Yu, Cathy [redacted]

From: Bukowczyk, Jeremy MAJ USARMY OSD OASD LA (US)
[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 3:26 PM
To: Yu, Cathy [redacted]; Berner, Hannah [redacted]
Cc: Munchmeyer, Theodore W (Ted) Col USAF OSD OASD LA (US); Bukowczyk, Jeremy MAJ USARMY OSD OASD LA (US)
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Senate Special Committee on Aging - Response to Questions 2 March 2016 Inquiry
Attachments: One Page Chem-Bio Database Summary 22MAR2016.docx

Hi Ladies,

Following up to your question about the number of people in the database, attached is an information paper that provides the number of individuals in the database and the background of the entries. (also pasted below for your convenience)

The DoD and VA Chemical Biological Warfare database

The DoD and VA Chemical Biological Warfare database consists of three parts and contains information captured, extracted, and compiled from reports on testing, transporting, or storing chemical and/or biological weapons agents from 1942 to the present. It contains 43,856 names, broken-down as follows: 6,730 names in the World War II database, 6,400 names in the Project 112/SHAD database, and 30,726 in the Cold War database. Testing of biological agents on human subjects ended in 1969; testing of chemical agents on human subjects ended in 1975.

WORLD WAR II (MUSTARD-LEWISITE): Both sides produced millions of tons of chemical agents that were never used in combat. The U.S. researched the development of protective clothing and skin ointments that would prevent or lessen the severe blistering of mustard agents. There were three basic types of experiments that potentially exposed Service members: Patch or Drop Tests, Chamber Tests, and Field Tests. This WWII database includes data on individuals affected by a 1943 German Air Raid on U.S. Ships carrying Mustard in Bari Harbor, Italy. In the early 1990's, DoD reviewed Mustard and Lewisite records and identified 6,730 volunteers. Not all 6,730 identify their type of exposure. A database search showed 4,618 personnel exposed. It is believed the difference between 4,618 and 6,730 is a control group of those not exposed. The 4,618 is broken down as follows: 3,336 were in chamber tests, 171 were in field tests, 889 were in patch tests, and the remaining 222 were "other."

PROJECT 112/SHAD: DoD initiated Project 112 to defend the U.S. against CB threats. Project 112 consisted of both land-based and sea-based tests (Project SHAD) conducted between 1962 and 1974. Project SHAD was designed to identify U.S. warships' vulnerabilities to attacks with chemical or biological warfare agents and to develop procedures to counter such attacks while maintaining a war-fighting capability. Tests exposed vessels to VX, Pasteurella tularensis, Coxiella burnetti, staphylococcal enterotoxin B, cadmium sulfide, Bacillus globigii, or Serratia marcescens. DoD began developing the Project SHAD test repository in 2000. The database was established in January, 2002. DoD completed the SHAD test repository in 2004. SHAD participants are broken down into four broad groups, based on their potential exposures. Group A consisted of more than 3,000 participants whose possible exposure was limited to one of two agents: Bacillus globigii or methylacetoacetate. Group B consisted
of some 850 participants, mostly marines, whose only possible exposure was to trioctyl phosphate (TEHP or TOF). Group C consisted of about 720 participants who were in tests where active agents were used. Finally, Group D consisted of roughly 850 subjects possibly exposed to simulants who were not in groups A, B, or C, nor exposed to any active warfare agents.

COLD WAR (EDGEWOOD, ETC.): Since World War II, DoD periodically evaluated the CB threat and the ability of U.S. forces to fight on a chemical and biological battlefield. In some programs Service members were present but not test subjects, and in other programs, they were volunteer human subjects. DoD identified 30,726 veterans possibly exposed. Since 2004, the DoD and VA Chemical Biological Warfare database was updated 102 times. From 2004 to 2010, the VA received CDROMs from DoD. On April 9, 2010, the VA was granted online access to the database.

V/R,
Jeremy

MAJ Jeremy Bukowczyk
Special Assistant
OASD-Legislative Affairs
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Yu, Cathy [redacted]]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 5:14 PM
To: Munchmeyer, Theodore W (Ted) Col USAF OSD OASD LA (US); Berner, Hannah [redacted]
Cc: Bukowczyk, Jeremy MAJ USARMY OSD OASD LA (US)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Senate Special Committee on Aging - Response to Questions 2 March 2016 Inquiry

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

[redacted]

[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Munchmeyer, Theodore W (Ted) Col USAF OSD OASD LA (US) [Caution-mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 4:51 PM
To: Berner, Hannah [redacted]>; Yu, Cathy [redacted]>
Cc: Munchmeyer, Theodore W (Ted) Col USAF OSD OASD LA (US) <[redacted]>; Bukowczyk, Jeremy MAJ USARMY OSD OASD LA (US) [redacted]
Subject: Senate Special Committee on Aging - Response to Questions 2 March 2016 Inquiry

Ms. Berner, Ms. Yu,

I am providing responses to your request for additional information on March 2nd.

1. The VA mentioned a process that DoD has in place to try and correct an existing military record. A veteran can petition to have their military record corrected through a DD Form 149 along with submission of evidence. What is this process like? Typically, how long does this process take?

RESPONSE: Each service has a process for addressing errors, omissions, or oversights in military records. The below websites provide FAQs and details on the operations of each board in addition to processing procedures.

ARMY: Caution-http://arba.army.pentagon.mil/abcmr-overview.cfm

NAVY/MARINE CORPS: Caution-http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/bcnr/Pages/Caution-home.aspx

AIR FORCE: Caution-
http://www.afpc.af.mil/afveteraninformation/airforceboardforcorrectionofmilitaryrecords/index.asp

2. On the Final Technical Report, the contract period with Battelle appears to be from September 2011-April 2015. Our understanding is that the VA was granted access to the Chem-Bio Database in 2004 and therefore, must have been created before then. It seems that the contract period likely would have started before 2011. Are there further parts of the contract that we are missing? Can you clarify the exact contract period? Additionally, can you supply us with any supporting documents related to this contract that we might be missing?

RESPONSE: Per earlier discussions the database has been in use well before 2011. The 2011 effort was a contract to thoroughly review all documents available and to update the database accordingly. After an exhaustive search through various organizations, we were unable to locate any contract files prior to the 2011 effort. Federal Acquisition Regulation 4.805, Storage, Handling, and Disposal of Contract files lays out various timelines for retention of contract records and for large dollar contracts the retention period is 6 years, 3 months hence no contract files are available for previous efforts. If we do find any such files, I will provide them accordingly.

V/R

Ted Munchmeyer, Colonel, USAF
Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary of Defense
[redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Berner, Hannah (Aging) [Caution-mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Munchmeyer, Theodore W (Ted) Col USAF OSD OASD LA (US); Yu, Cathy (Aging)
Cc: Bukowczyk, Jeremy MAJ USARMY OSD OASD LA (US); Hudson, William A Jr CIV OSD OGC (US)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Seante Special Committee on Aging - Response to Questions

Hi Col. Munchmeyer,

We recently had a meeting with the VA about this issue and came up with a follow-up question that we wanted to pose to DoD:

1. The VA mentioned a process that DoD has in place to try and correct an existing military record. A veteran can petition to have their military record corrected through a DD Form 149 along with submission of evidence. What is this process like? Typically, how long does this process take?

Additionally, we have a question regarding the DoD contract with Battelle Memorial Institute to create the Chem-Bio Database and list of testing sites:

2. On the Final Technical Report, the contract period with Battelle appears to be from September 2011-April 2015. Our understanding is that the VA was granted access to the Chem-Bio Database in 2004 and therefore, must have been created before then. It seems that the contract period likely would have started before 2011. Are there further parts of the contract that we are missing? Can you clarify the exact contract period? Additionally, can you supply us with any supporting documents related to this contract that we might be missing?

Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

Thanks,
Hannah

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