

**SCR-47**

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 2:13:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2021 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tara Lemieux	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Tara Lemieux and I am a veteran of the US Army who served at Field Station Kunia. I am writing on behalf of the servicemembers who were stationed here with me, and who have sadly succumbed to aggressive cancers, neurological and cardiovascular issues. They died far too young, and it is my hope that I may help share their story.

As young soldiers we were eager to provide our service to this country. Our mission was shrouded with security; tucked away from public view under the literal covering of the Del Monte Pineapple fields. There were 200 of us soldiers working in rotating shifts just six feet beneath the fields where plantation workers sprayed highly volatile industrial toxins. Our service was designed to ensure seamless operational support to one of our nation's most critical intelligence missions, but - who looked after our care?

Day after day, we soldiers shuffled in; oblivious to the longer term, cumulative pathogenic effects of known carcinogens, endocrine disruptors and deadly neurotoxins. All of which, became inadvertently sealed within our BN Main Operations Floor.

We were the 'Silent Sentinels of the Pacific' – watching from our hidden perch, unaware of the dangers lurking in the soils overhead. Though the pesticides and other fumigants had been banned for sale in the United States, they were still widely in use by the Del Monte plantation. And, with each new rain their poisons lurched further still; through the porous dirt and cement walls; into the lead pipes which supplied our only water source; through the ventilation intake set ironically in the center of the very same fields. At night, the roads were sprayed to control the clouds of fumigant dusts; as were the fields used for our military formations.

It wasn't until many years later that we learned that our facility sat at the dead center of an EPA designated Superfund site, one that would wreak havoc amongst our ranks, slowly poisoning those who dedicated their lives to this nation. Year after year we watched helplessly as members of our team faced the horrors of debilitating diseases, systemic neurological failures, cardiovascular and respiratory impacts. Many have already succumbed - my dear friends, David Collier, Mark Gunstenson, Sue Costakas Slomka, Wade Giles - and so many more. And those of us they left behind, face the insurmountable task of challenging the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the EPA and other agencies - to hold them accountable for their

oversight, which provided no notifications nor basic safety equipment for those who served. My goal in speaking with you today, is to ensure that the circumstances which led to this issue may be understood, addressed and resolved. As their team member, as their friend and as a US Army soldier, it is my obligation to do so.

We are asking your support in helping our story be heard.

Over the last decade, we have been working to understand the issues at this site, and their contributing factors impacting our health. In 2019, I engaged the support of Senator Chris Van Hollen who initiated contact with the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to a notice concerning Kunia on their public health page. In this notification, the VA indicated they were unaware of such issues - explaining that, although Del Monte was an EPA designated Superfund Site (one that provided substantial civil remedy for civilians impacted) - Kunia Field Station was not designated as such. It wasn't until I shared an aerial map of the Del Monte boundaries reflected in the subsequent EPA investigations that he was able to see that interests of our American soldiers were dismissed. Our field station sat beneath the fields and within those boundaries, but because the EPA reports and supporting analysis and testing indicated "Del Monte" as the responsible party - the VA will not approve claims related from our service here. I would like to submit for your review a copy of the letter sent by Senator Van Hollen and the response received. I will attach those in a subsequent posting.

In his letter, Senator Van Hollen writes, "KFS may pose many more health risks than those that are outlined on the VA website. I am concerned that the language used on the KFS VA website is misleading and is, consequently, causing a number of veterans' claims to be unfairly denied." His letter to Dr. Patricia Hastings, Deputy Chief Consultant, Post Deployment Health Services responded, "You are correct that KFS is on the National Priorities List, as are many other military bases around the country."

In my opinion, her response dismisses the concerns of those soldiers impacted - people like myself who suffer from debilitating progressive neurological disease causing autonomic system failures, or my friend Matt who lost his wife to cancer while stationed there and who now suffers through his own medical hell. We deserve to have the same consideration and protections as our civilian counterparts. I pray that we will have your support in carrying our voice forward.

Thank you.

**Written Testimony of Matthew Harold Lamb US Army Veteran INSCOM Honorable I served at Field Station Kunia from October 1986 to 1988.**

**Date 3/20/2021**

Senator Mike Gabbard and the members of the Senate Thirty-First Legislature, 2020 State of Hawaii. I am honored today and thank you all for allowing me to provide written testimony for S.C.R 47. My name is Matthew Harold Lamb I served in the US Army INSCOM at the Kunia Tunnel; Field Station Kunia in Central Oahu underground military installation built after the attack on Pearl Harbor. I served there from October 1986 to October 1988 conducting Top Secret missions. I also lived on Schofield Barracks A-Quad from 1986 to 1988 and in Mililani from 1988 to 1990. I also represent here today my late wife Donna Lori Lamb too from Iowa who also served in the US Army INSCOM from 1981 to 1990 and served at the Kunia Tunnel from 1985 to 1990. She battled cancer twice since leaving Hawaii Cervical Cancer in 1991 while we were living in Colorado and once again the second time from 2003 to 2004 an aggressive stage 4 Ovarian Cancer. She sadly after an exceedingly difficult year she battle did not survive and passed away.

As you know we discuss today the Senate Concurrent Resolution S.C.R No. 47 Urging the Department of Veterans Affairs to recognize a presumptive service connection for chronically ill Veterans who were stationed at Kunia Field on the Island of Oahu who were exposed to restricted use Organochlorine pesticides, herbicides, fumigants Dieldrin, DCP, EDB, TCP Trichloropropane, PCE, smoke, arsenic, lead, and moderate to high levels of fungal contamination due to poor air ventilation problems and high moisture levels. Of note too there was asbestos and PCB (Pyranol) issues spills inside the facility PCB transformer spills and a UST Underground Storage Tank spill. Many MILCON abatement cleanup projects taking place over many years inside there took place. Asbestos Asbestos containing materials building materials were inside the facility too and was at some point airborne inside the facility air ventilation systems. Chrysotile asbestos dust fibers were found in air filters in the air intake tunnel and other areas inside the facility. Asbestos containing materials canec floor tiles ceiling tiles building materials were found and cleaned up inside according to USACE and Navy environmental reports. I was witness to MILCON abatement cleanup teams from 1986 to 1988.

I started investigating this matter in 2016 when I first read about the chemical spill at the Del Monte site up the road. I witnessed and was around the cleanup projects taking place inside and outside the facility. At the time 1986 to 1988 during abatement projects taking place we were not provided any respirators or hazmat uniforms on the ops floor in the SCIF's during these cleanups. I witnessed the removal projects taking place of lead paint on the walls them grinding it off removal. I witnessed on many days while serving there a foul stale smell inside, stuffy conditions, unregulated temperatures, smoke entering down into the facility, liquid running down some of the walls especially inside the stairwells. The liquid had a chemical type of smell. Dust clouds would enter inside the facility too and out in front of the entrance when the fields were being cultivated or the pineapple field or parts were being burned around and above the Tunnel. Dust clouds would blow down on top of us sometimes while standing out in formation outside the entrance before and after shifts. It would cause irritation in our eyes and throats plus coughing! We would have fire drills from time to time and go up the stairwells and be standing in those pineapple fields we could smell the chemical pesticides, herbicides, fumigants smell and would go back down inside as quick as we could! In 1987 I remember they placed big round industrial fans on the floor inside the ¼ mile walkup up inside trying to blow out what got in there. It

could have been exhaust fumes, or smoke build up in the turnaround area. We would do PT physical training up above the Tunnel sometimes in those fields. We would get down in the dirt do sit-ups, pushups, and running! There was a ceiling cave in water rushed inside the facility hazmat teams were called in to clean it up!

In 1987 my health issues started at Field Station Kunia in Hawaii during our physical training. I noticed my heart started racing acting like it was going to jump out of my chest. I started developing breathing issues. My face and lips swelled up for now apparent reason, skin rashes would break out all over, coughing, sinus, and ear infections. I was before this an extremely healthy person no health problems whatsoever at my Army enlistment 1985. Frankly, all through my basic training, AIT advanced individual training at Fort Devens MA in 1986 extremely healthy person. I would max out my physical training tests a real Iron Man tough. I went in for a routine physical for the Army in 1987 they issued for me and was told at that time by an Army Doctor at the TAMC Clinic on Schofield Barracks your blood pressure is high hypertensive, but I was not prescribed any medications. His notes and any record of my BP is not in my Army 201 file for that physical. My ETS physical I had done at Fort Shafter later in 1988 my BP once again was high, heart rate high, and I was running a fever of 100 that day. I have had nothing but decades of illnesses, procedures, seeing doctors, tests, medications seeing many professionals ever since. Below is my current list of medical ailments and medications I take daily. Not just me but many of us we did a medical survey on or FSK Facebook site are dealing with similar medical issues.

#### List of current medical conditions

1. **Cervicalgia Cervical Spine Degenerative disc disease Neck Condition C3 thru C7**
2. **Cavernoma 10x6 mm in the right paramedian inferior frontal lobe, tremors, mini stroke 2016**
3. **Neurocognitive Disorder, weakness in fine motor dexterity left hand and cognitive set shifting.**
4. **Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation, Sinus Tachycardia-Irregular Heartbeat and Angina**
5. **Hypertension-Uncontrolled High Blood Pressure since 1986**
6. **Elevated Liver Enzymes, Left Quadrant Cyst, scarring level 2.3, fatty liver level 3, Biopsy done 2019.**
7. **Chronic Sinusitis, Chronic Infections, Polyps, Cysts, Rhinitis, and Deviated Left Septum since 1986**
8. **Occupational Asthma (military exposure), Scarring bottom left lung, noncalcified nodules in left upper lobe.**
9. **Fibromyalgia, Chronic Pain Syndrome & Mixed Connective Tissue Disorder, actinic Keratosis back/arms**
10. **Antibodies in blood ENA Screen Positive, ENA\_SM 27 Weak Positive, E NA, RNP 23 Weak Positive RNA Positive auto-immune issue**
11. **GERD-Barrett's esophagus, gastritis diagnosed 2007.**
12. **Hyperglycemia-high blood sugar, Hyperlipidemia-high cholesterol**
13. **Dyspnea difficulty breathing**
14. **Inflammatory Multiple Joint Pain-Polyarthralgia's**
15. **Tinnitus 24-7, Vertigo, Dizziness, Right Ear hearing loss!**
16. **Lipoma of Abdominal Wall also surgically removed left arm other various locations on the body.**
17. **Kidney Cyst/Lesions Left/Right, Left Kidney Stone slight enlargement of left collecting system.**
18. **Gall Bladder Lesions, Cysts, Polyps, and Stones**
19. **Synovitis-Inflammation of joints, Arthritis many locations throughout body**
20. **Tendonitis Achilles and 3mm tear right leg, Fluid Buildup Right Lower Leg, Neuropathy both legs and a L5 signaling nerve issue lower back degenerative L1-L5, and Venous Reflux Disease both legs diag. 2020.**
21. **Arthralgia- Joint Pain and Fatigue**

22. Elevated EPINEPHRINE 43 mcg/g create CALCULATED E+NE 86 mcg/create flag high.
23. Sclerosing Basal Cell Carcinoma back diagnosed September 2020 removal surgery done 9/22/2020.

List of Current Medications

1. Toprol XL (Metoprolol ER Succinate) 150 MG 3- 50 mg TABs once daily A fib/High BP, Tachycardia
2. Chlorthalidone 25 MG 1 TAB One by mouth daily High Blood Pressure
3. Eplerenone 50 MG once a day- High Blood Pressure
4. Doxazosin 8 MG 1 TAB at bedtime started 4/9/19-High Blood Pressure
5. Propranolol 10 MG twice a day High Blood Pressure, AFIB, Tachycardia
6. Levalbuterol 1.25 MG/3 ML 1 vial nebulizer every 8 hours- Breathing
7. Nitroglycerin 0.4 MG 1 TAB for chest pain as needed.
8. Aspirin 81 MG once daily morning
9. Ibuprofen or Tylenol 200 MG Ibuprofen or 500 MG Tylenol as needed pain
10. QVAR 80 MCG-inhale 2 Inhalations twice a day
11. Cholecalciferol (Vitamin D) 1,000-unit 1 TAB per day started 4/10/19-Low Vitamin D
12. Centrum Silver/Korean Ginseng 1 Vitamin daily and two 1500MG Daily Ginseng

Currently the Department of Veterans Affairs position on their Public Health website is.

Potential Health Risks “Veterans might be concerned about health effects from serving at KFS and being in the general area around the facility. The main threat at KFS was exposure to mold and high humidity. Any symptoms from this exposure should have cleared up soon after leaving the area.

No other environmental or human health hazards have been found in the area. Possible exposures in the water and the soil have been investigated at KFS: Veterans who are experiencing health issues that they associate with their service while at KFS should see their primary care provider.

Veterans may file a claim for disability compensation for health problems they believe are related to exposures during military service. VA decides these claims on a case-by-case basis.”

**If this statement is indeed true and no problems were found, then why have the spent well over billion dollars over decades renovating the Tunnel and cleaning this up addressing this?**

Current situation with the Department of Veterans Affairs is not going to be good enough for me our group. Long wait times and claims processes for disability through the VA years of waiting or go file a claim and hope for the best just is not going to be good enough here. Acknowledgement and Accountability from the Army, Navy, NSA/CSS, and Department of Veterans Affairs is what we seek and is required. They have done zero studies medial clusters on any of us tracked nothing addressed any of this! I was sent to the VA hospital in Dallas for Toxic Testing in 2017. They put me in

their Gulf War protocol and, I had consultations with the WRIISC in NJ toxic doctor too they did not know anything about the Kunia Tunnel issues because it is a Top-Secret facility.

Finally, we need the Department of Veterans Affairs to recognize a presumptive service connection for chronically ill veterans who were stationed at Kunia Field and to provide medical care and long-term services. We continue to be denied access to critical government records to link our illnesses. Now is the time to invest assist the Sentinels of the Pacific a outstanding group of individuals who served proudly!

Mahalo nui loa,  
Matthew Harold Lamb  
US Army Veteran INSCOM

**SCR-47**

Submitted on: 3/18/2021 3:42:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2021 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SCR47.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Lt Col, USAF(Ret)

**SCR-47**

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 10:55:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2021 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Theresa Lopes Douglas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a retired USAF airman, that was stationed and worked in the Kunia Tunnel on Oahu, from 1981 - 1983. I suffer the below listed ailments as a direct result:

1.Migraines, onset 1983

2.TIA 2016

3.High Blood Pressure, on medication since 1983 (when I was only 24 yrs old), to present.

4.Sinus Tachycardia, onset 1983

5.Tinnitus

6.Chronic Sinusitis and Deviated Septum, requiring surgery.

7.Severe Memory Loss

8.Barretts Esophagus, requiring yearly Endoscopy

9.Partial Hysterectomy 1995, uterine fibroids

10.Ovaries Removed, Endometriosis

11.Ground Glass Opacity, lungs

12.Thyroid Disease, requiring removal of thyroid

13.Asthma, requiring inhaler use

14.Chronic Pain Syndrome, multiple joints

15.Arthritis, multiple joints



16. Degenerative Disc Disease, requiring surgery

17. Gall Stones

18. High Cholesterol

19. Anxiety and Depression

20. Hand Tremors

21. Insomnia

22. Vocal Chord Nodules, requiring surgery

23. Melanoma

24. COPD

#### MEDICATIONS

a. MAXZIDE-25mg/37.5

b. SYNTHROID-125mcg

c. PANTOPRAZOLE-40mg

d. PERCOCET-7.5/3.25

e. CELEBREX-200mg

f. CRESTOR-5mg

g. RIZATRIPTAN-20mg

h. NAPROXEN-500mg

i. ONDANSETON-4mg

j. CYMBALTA-60mg

k. TRAZADONE-100mg

l. PROAIR-90mg

m. LOW DOSE ASPIRIN-81mg

n.PEPCID-20mg

o.HYOSCYAMINE SULFATE-.125mg

**SCR-47**

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 11:58:33 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2021 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gregory Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a soldier I was stationed at Field Station Kunia, from Feb 83 thru Feb 85. Approximately 5 years after retiring from the army I was diagnosed with high blood pressure. On top of this in 2006 I was diagnosed with diabetes and in 2013 I was diagnosed with stage 3 kidney disease and stage 3b kidney cancer. The kidney has been removed and at the time I was also diagnosed with metastatic renal cell carcinoma in both of my lungs. I am currently receiving treatment for the carcinoma and have several nodules that are still in the growing process in my lungs. There are no such previous types of cancer in my family.

**SCR-47**

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 5:36:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2021 1:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MARIO GARCIA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Plenty times it is HARD to find or regenerate the specific proof the VA is requesting in order to validate the claim. By proving the individual was in the area (via orders or any other means) would be the best way to corroborate he qualifies.