

Good Morning

My name is Roger Bush and I represent 506 New Zealand Vietnam Veterans who live in the eastern States of Australia.

I stand before you feeling very humble as I acknowledge the quality of the international audience that is present in this room today.

I especially want to acknowledge two very fine Elder Statesman, the Chairman, Lieutenant General HIEP and Vice President Professor NHAM and I want to thank them for their kind invitation to attend this conference.

I want to acknowledge also the presence of my Korean and Australian brothers who were participants in this conflict.

I suffer from the affects of Agent Orange. My children suffer from the affects of Agent orange and my grandchildren suffer from the affects of Agent Orange.

This is why I was very grateful to participate in this International Conference.

Out New Zealand health specialists tell us that we can anticipate that this curse will continue for the next seven generations.

In January 2006 I completed a survey of New Zealand Vietnam Veterans living in Australia for a New Zealand Government initiated working party on the affects of Agent Orange and discovered the following:

1. In January 3 had died of cancer.
2. 5 are terminally ill with cancer.
3. 63 had type two diabetes.
4. 23 had serious skin ailments.
5. 13 had children who were deformed or had died of cancer.
6. 4 had children who had committed suicide.

We believe our children are the future of our country and we are totally focussed on their Health and well being.

We also believe the children affected by Agent orange are also the future of Vietnam and now we turn our focus to their health and well being.

We confirm our support to the goals and the objectives of this International conference and look forward to exploring the ways we can work together and assist the children and the future generations who will be affected by Agent orange.

Thank you