

Introducing...
The Enewetak
Atomic Cleanup
Veterans

(All parts of this document may be used for the purpose of advocating and supporting the group of military veterans, their compatriots and families mentioned/referred to herein. Originally compiled by TM Fitzgerald, Updated as required.)
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Enewetak Atomic Cleanup Veterans

The Atomic Cleanup Veterans are an eclectic group of survivors from the 1977-1980 Enewetak Atoll Atomic Debris Cleanup Mission (inclusive of military Veterans and civilian contractors alike) who served active duty in the Marshall Islands, South Pacific During the Cold War Era post-Vietnam. Their main focus for these men has been to help one another by sharing/exchanging information and providing moral support during challenging intervals of declining health. Their secondary focus has been to urge/insist that members of the United States Congress consider legislature that would change current laws and fully recognize the soldiers and civilians of this humanitarian cleanup mission as "Veterans who participated in radiation-risk activities during active service." Currently, both the military and government are all but denying the fact that these men ever existed. It is also this groups hope/intent to locate/account for as many more of the reportedly over 8,000+ participants who collectively served in the atomic cleanup as possible.

-WHO THEY ARE-

By definition, the term 'Atomic Veteran' is one currently (as of 31 July 2019) inclusive of military Veterans who served this country between the years 1945 and 1962 in the capacity of developing and testing nuclear weaponry. However, in the year 1977, the United States government directed another group of men to enter the nuclear arena, men who have since come to be known as Atomic Cleanup Veterans. This group materialized into existence after the American government sanctioned a joint decontamination detail consisting of both military personnel and civilian sub-contractors for the purpose of rehabilitating the tiny atolls in the South Pacific Proving-Grounds of the Marshall Islands following a seemingly forgotten era of nuclear testing/radioactive fallout. Nearly forty years following, many of these

men (now aged in their 50's and 60's) who on a 24/7 basis lived, breathed, ate and worked in that contaminated environment are finding themselves affected by disease processes attributable to exposure to various components of the nuclear era/their time served on 'The Rock'. Due to residual affects related to their time in service, these men have been attempting to enact/modify a bill to include their military (and civilian) service in the official VA definition of 'Atomic Veterans' thereby making them (military Veterans) eligible to receive medical care via the VA system and help their civilian counterparts as well. The government they all served has, up to this point in time, taken the permanent position of denying the fact these men so much as functioned in the Marshall Islands or have stated that they were never exposed to any danger. Information in this packet has been collected for your convenience and supports these men/Veterans (who served in various capacities through 1977-1980) by providing resources and documenting verifiable details of their duties in a conveniently accessible format.

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