

## Veterans' Diseases Associated with Agent Orange

VA assumes that certain diseases can be related to a Veteran's qualifying military service. We call these "presumptive diseases."

VA has recognized certain cancers and other health problems as presumptive diseases associated with [exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides](#) during military service. Veterans and their survivors may be eligible for benefits for these diseases.

**[AL Amyloidosis](#)**A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs

**[Chronic B-cell Leukemias](#)**A type of cancer which affects white blood cells

**[Chloracne \(or similar acneform disease\)](#)**A skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.

**[Diabetes Mellitus Type 2](#)**A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin

**[Hodgkin's Disease](#)**A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia

**[Ischemic Heart Disease](#)**A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain

**[Multiple Myeloma](#)**A cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow

**[Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma](#)**A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue

**[Parkinson's Disease](#)**A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement

**[Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset](#)**A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of herbicide exposure.

**[Porphyria Cutanea Tarda](#)**A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.

**[Prostate Cancer](#)**Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men

**[Respiratory Cancers \(includes lung cancer\)](#)**Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus

**[Soft Tissue Sarcomas \(other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma\)](#)**A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues



## Military Trivia



1. The 1957 film "Johnny Tremain" — based on a well known children's book — depicts events leading up to what war?
  - A) French and Indian War
  - B) American Revolution
  - C) War of 1812
  - D) U.S. Civil War
2. The 1984 movie "Killing Fields" - starring Sam Waterson and John Malkovich—depicts the bloody aftermath of what country's civil war?
  - A) China
  - B) Spain
  - C) Cambodia
  - D) Nigeria
3. The 1963 movie "55 Days of Peking" - which starred Charleston Heston and Ava Gardner - dramatizes the events of what war?
  - A) War of Eight Princes
  - B) First Opium War
  - C) Second Opium War
  - D) Boxer Rebellion

### Last Month's Trivia Answers:

1. Battle of Jutland
2. Battle of Verdun
3. Battle of Amiens

The Knox County Veterans Service Office **CANNOT ACCEPT DONATIONS**. The office appreciates the generosity towards our county veterans, but please NO DONATIONS.

Here are some veteran organizations that can take donations for our veterans:

County American Legion Post 's, Disabled American Veterans Post, AMVETS Post's, V.F.W. Post's and Knox County Joint Veterans Council (Military Burials)

**Thank you!**



## This Month in Military History

The Month of May has its notable events, and we begin by reminding everyone that this May 27, 2013, Memorial Day will be celebrated as a day to remember the men and women who gave their lives so that we can enjoy the long holiday weekend in peace and prosperity. Without the sacrifices of the men and women who serve their country in the armed services, both in peace and in war, here and around the world, there would be no security against the tyranny that engulfs much of the world.

On May 6, 1942, General Jonathan Wainwright surrendered Corregidor and its 11,500 man garrison to the Japanese. The men on The Rock bravely withstood a month long siege until lack of food and supplies made further resistance impossible.

On May 7th of that same year, the Battle of the Coral Sea marked the first naval encounter in history in which the opponents fought each other with air power alone. During the two day battle, American planes sank one light cruiser, the Shoho, and damaged two others. The Japanese sank the USS. Lexington. The Battle of the Coral Sea halted the Japanese advance on Australia.

In 1943, on May 13 to be specific, the German forces in Africa surrendered. After Tunis fell to the British and Bizerte to the Americans, the German forces in Africa under General Jungen von Armin surrendered. The Allies captured 250,000 German soldiers. This marked the end of the North Africa campaign that cost the Americans about 18,500 casualties.

On May 2nd, 1945, the German forces in Italy surrendered to the Allies. The Italian campaign cost the United States 114,000 casualties; however, the Allied presence in Italy forced the Germans to maintain a large defensive army, thus preventing the use of some 26 German divisions against Allied Forces in France.

On the 7th of that month in 1945, the German High Command surrendered unconditionally to the Allies. The German delegation led by Field Marshal Alfred Jodl went to General Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims, France, and signed the instrument of surrender. The official end of the war in Europe, VE Day, became effective May 8th.

Jumping in time to 1951, the U.S. Far East Air Force launched a 300-plane strike on Sinuiju on the Yalo River. It is the largest raid of the war to date. Also in May 1951, The battle of the Soyand River began. It was also called the May Massacre and it occurred along the No Name Line. The second Infantry Division stems the enemy tide, inflicting severe casualties on the Chinese 23rd Infantry Regiment.

And in May of 1953, a dramatic raid by the 59th Fighter Bomber Wing called The Raid on Taksan Dam, destroys a major irrigation system.

1955, the first known airborne H-bomb exploded over Bikini Atoll in the Pacific proving grounds. Major David Critchlow, USAF, dropped the hydrogen bomb from a Boeing B-52 8-engine jet bomber from an altitude of 50,000 feet.

On May 1st, 1960 Soviet guns shot down an American U-2 photographic reconnaissance plane flying over the USSR. The pilot was Francis Gary Powers, an Air Force Captain on loan to the CIA. A Soviet court in Moscow convicted Powers of espionage and sentenced him to a 10-year term. He was released on February 10, 1962 in exchange for Soviet spy Rudolf Abel, who had completed five years of his 30 year sentence for spying on the U.S.

The first American in space went there on May 5, 1961. He was Commander Alan B. Shepard Jr. USN. He became the first American to cross the space frontier in a Redstone rocket which blasted the Project Mercury (MR-3) "Friendship 7" capsule to an altitude of 115 miles at a maximum speed of 51,000 mph. The flight lasted 15 minutes and traveled 302 miles.

The second American to orbit the earth was Lt. Commander Scott Carpenter, USN. He did it on May 24, 1962. he made a three orbit tour of the earth, duplicating John Glenn's trip. The four hour and 56 minute flight reaching a speed of 17,532 mph.

Also in May, on the 15th of May, 1963, the last and longest of the Project Mercury flights occurred. Major Leroy Gordon Cooper Jr. USAF, orbited the earth 22 times in an MA-9 "Faith-7" capsule. Cooper made a manual re-entry after the automatic control system failed. He was the first American to orbit the earth for more than a day, spending 34 hours, 20 minutes and 9 seconds in flight.

Reconnaissance of Laos began on May 21 in 1964. The United States disclosed that unarmed U.S. jets had been flying recon missions over the Plain of Jars, Laos, to gather information on attacking Communist forces.

American and South Vietnamese forces launched a 10-day assault on "Hamburg Hill in the A Shau Valley, on May 10, 1969. There was heavy criticism in the United States over the battle, since the hill had little strategic value and was abandoned within two weeks of the bloodiest fighting of the war.

Although the United States Government does not recognize them as Vietnam Veterans, their names are on the Vietnam Memorial (The Wall). They are the forty-one men who died on May 15, 1975 during the rescue mission of the U.S. registered container ship SS Mayaguez.

On May 12, 1975, the Mayaguez incident occurred when a Cambodian gunboat seized the SS Mayaguez, an American merchant ship, in transit from Hong Kong to Thailand. The ship and its 39 member crew were taken to the Cambodian island of Poulo Wai. The Khmer government said the ship was spying inside Cambodian waters, and President Ford called it an act of Piracy. The final 15 men to die in the Southeast Asian conflict known as the Vietnam War, are those who died trying to rescue the Mayaguez and her crew. Their names are forever listed on "The Wall."



The Ohio Department of Veterans Services strives to ensure that the voices of Ohio's 67,000 women veterans are heard. ODVS Director Chip Tansill appoints a committee of engaged and knowledgeable women veterans to provide advice, counsel and input on issues, opportunities and programs impacting Ohio women veterans. The Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee meets quarterly in central Ohio; the committee chair facilitates meetings. The ODVS Director, a cabinet level State of Ohio position, along with the ODVS Legislative Liaison, Chief Legal Counsel and Ohio Women Veterans Coordinator attend the meetings.

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