

5/5/2008

Philip F. Sweet



FYI-
Initial Date
LTC Hurley 4/24/5-8
J. Karsten JVK

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Buffalo District Corps of Engineers
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207-3199

Executive Office
Attn: Mr. John S. Hurley
Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander,

Dear Col. Hurley,

Many thanks for your recent letter dated April 2nd 2008 regarding the establishment of a new or revised RAB/Restoration Advisory Board.

At past Corps meetings I have stressed the need to human biomonitor our communities for possible radionuclide contamination.

Please see below U.S. Army regulations as I believe to be correct as stated below.

Army Regulation-AR 700-48 requires that:

- (1) "Military personnel "identify, segregate, isolate, secure, and label all RCE" (radiologically contaminated equipment).
- (2) "Procedures to minimize the spread of radioactivity will be implemented as soon as possible."
- (3) "Radioactive material and waste will not be locally disposed of through burial, submersion, incineration, destruction in place, or abandonment" and
- (4) "All equipment, to include captured or combat RCE, will be surveyed, packaged, retrograded, decontaminated and released IAW Technical Bulletin 9-1300-278, DA PAM 700-48" (Note: Maximum exposure limits are specified in Appendix F).

The past and current use of uranium weapons, the release of radioactive components in destroyed U.S. and foreign military equipment, and releases of industrial, medical, research facility radioactive materials have resulted in unacceptable exposures. Therefore, decontamination must be completed as required by U.S. Army Regulation 700-48 and should include releases of all radioactive materials resulting from military operations. The extent of adverse health and environmental effects of uranium weapons contamination is not limited to combat zones but includes facilities and sites where uranium weapons were manufactured or tested including Vieques, Puerto Rico, Colonie, New York, and Jefferson Proving Grounds, Indiana. Therefore medical care must be provided by the United States Department of Defense officials to all individuals affected by the manufacturing, testing, or use of uranium munitions. Thorough environmental remediation also must be completed without further delay.

I would welcome the opportunity to be part of your newly formed group and believe that my input would be of value to our communities.

Kind regards and best wishes

Philip F. Sweet

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip F. Sweet".

Gbfa/mpfa