

PLEASE: FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO EVERY C-123 VET (OR SURVIVOR) TO PASS ALONG.

The Buckeye Wing's Tom Scanlon forwarded VBA records on C-123 Agent Orange disability claims. **CONCLUSION:** The word hasn't gotten out! Only about 10% of our vets have had disability claims approved, a much lower percentage of disabilities for our population than others in our age group, plus the overall number of applications is lower than it should be.

Actually, much lower, because VA has seen a significant number of claims from obviously ineligible people...passengers, people who might have worked on one at some base, people who were out of the service before Agent Orange was used, or claim exposure long after the C-123s were all retired.

It seems VA might be shutting down its C-123 dedicated claims team in St Paul, believing that most veterans who needed to will have already applied. I don't agree. To me, the low numbers mean that VA and USAF/DFAS simply need to do a better job informing potentially eligible C-123 veterans that anyone with Agent Orange disabilities can apply for disability benefits.

Help get the word out to other C-123 veterans, won't you? Not only are our Agent Orange illnesses going to be cared for, but we get the full range of other VA benefits...compensation, Combat Related Special Compensation (for military retirees,) home loan, home health aides, adaptable housing, handicapped auto allowance, survivor benefits, medical care, nursing home, pharmacy, family counseling, pretty much everything. You more than earned it with "boots on the airplane," so get your application in to VA today!

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT MONEY – but several vets have received \$100,000-200,000 in compensation. They earned, and so did every crewmember and maintainer.

Here is the VA info:

Agent Orange Exposure from C-123 Aircraft

If you flew on—or worked with—C-123 aircraft in Vietnam or other locations, you may have had contact with Agent Orange. The U.S. military used this toxic chemical to clear trees and plants during the Vietnam War. C-123 aircraft sprayed Agent Orange during the war, and the planes still had traces of the chemical in them afterward while they were being used, up until 1986. Find out if you can get disability compensation or benefits for illnesses believed to be caused by contact with Agent Orange.

Can I get disability benefits from VA?

For Active-Duty Servicemembers

You may be able to get disability benefits if you have an illness believed to be caused by contact with Agent Orange and both of the below descriptions are true for you.

Both of these must be true:

You served in a regular Air Force unit location where a C-123 aircraft with traces of Agent Orange was assigned, and Your flight, ground, or medical duties put you in regular and repeated contact with C-123 aircraft that had traces of Agent Orange

If you have an illness believed to be caused by Agent Orange, you won't need to show the problem started during—or got worse because of—your military service. This is because we believe that certain diseases are the result of exposure to herbicides. We refer to these as "presumptive diseases."

See a list of Agent Orange-related illnesses.

<https://blogspot.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=063485d6e65ea0d5a6d4b8dc6&id=cc19fbb279&e=46e9bbe732>

Check our list of military units and Air Force Specialty codes to see if your unit had contact with affected C-123 aircraft.

View the list of codes.

<https://blogspot.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=063485d6e65ea0d5a6d4b8dc6&id=cc19fbb279&e=46e9bbe732>

For Reservists

You may be able to get disability benefits if you have an illness believed to be caused by Agent Orange and you were assigned to flight, ground, or medical crew duties at one of the below locations.

You must have been assigned to one of these locations:

Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Ohio, 1969-1986 (906th and 907th Tactical Air Groups or 355th and 356th Tactical Airlift Squadrons), or

Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts, 1972-1982 (731st Tactical Air Squadron and 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, or 901st Organizational Maintenance Squadron), or

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania International Airport, 1972-1982 (758th Airlift Squadron)

If you have an illness believed to be caused by Agent Orange, you won't need to show the problem started during—or got worse because of—your military service. This is because we believe that certain diseases are the result of exposure to herbicides. We refer to these as "presumptive diseases."

See a list of Agent Orange-related illnesses.

<https://blogspot.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=063485d6e65ea0d5a6d4b8dc6&id=cc19fbb279&e=46e9bbe732>

Check our list of military units and Air Force Specialty codes to see if your unit had contact with affected C-123 aircraft.

View the list of codes

<https://blogspot.us16.list-manage.com/track/click?u=063485d6e65ea0d5a6d4b8dc6&id=5b0eec5e9a&e=46e9bbe732>

Wes Carter, Chairman

C-123 Veterans Assn.