

# Different Accounts of Agent Orange

## A Widow's Story

By Jennie R. Le Fevre

I am the widow of M/Sgt. Gerald H. Le Fevre. He served in Vietnam at Nha Trang with the 15th Special Operations Squadron, an Air Commando Unit, from 1968 to 1969. He was an airborne radio operator on a C-130 aircraft

These aircraft transported Agent Orange at least twice a month. My husband helped load and unload with his bare hands. He wrote saying skin was peeling off his hands in layers. The doctor said it was jungle rot.

The planes flew in and out of bases that had been sprayed. They flew at low level through mists of Agent Orange, with cargo doors wide open and the mist drifted in.

In May 1989, fifteen years after his retirement, Jerry was diagnosed with inoperable cancer of the lungs, liver, stomach, pancreas, lymph nodes, peritoneum, bone, diaphragm and omentum. At his death, Jerry was also diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, degenerative joint disease, obstructive jaundice, anemia, cardiopulmonary arrest, congestive heart failure, emphysema, fibrous lungs and extragonadal germ cell tumor syndrome. His chest x-rays revealed ventilation perfusion defects involving more than 50% of his lungs.

At time of death, he also had kidney failure, pneumonia in both lungs, respiratory failure and pulmonary emboli.

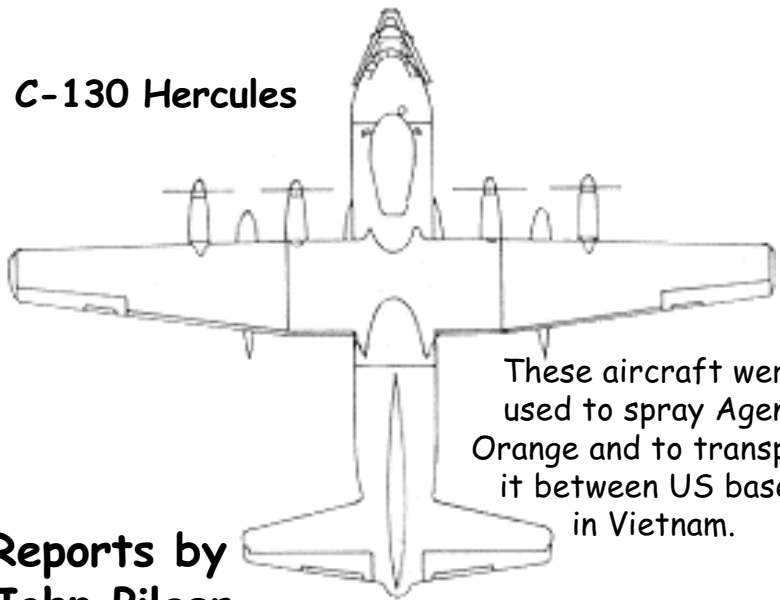
His death certificate states, manner of death, as *natural*.

My claim for service-connected death was denied. I will never forgive my government for it.

The graves at Arlington have beautiful green grass, but the grass on my husband's grave grows in patches and is most times brown and ugly. I have noticed in the past ten years that his grave has been re-sodded five times. Could it be that the dioxin in his body is eating through the casket and eating the grass right off his grave?

**Source:** Google cache of [www.homestead.com/\\_ksi0701961503732566/quilt\\_of\\_tears/files/story.htm](http://www.homestead.com/_ksi0701961503732566/quilt_of_tears/files/story.htm).

## C-130 Hercules



These aircraft were used to spray Agent Orange and to transport it between US bases in Vietnam.

## Reports by John Pilger

"Occasionally I saw these [genetically deformed] children in contaminated villages in the Mekong Delta; and whenever I asked about them, people pointed to the sky; one man scratched in the dust a good likeness of a bulbous C-130 aircraft, spraying."

**Source:** <[www.heureka.clara.net/gaia/orange.htm](http://www.heureka.clara.net/gaia/orange.htm)>

"Recently, at the Tu Do hospital in Saigon, I was shown a group of newborn babies, all of whom had Agent Orange deformities. The war that officially ended in 1975 goes on; contaminated soil and water are poisoning a third generation. Unlike US and Australian veterans of the war, who were finally compensated by the manufacturers of dioxin, the Vietnamese have received nothing. Now a five-year Canadian study has discovered that dioxin runs right through Vietnam's food chain. The study calls for international help to decontaminate agricultural land, forests and waterways. The cost of one F-16 bomber would pay for this."

**Source:** John Pilger, "Nuclear war, courtesy of NATO," May 4, 1999. <[pilger.carlton.com/vietnam/articles/19228](http://pilger.carlton.com/vietnam/articles/19228)>

## Vietnamese Description

Here's how a Vietnamese peasant described a US Agent Orange attack near Da Nang in February 1966: "Affected areas covered 120 kilometers east-west and 150 kilometers north-south. Five minutes was all that was needed to wither tapioca, sweet potato...and banana plants. Livestock suffered heavy injuries....Most of the river fish were found lying dead on the surface of mountain streams and brooks. The three day-long chemical attack poisoned scores of people, took the lives of about 10 and inflicted a 'natus' disease [severe rash] upon 18,000 inhabitants."

**Source:** <[rwor.org/a/v23/1120-29/1126/biowar.htm](http://rwor.org/a/v23/1120-29/1126/biowar.htm)>

"We have over 50,000 children that have been born with horrific deformities; the link is clear."

**Vu Trong Huong,**  
Director, War Crimes Investigation

"Perhaps the most gruesome legacy of Agent Orange is to be found in a locked room in Tu Du Obstetrical and Gynaecological Hospital in Saigon. Here the walls are lined with jars containing aborted and full term fetuses."

**Hugh Warwick**

**Source:** <[www.heureka.clara.net/gaia/orange.htm](http://www.heureka.clara.net/gaia/orange.htm)>