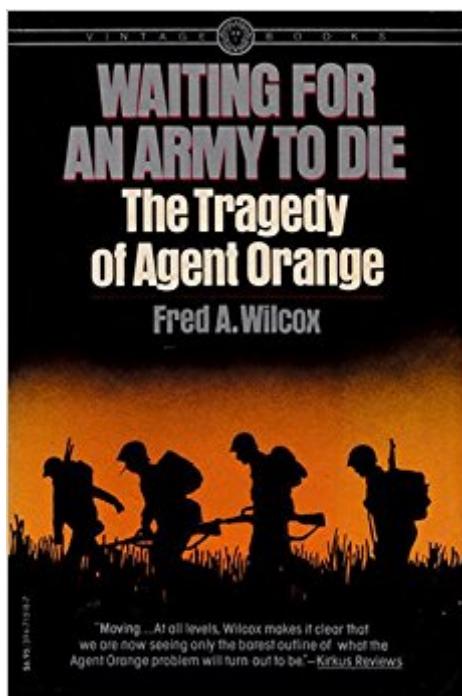


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Waiting For An Army To Die, The Tragedy Of Agent Orange



Synopsis

"I died in Vietnam, but I didn't even know it," said a young Vietnam vet on the Today Show one morning in 1978, shocking viewers across the country. Waiting for an Army to Die: The Tragedy of Agent Orangeâ "the first book ever written on the effects of Agent Orangeâ "tells this young vetâ 's story and that of hundreds of thousands of other former American servicemen. During the war, the US sprayed an estimated 12 million gallons of Agent Orange on Vietnam, in order to defoliate close to 5 million acres of its land. "Had anyone predicted that millions of human beings exposed to Agent Orange/dioxin would get sick and die," scholar Fred A. Wilcox writes in the new introduction to his seminal book, "their warnings would have been dismissed as sci-fi fantasy or apocalyptic nonsense." Told in a gripping and compassionate narrative style that travels from the war in Vietnam to the war at home, and through portraits of many of the affected survivors, their families, and the doctors and scientists whose clinical experience and research gave the lie to the government whitewash, Waiting for an Army to Die tells a story that, thirty years later, continues to create new twists and turns for Americans still waiting for justice and an honest account of what happened to them. Vietnam has chosen August 10â "the day that the US began spraying Agent Orange on Vietnamâ "as Agent Orange Day, to commemorate all its citizens who were affected by the deadly chemical. The new second edition of Waiting for an Army to Die will be released upon the third anniversary of this day, in honor of all those whose families have suffered, and continue to suffer, from this tragedy. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Hardcover: 222 pages

Publisher: Vintage; 1st Vintage Books ed edition (May 12, 1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394715187

ISBN-13: 978-0394715186

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 5.4 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (36 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #929,847 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #161 inÂ Books > History > Military > Weapons & Warfare > Biological & Chemical #747 inÂ Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Safety & First Aid #1549 inÂ Books > History > Military > United States > Vietnam War

Customer Reviews

Wilcox personalizes the tragedy of Agent Orange by telling the individual stories of those who suffered from the side effects of Agent Orange and the terrible treatment they received. My family is among those who suffered. We lost my father, a Vietnam Veteran, at age 33 from melanoma cancer. And it is a comfort to me that someone is willing to tell the story of the government's mistreatment of its veterans.

If you want more info on Agent Orange or are just starting you search this is an great book. It put thousands of us Veterans onto the lies being told us by the Government. I have survived four AO related cancer surgeries myself since 1986 because of Fred giving me a heads up on the 22 & 1/2 Million gallons of Dioxins they sprayed on us in Nam.....(I served in the Calvary in Nam 1967/68 with the Big Red One) Frankly there is only one Trooper in my unit who made it back to the world who is not seriously ill. Fred just released his second book a few months ago, This one will make you pule. it proves the effect of AO on civilian in Nam, Thailand, Cambodia, Korea and on and on.....

Waiting for an Army To Die should be required for everyone to read, maybe in another 15 years or so when all the "Boots on the ground" Vietnam Veterans and "Blue water sailors" have all passed on. Unlike WW II or Korea, you won't find any old Vietnam Veterans around, the chemicals sprayed on them by their government is still taken their lives today. Some day when we are gone the truth will come out. Take care of our handicapped children.

This book is one of the very best I've read concerning the Agent Orange issue. Mr Wilcox did excellent research for the book. Being a victim of numerous Agent Orange issues, I can fully relate to the men and women he spoke of in his book. Mr Wilcox also has another book called "Scorched Earth", which is also a very good book. It relates more to the Vietnamese country and people than the U.S. Soldiers, and the effect Agent Orange has had on them. Well worth the price, and more than worth the time to read them.

Author Fred Wilcox's extensive research has resulted in this hard hitting and shocking indictment of a cover up by corporations, our military, and government-- specifically the Veterans Administration. As a Vietnam veteran, I frequently flew in and out of areas treated by vegetation killing chemicals. Not until the last twenty years, when I became aware of fellow veterans struggling with the Veterans Administration for treatment, and when friends began dying from strange cancers,

did I become aware of the scope of damage done by the use of Agent Orange in Southeast Asia. Fred Wilcox has opened my eyes to the scope of this tragedy, which continues to unfold today.

After losing my son-in-law to the ravages of cancer caused by Agent Orange exposure, I was looking for other veteran's exposed and their experiences with trying to get the government to make good on their promises of reimbursement for war caused health damage. Was impressed with the author's frankness and fact gathering.

I should preface my review by saying that I served in north central Vietnam in 1967-68. I served on river patrols while there and was exposed to Agent Orange the whole time I was there in country. I made application and was accepted to receive a part of the chemical company settlement. My first born son has an IQ of about 30 (without speech they can't accurately diagnose an IQ), he is physically incapable of speaking, his eyes were screwed up at birth (corrected with early surgery) his kidneys were displaced (located in areas doctors had never experienced) and he had elasticity of his skin. He's 5 feet four inches tall and 140lbs. Every male in my family, for at least four generations, exceeded 6 feet in height and 200 lbs in weight. My second son is completely "normal" and healthy individual. So, I read this book to learn about what other vets had experienced. I have always accepted my son's condition and moved forward, never looking back and always trying to make the most of an unfortunate situation. I postponed my marriage because of the possibility of being in a combat theatre and coming home in the infamous plastic bag. When I returned home in one piece, thinking I had dodged the "bullet," we married and started the traditional family. Only to find out later, I hadn't dodged the small particle (Bullets) of Agent Orange which ended up being more devastating than the one you receive a Purple Heart for. A couple months ago, I read where the Agent Orange Compensation Program funded by the chemical companies has been drained. I've had the legs rashes, the skin cancer, kidney problems but never thought it was bad enough to apply for compensation from the Program thinking that when I passed away, whatever my share of the fund was would help take care of my dependent son. That's not going to happen, now. With that background, onto the review. As I said before, I purchased the book to learn about the experiences of other Vietnam vets exposed to the Agent Orange. I found the first third of the book informative. The second two thirds when he was addressing the chemical being used in other markets become somewhat uninteresting and boring for me. I think the author was more interested in the government and chemical companies cover up of the use of Agent Orange. While I agree the cover up existed, it wasn't what I was searching for when I read the book. For that reason, I was a little disappointed.

Great reference, concise, and informative. Mixes the law and research to explain the damages caused by Agent Orange.

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