



# National Association of Atomic Veterans, Inc.

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A 501 (c) 19 Military Veterans Organization

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To all Senators and Representatives of Congress:

As per U.S. Governmental records, there were approximately **1 million** Military personnel exposed to ionizing radiation particles while performing their sworn duty to protect the national security and to uphold & defend the Constitution of the United States of America, from July, 1945 to September, 1992. In the vast majority of instances, the long term effects of exposure to ionizing radiation particles has precipitated a host of deleterious health anomalies both upon themselves, and in many cases by genetic mutations acting upon the reproductive processes, upon their children.

It has now been 60 years since the birth of the Atomic Bomb, and the beginning of long term effects of ionizing radiation induced mutants on the health of **America's Atomic Veterans**. These health anomalies may not be adequately diagnosed until 50 years, or more, after the exposure event. Of the more than 280,000 atomic veteran's claims for service connected ionizing radiation exposure compensation, only a paltry 50 have been approved by those Governmental agencies and Contractors who are charged with assisting these veterans, while minimizing U. S. Government's liability risks in these areas.

The U.S. Congress poured millions of taxpayer dollars into the relief fund for the families of the victims of the horrible events of September 11, 2001. **America's Atomic Veterans** grieve for those who perished on that horrible morning in our history, however these same veterans are still dying on their own "home field of battle," while no one in Washington appears to show any interest in their welfare, or their labored and costly continued quest for fair and proper recognition.

These veterans have not only had to fend for themselves, against high medical and prescription drug costs for themselves, but they have also had to fend for the medical needs of their radiation induced genetically impaired children, who are also paying the extreme penalty for their parent's service to a (seemingly) ungrateful country.

On behalf of my fellow **American Atomic Veterans**, I ask for your formal, and dedicated support for **H.R. 2962**, cited as the "**Atomic Veterans Relief Act**." We are compiling a list of Representatives and Senators who sign on to this bill, and will post the updated list on our website, so as to let all of **America's Atomic Veterans**, know who in the U. S. Congress is standing in their corner.

I will also state that without a doubt, any one of **America's Atomic Veterans** would be more than willing to, once again, take up arms to protect the United States of America, even though it is blatantly apparent that the American public and many of our Representatives and Senators continue to show little or no interest in their continued welfare, totally absent of any proper recognition.

I find it interesting that the United Kingdom has awarded an **Atomic Radiation Exposure Medal** to the Brits, Aussies and New Zealander's who participated in U.K. sponsored Atomic Weapons Tests. The recipients of these medals view them as their version of our Purple Heart. For their sacrifice, they were amply compensated, and cared for by their Government. America, however; has been strangely silent in this area.

We feel strongly that **America's Atomic Veterans** (exposed to any degree of ionizing radiation) should be given the same V. A. treatment classification as recipients of the Purple Heart, without fail, without question and without means weighted formulas. A wound inflicted by the bullet of the enemy will, in most cases, heal and not cause further damage to the wounded, or to the children of the wounded. Radiation exposure poisoning, however is forever and will continue to precipitate serious health issues until death. It is not difficult to determine which event poses the highest risk factor.

We ask that you join those of us who are willing to listen to **America's Atomic Veterans'** urgent requests for assistance, and proper recognition, and to join those of us who truly wish to give a damn about the remaining years of their "un-natural" life span situations, which were not of their own choosing.

**R. J. RITTER**  
National Commander

**"No amount of ionizing radiation exposure has ever been scientifically proven to be safe."**