



VIETNAM AGENT ORANGE RELIEF & RESPONSIBILITY CAMPAIGN

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Statement for Agent Orange Day - August 10, 2008

On the occasion of Memorial Day for Agent Orange victims, the Vietnam Agent Orange Relief & Responsibility Campaign extends its solidarity to victims of Agent Orange in Vietnam, the United States, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and anywhere else they may live.

On this day, 47 years ago, the U.S. government began spraying the toxic chemical Agent Orange over the people and land of Vietnam. This use of chemical warfare, prohibited by international law and morality, constitutes a violation of the human rights of those exposed to Agent Orange.

The intended victims – the Vietnamese people – continue to suffer horrendous illnesses and disabilities now extending to second and third generations of their children and grandchildren. The land of Vietnam still contains “hot spots” where the dioxin contained in Agent Orange continues to poison the soil and the crops and sicken the residents.

Those who were ordered to spray Agent Orange by their governments, including millions of U.S. veterans and Vietnamese Americans, also suffer the horrific effects of the dioxin.

While many of the countries who participated in this chemical warfare have assisted their veterans to some extent, the Vietnamese people have yet to receive justice or compensation for their suffering.

The Vietnam Agent Orange Relief & Responsibility Campaign, a national organization dedicated to assuring justice for Vietnam’s Agent Orange victims, is intensifying its efforts to achieve this goal!

- We continue to support the lawsuit brought by the Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA) against the chemical companies who profited from the manufacture of Agent Orange.
- We are preparing to launch a corporate campaign asking Dow and Monsanto to do the right thing and meet their responsibilities to the victims of Agent Orange.
- We are organizing and mobilizing the U.S. people to demand that our government provide large scale compensation to Vietnamese Agent Orange survivors and clean up the “hot spots.”
- We are now getting ready to welcome our 4th Agent Orange Justice Tour to 10 U.S. cities this fall, in conjunction with VAVA.

The Vietnam Agent Orange Relief & Responsibility Campaign renews our commitment to expand our activities in support of justice for Agent Orange victims in Vietnam and around the world! Working together and strengthening each others’ work, we will surely succeed!
