. As a former enlisted Marine (1946) to my retirement as a Major in 1974 I tried to be a good leader and follower. Accomplishment of our collective mission and the care of my troops was of the essence.

Between 1968-1985 I figure some 300,000 plus Marines and Sailors were exposed to this contamination, not all were affected however, many have been and they, to date have been totally ignored and forgotten. In Korea and Vietnam we went to great lengths to retrieve our dead and wounded from the field of battle yet today's leadership just blaxx off those men and women who have been adversely affected by a negligent possibly criminally negligent, operation of a public water system.

I pray for an outside independent group of qualified toxicologists and epidemiologists to be collected and funded so that some conclusions may be reached.

HQMC pretends it had nothing to do with the health problems: there were no standards at the time, we didn't know, the personnel are too disengaged to find etc ad nauseum

Enough said%. Thanks to the Senator and to you for the assistance so far. It is my hope that this debacle can be mitigated, even at this late date. I cannot get my son back, he I am sure he knows <sup>the</sup> into the battle for him and won't give up-

---

Tom Koenig  
MAJOR, USMC (Ret.)



Thomas Townsend  
447 E 8th St  
Moscow, ID 83843-3013

15 Dec 2003

Senator John McCain  
United States Senate / Member, Armed Services Committee  
Tucson Field Office ( ATTN: Mr. Bob Currie )  
450 W. Paseo Redondo, Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Camp Lejeune Water Contamination at Terawa Terrace - A  
USMC Dependent Housing Area

Dear Senator McCain,

Enclosed is an Action Brief for the Commanding General, MCB, CLNC that sums up the Marine Corps attitude re: accepting responsibility for causing injury to its service members and their dependents or possibly causing more.

Background: The USMC drilled one artesian wells about 900 feet down gradient from a dry cleaning complex that stored its waste solvent in a sump as they were not on a sanitary sewer line. There was ~~geographic planning~~ by the USMC engineers, the sump leaked and the plume reached the USMC wells and contaminated them. What to do? Much hand wringing and the Action Brief was provided.

Alternative 7 is a concept that only people like the Nazis at the Wannsee conference could think to be a viable solution - the price is right, we only jeopardize the lives of several thousand innocent people to cover up a dumb engineering plan that failed to complete an adequate site

assessment before drilling the well bore.

Fortunately Alternative 7 was not chosen; however, I hold Colonel M.G. Lilley, USMC that presented that Action Brief to the CG as one dumb field grade officer that has earned my undying enmity.

The good news is that common sense prevailed, the bad news is that the Marine Corps cannot concede it caused the contamination problems elsewhere on the base where an entire Marine Division, Force Troops Atlantic, and some 60,000 dependents were exposed to VOC contaminated water for years.

The response from the Commandant's Legislative Assistant to you, in reply to your earlier inquiry to SECNAV, of 18 November 2003 seems to emphasize what a nice job that the Navy and Marine Corps are doing in remediation and mitigation. Being responsible adherents to congressional environmental laws.

Taking responsibility for causing the contamination by a vast array of toxic materials is what the Corps and Navy are not doing and are utilizing the co-opted Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry studies (ATSDR) as a continuing delaying tactic. An ATSDR study historically is inclusive by design - Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue. An environmental flak jacket.

Again, thank you for your intervention to date.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John H. Lammer

MAJOR, USMC (Ret.)

**HEADQUARTERS, MARINE CORPS BASE, CAMP LEJEUNE**

## ACTION BRIEF

Date: 1 MAR 1985

Staff Section: Assistant Chief of Staff, Facilities

Subj: ALTERNATIVES FOR PROVIDING WATER TO THE TARAWA TERRACE AREA

Problem: Because of the recent shutdown of two water wells in the Tarawa Terrace water system due to the presence of Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) in the raw water, sufficient well capacity is not expected to be available to satisfy water demand this summer. A shortage of 300,000 gpd (gallons per day) is expected this spring/summer if the present situation remains unchanged.

Background/Discussion: The following alternatives are listed as possible options for addressing the problem.

a. Alternative 1: New well, Tarawa Terrace. Estimated  
cost: \$80,000.

**(gallons per minute).** Advantages: Increase capacity by 100 gpm to 250 gpm

Disadvantages: Based on recent new wells and test wells in Tarawa Terrace, water in significant quantities is difficult to locate (e.g., well TT-25 is producing approximately 100 gpm although designed for 150 gpm. New well would be abandoned after completion of expansion of Holcomb Blvd plant in approximately two years. Wells in Montford Point area are high in iron content. Construction of a new well by spring is questionable but could possibly be completed.

b. Alternative 2: Transport water via tanker trucks from other Camp Lejeune plants. Assume hauling 300,000 gpd with 5,000 gallon tankers which would require 60 trips per day. Assuming a tanker can make 12 trips per day, a total of five tanker trucks would be required. Estimated cost: \$2,000 per day.

**Advantages:** Timely method of providing water.

Disadvantages: Logistics of loading/unloading/transporting; nonavailability of trucks.

c. Alternative 3: Tap to City of Jacksonville water line at Lejeune Blvd. Informal discussion with city officials indicate they probably could not provide 300,000 gpd at this time. No costs for taps or rates were quoted. A water line under Lejeune Blvd would have to be constructed. Estimated cost: Unknown.

Advantages: Timely response to problem, if available.

Subj: ALTERNATIVES FOR PROVIDING WATER TO THE TARAWA TERRACE AREA

Disadvantages: Problems associated with connecting separate systems. Chance of requests for reciprocating favors from the City of Jacksonville would increase. VOCs in the city system could be higher than we are now facing.

d. Alternative 4: Change schedule of Holcomb Blvd plant contract to construct the water line to Tarawa Terrace immediately. The expansion of the Holcomb Blvd plant includes running a water line to TT and Camp Johnson. Contract has been awarded. Estimated cost: Unknown (additional cost to contractor).

Advantages: No unnecessary construction would be required.

Disadvantages: Serious doubts exist that contractor would complete line prior to high usage months. Line serving Tarawa Terrace is a 16" submerged line across Northeast Creek.

e. Alternative 5: Construct 8" water line from Brewster Blvd to Tarawa Terrace. Line could be tied to the railroad trestle to cross Northeast Creek. Estimated cost: \$75,000.

Advantages: Timely response to problem.

Disadvantages: Problems related to material procurement and construction could surface. The temporary line may require State approval. Pressures and elevations of the two systems have been investigated to determine feasibility.

f. Alternative 6: Modify Tarawa Terrace plant to include aeration or granular activated carbon (GAC) capable of removing VOCs. Estimated cost: \$300,000.

Advantages: Removal of VOCs would eliminate the problem.

Disadvantages: The modifications could not be made in the time frame required. The Tarawa Terrace plant will be discontinued upon completion of Holcomb Blvd plant expansion.

g. Alternative 7: Turn on contaminated wells that have been shut down if required to maintain adequate water levels. Estimated cost: None.

Advantages: Adequate quantity of water could be provided.

Disadvantages: Although no maximum contaminant levels have been set for VOCs and no regulations presently prevent using water containing VOCs, the potential health hazards must be weighed against the need and cost of providing water from other sources.

CLW  
0000000000

Subj: ALTERNATIVES FOR PROVIDING WATER TO THE TARAWA TERRACE AREA

Recommended Action: Alternative 5, construct 8" line from Brewster Blvd to Tarawa Terrace. Preliminary engineering study indicates this would provide approximately 250 gpm (360,000 gpd).

Advantages:

- (1) Timely - target date for completion 1 June 1985.
- (2) Availability of water - can draw from Holcomb Blvd and Hadnot Point system.
- (3) Auxiliary line for future use during repair/maintenance of other system.
- (4) Minimum cost.
- (5) Potential future use to return raw water from Tarawa Terrace wells.

Very respectfully,



M. G. LILLEY  
AC/S, Facilities

Decision on Recommended Action:

CS      Concur \_\_\_\_\_ Nonconcur \_\_\_\_\_

CG      Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

*Wld more  
info as we  
discussed it*

CLW

000004715

Thomas Townsend  
447 E 8th St  
Moscow, ID 83843-3013

15 December 2003

Mr. Bob Currie

Senator John McCain Field Office

450 W. Paleo Rdondo, Suite 200

Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Bob,

Enclosed are two of the early total Trihalomethane (TTHM's) surveillance reports compiled by the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency. HQMC concedes these inspections took place; however, dismiss them as laboratory errors or degradation of pipes and materials at the Water Treatment Plants. See Comm Letter to Sen. McCain of 18 Nov 03. I don't want to overload you with detail so I'll come to the point. If I received a report from my M.D. following an exam that had suspicious I believe I would take some remedial action very quickly.

Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command received these reports as well and had the brain power to figure out what might be wrong and to direct action. They didn't. And MCB, Elvive messed around with hit and miss monitoring of all the supply wells and it wasn't until February 1985 that Well #651, next to a salvage yard, measured 17-18000 ppb of TCE, the largest concentration found at CLNC.

Full-time monitoring at selected wells began in 1985, but this well #651, was missed by the Navy contracted experts and continued to leak toxic VOC's into the water systems. That well is close to Helcoint's Boulevard Plant, the assumed clean plant, but given the switching between ± 100 supply wells that is difficult to prove who a source.

HQMC claims it is doing a responsible remediation project. Too bad it cannot accept the responsibility for the contamination it caused -

Regards,

Tom Townsend



Thomas Townsend

1/10/04

Dear Mr. Currie,

Would ask that the enclosed petition to the Senator be made available to him and staff, particularly at the Armed Services Committee and his D.C. staff, to read.

This covering, actually a criminal conspiracy as the CID is discovering, needs to be recognized nationally as a disgraceful action that needs closure and only Congress has the power to direct DOD to take the actions needed to begin the changes needed.

A sideshow that demonstrates the deliberate actions of HQMC to de-rail anything related to the contamination problem is outlined in the enclosed e-mails.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) was going to conduct a health study of all in-utero infants born at Camp Lejeune between 1968-1985. Their telephone survey of some ± 16,000 mothers was to have begun in September 1998. Actually there were some 34,000 children born at CLNC, but somehow that group was marginalized (I suspect w/ USMC help). The movie "Civil Action" was due for release in December 1998, that warned HQMC that the public could make connections, etc. questions and somehow postponed the study until September 99.

This is not the first HQMC has silenced public inquiries but the e-mails document this one surely. The EPA Criminal Investigative Division is working this as a conspiracy to violate environmental laws (Safe Drinking Water Act etc.)

Lastly, I have some old info on contamination in 1982/83 at Airforce Plant #44 at Tucson. Interesting?

Regards,  
Tom Townsend

1/20/04

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

From: Tom Townsend

To: Bob Currie, Office of Senator John McCain  
Tucson Field Office

Chemical

SUBJ: Contamination of Government Facilities, Petition for Redress of Grievances by the US Congress, and Marine Corps Interference with ATSDR public health studies-

A. I came across a letter from 1983 between DOD and EPA concerning chemical contamination (TCE) at Air Force Plant #44 which I presume was located in Tucson. EPA in Washington at the request of DOD did establish a maximum contaminant level of 5-50 ppb for that site. I find that interesting because the USMC claims no responsibility for contamination levels in 1985 of 17-20,000 ppb for the same chemical.

B. Enclosed is a petition for the Senator that outlines the intransigence of the Navy and Marine Corps to accept responsibility for causing the problems at Camp Lejeune and some actions that Congress could take to alleviate the situation. It is hoped that in time all the affected population that are now in contact as a group will submit this petition to their respective members of Congress and that Congress will take some action.

C. Enclosed are some internal e-mails that demonstrate the extent the USMC will go to to cover their butt/trail. ATSDR was planning to start an in-utero health survey in the fall of 1998. Because of the



Thomas A. Townsend  
447 E 8th St  
Moscow ID 83841-3013

22 Jan 04

Mr Bob Currie,

Background: The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Control (ATSDR) was scheduled to begin an in-utero health survey on some 34,000 children born at Camp Lejeune between 1968-1985, a period of maximum vapor contamination by volatile organic compounds in the ground water.

The ATSDR survey was to begin in Oct/Nov 1998. Homic and the Navy Environmental Health Center and Camp Lejeune had the study postponed for one year so it didn't draw attention to the contamination problem when the movie Civil Action came out in Nov/Dec 1998. That was a similar situation in Woburn, Mass and involved chemical contamination by W.R. Grace Co., who seems always in the environmental news.

I think the lines I've highlighted will give you some idea of one subplot in this whole covering. A couple of last items:

- (1) No active duty personnel have ever been notified of their exposure between 68-85.
- (2) There was burn doage given to ATSDR by Camp Lejeune utility personnel to start the covering which is still on-going.
- (3) I lost a son to in-utero poisoning after I came back from Vietnam and then had to go back. I think my wife deserves to be told earlier than 2003 that the 1967 death of her