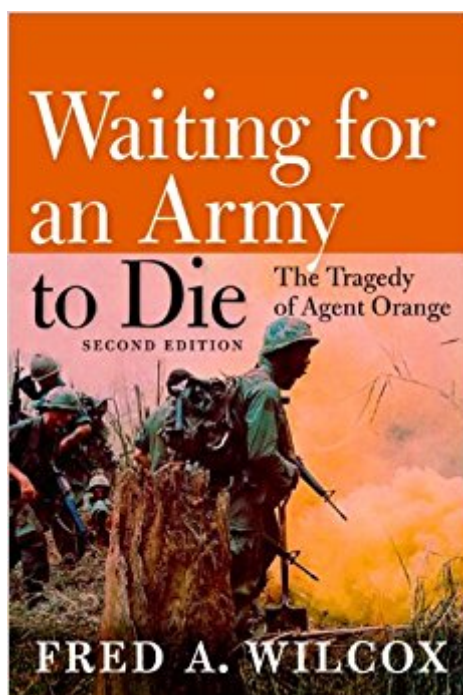


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# Waiting For An Army To Die: The Tragedy Of Agent Orange



## 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 Orange*—the first book ever written on the effects of Agent Orange—tells this young vet'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 10—the day that the US began spraying Agent Orange on Vietnam—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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

First published in 1983, this volume received wide praise and made ALA's most notable list; it was "highly recommended" by LJ 's reviewer ( LJ 7/83). Despite that , it went quickly out of print. This paper edition contains the original text plus a new introduction by the author, who discusses the class action suit brought against the government by Vietnam veterans suffering from their wartime exposure to the herbicide. With America's newfound willingness to talk about Vietnam, this book should see a lot of use.-- MRCopyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

â € "My bible on the issue of Agent Orange." --Tom Haydenâ € "This is a sad and frightening book, and it should not be disregarded." --Tracy Kidder, author of *The Soul of a New Machine* and *Mountains Beyond Mountains* â € "It is impossible to read this book without feeling outrage and despair, for the story of Agent Orange is a tragedy that affects not only Vietnam veterans, but all Americans and their offspring." --The Saturday Review

My husband is still suffering, but is living a good life at 76 yrs. He survived stage IV non Hodgkin lymphoma. He is covered from ears to toes with ulcerative eczema and has had nasty skin eruptions every time he loses weight. He was exposed to agent orange in 1967-68. He was never directly sprayed nor had to drink contaminated water. Our two daughters, one conceived straight off the plane, have multiple immune system disorders as do their daughters. Our son, born before Vietnam , and his children have none. [Childrenofvietnavets.org](http://Childrenofvietnavets.org) has an interesting site.

If you want more info on Agent Orange or are just starting you search this is an great book. It put thousands of us Veterands Advocates 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.....

I was involved with the writing of this book; the first edition. I helped Fred get veterans to be interviewed. Many were friends of mine I was also involved in the Agent Orange Lawsuit filed in the

Eastern District of the State of New York. One of the first 76 to file with Victor Yannacone in Pachogue, New York.

I was especially interested being a Vietnam Veteran. I can remember when I was 20 crossing the base with a fellow Marine and commenting about the lack of grass, bugs and animals. We were totally left in the dark. This book should be read by every Vietnam Veteran. I wrote the names of 6 Marines from my hometown, Carbondale Pa. who have died either from cancer or heart related problems, in the back of my copy. I knew every one of them played little league with them or went to school with them. The effects still linger and take there toll on the men who served there. I hope Mr. Wilcox will write another book and go to these small towns and find out just how bad the effects of Agent Orange were. I don't know how long it will be before my own name is written in the back of the book.

I recieved a nice copy of ths great book. It's getting a bit dated but it cronicles the initial struggle Vietnam Veterans had with the Veterans Affairs (VA) organization to even acknowledge that the exposure of "Agent Orange". was extreamly Toxic to thousands of veterans. Because of their efforts, the VA system identifies many illnesses and will provide care and treatment for those exposed to the substance while in Vietnam.

Very informative for something written about a neglected group of us who served their country and died but are just waiting for death.

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.

Provide a better understanding of the law suits of veterans against those big chemical companies. This book also make one wonders why and how a government can treat someone (willing or unwillingly) who served their country so badly. It also raise a red flag on whether the government

and the various big companies is doing enough test on all the various chemicals used in our daily lives.

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