



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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LFL/KK287
23 OCT 2000

Major Thomas A. Townsend, USMC (Ret.)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Major Townsend,

This is in response to several of your recent letters, specifically: three letters, 23 August 2000, 24 September 2000 and 10 October 00 to me; a 29 August 2000 letter to Ms. Kelly Dreyer; and a 1 September 2000 letter to General James L. Jones, Jr. These letters, along with the other letters you've written to this Headquarters ask several questions and express your concerns and opinions regarding the ongoing survey of personnel who previously resided at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. To date, with this letter, we have responded to all of your letters.

Your recent letters, among other things, question the Marine Corps public outreach program for this issue and the support the Marine Corps has provided to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). I believe the October 17, 2000 letter to you from our Public Affairs Office articulates our efforts to assist ATSDR with their survey. Regarding financial support, The Department of the Navy, through the Environmental Restoration, Navy Account, fully funded the 1997 Camp Lejeune Public Health Assessment and the 1998 Volatile Organic Compounds in Drinking Water and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Report. The Marine Corps has also assisted ATSDR's efforts to identify the affected population by accessing various military databases, including data from the Defense Manpower Data Center, and by providing all available and relevant housing and hospital records for the period of the survey and previous studies.

Throughout this process, we have made a diligent effort to assist ATSDR in reaching and informing potential survey participants about this study. We established several methods to provide information and answer questions raised by you and other interested individuals. As you are aware, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune has established a web site, <http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/watersurvey.html>, that contains specific information about this survey; and our Installation Restoration Program Administrative Record is also available at website <http://www.bakerenv.com/camplejeune/>. Additionally, the Marine Corps set up a toll free telephone number, (877) 261-9782, specifically designed to answer questions regarding this issue. At this point, our primary focus is in continuing to take action and cleanup areas that were contaminated in the past, and to provide ATSDR assistance with their survey. Specific questions regarding the survey, and concerns related to the effects of potential exposure to contaminants should be directed to ATSDR at their toll free number (888) 42-ATSDR, extension 5132.

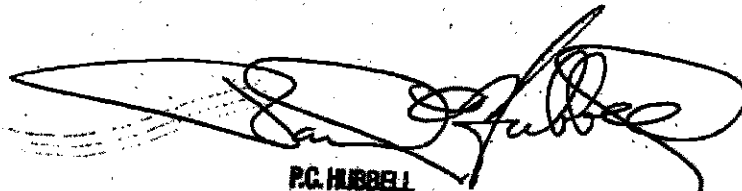
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We encourage you in the future to use the above mechanisms to continue to track the progress of this issue.

We are very concerned about the welfare of all Marines, Sailors, and their families and will continue to assist ATSDR to get the word out to our Marines and Sailors that are among the target populations for the survey.



P.C. HUBBELL
Deputy Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
for Installations and Logistics (Facilities)

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