

# **The U.S. Military's Use of Cancer-causing Fire- fighting Foams in Routine Training Exercises is Causing a World-wide Health Crisis**

October, 10, 2019     - Civilian Exposure



The U.S. military - through its reckless use of carcinogenic fire-fighting foam during routine training exercises - is poisoning drinking water, surface water, sewer sludge applied to farm fields, and the air around the world.



U.S. Air Force Firefighters during a routine exercise at Spangdahlem Airbase, Germany.



The U.S. owns Germany - and if the U.S. military wants to poison the German people, water, land, and air, they can - and they do. Meanwhile, the Germans generally accept it.

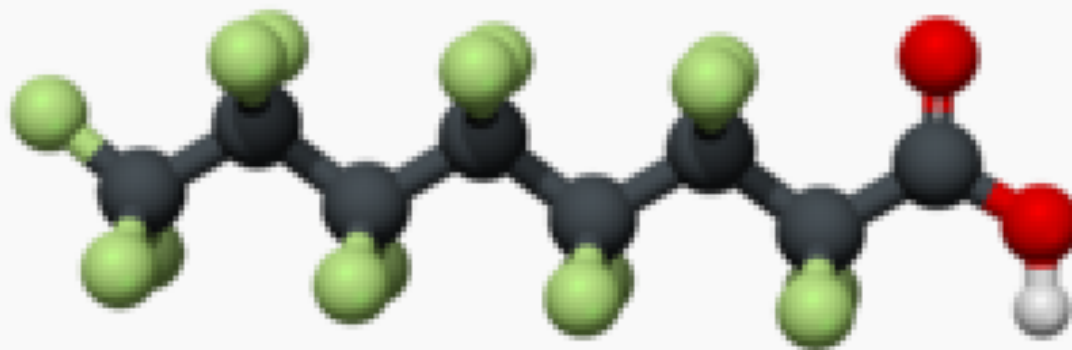
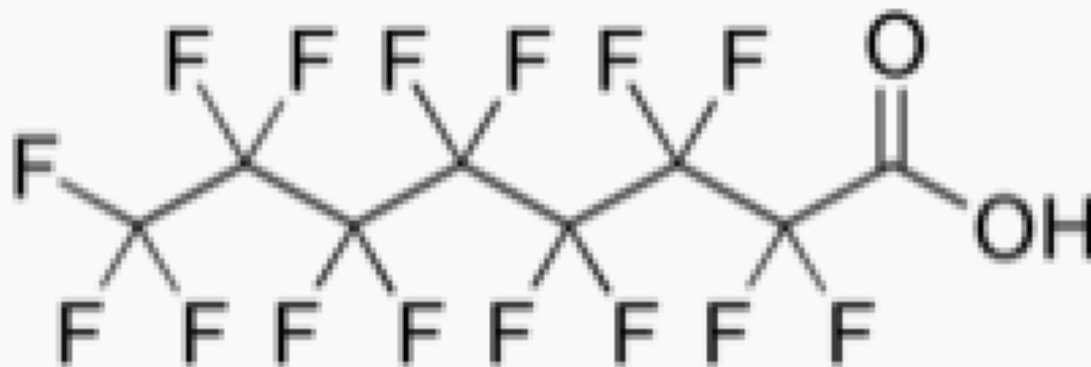


The fire-fighting foam contains Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a group of man-made chemicals that includes Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid, (PFOS), - and 5,000 other chemicals.

The chemical bond between fluorine and carbon atoms is the strongest bond known to exist.

PFAS has been linked to kidney, liver, and testicular cancer and ghastly developmental effects on the unborn. It contributes to a host of childhood diseases, like asthma, suppressed immune function, lower vaccine effectiveness, and attention deficit disorder.

## Perfluorooctanoic acid



A routine test of a carcinogenic foam system - designed to cover warplanes in a hangar in a minute - is shown here at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota. Communities outside of the base had 182 parts per trillion of PFAS in their drinking water while Harvard public health scientists say 1 ppt is dangerous to human health.

99% of humanity has these carcinogens in their bodies because they accumulate in the blood, liver, and kidneys while the human body is defenseless against them and cannot get rid of them.

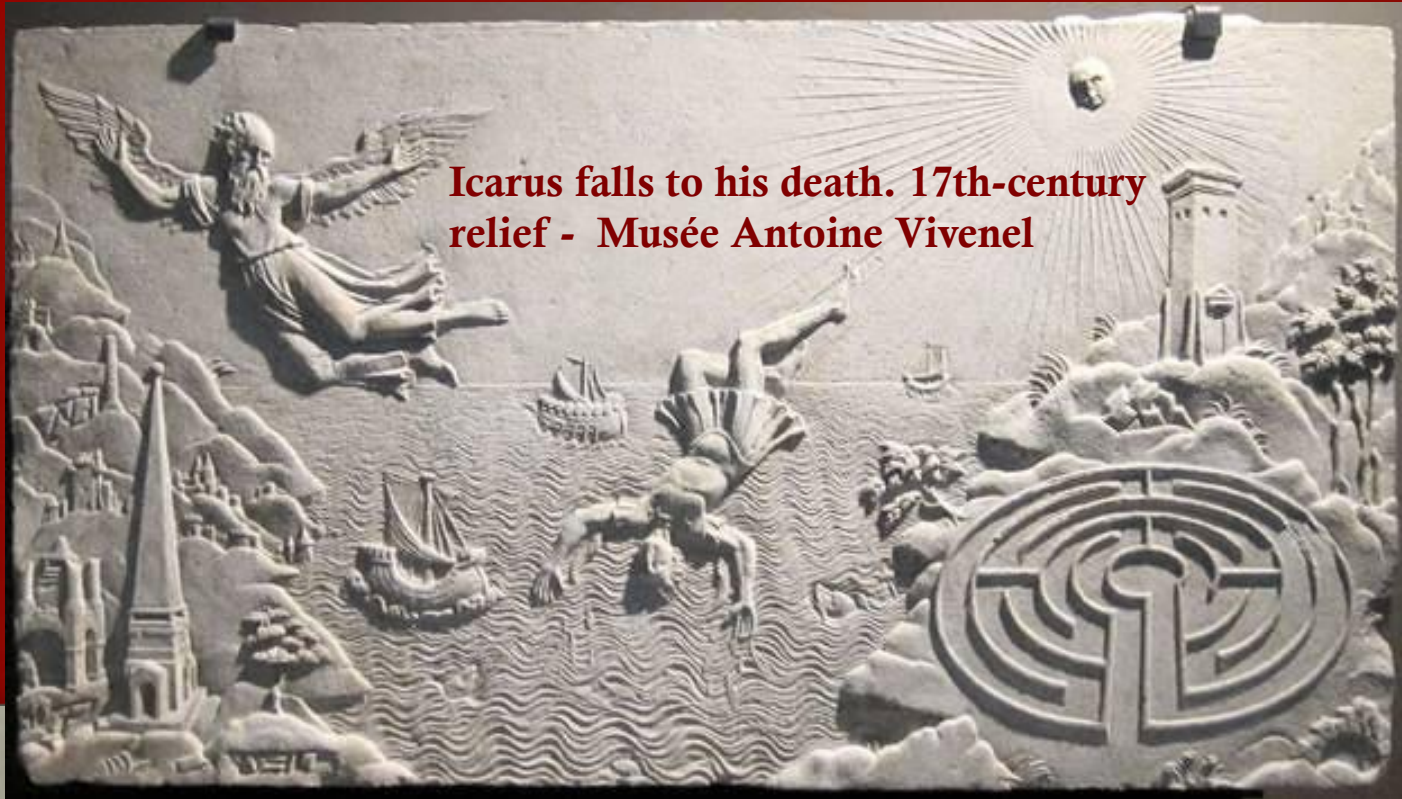


The foams seep into the ground to contaminate groundwater and surface water and ultimately find their way to human ingestion.



At Kadena AFB In Okinawa in 2013, a sprinkler system spread 2,270 liters of these highly poisonous substances. In another incident - in 2015 - a drunk Marine activated the system to fill the massive hanger until the foam coated the adjacent neighborhood. Press reports say Okinawa's water is poisoned today. Like the Germans, the Japanese government is complacent.





**Icarus falls to his death. 17th-century relief - Musée Antoine Vivenel**

Remarkable technologies escape our control and imperil mankind. The discovery of PFAS by Dupont chemists in New Jersey in 1938 is one.

- It repels dirt and grease and it'll extinguish a petroleum fire quicker than anything ever developed
- It is used to manufacture Teflon products
- The compounds are also used in stain- and water-repellent fabrics, polishes, waxes, paints, food packaging, dental floss, and cleaning products.



Drinking water in Agana, Guam was found to contain 410 ppt of PFAS two years ago. Meanwhile, New Jersey does not allow more than 14 ppt of the substance in drinking water and California is notifying residents if their water exceeds 5.1 ppt. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency does not regulate the chemicals.



**Routine test of fire-fighting foam at Andersen AFB, Guam**



# Between a Rock and a Hard Place



- Although scientists world-wide recognize the substances are one of the greatest threats to human health in history, the EPA does not regulate PFAS.
- If the EPA set mandatory limits on PFAS in drinking water and enforced existing law, the US military could potentially suffer hundreds of billions of dollars in liability.

# The Air Force refuses to follow Michigan PFAS law

MLive.com  
Jan 29, 2019



OSCODA, MI — “The U.S. Air Force is telling the state of Michigan to take a regulation designed to severely limit toxic PFAS chemicals in the environment and shove it.”



In a Jan. 2019 letter, the Air Force says New Mexico lacks the authority to enforce environmental regulations against the military.



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER  
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO LACKLAND TEXAS

10 January 2019

Ms. Suzanne Bilbrey, P.E.  
Director, Environmental Directorate  
Air Force Civil Engineer Center  
2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155  
JBSA Lackland TX 78236

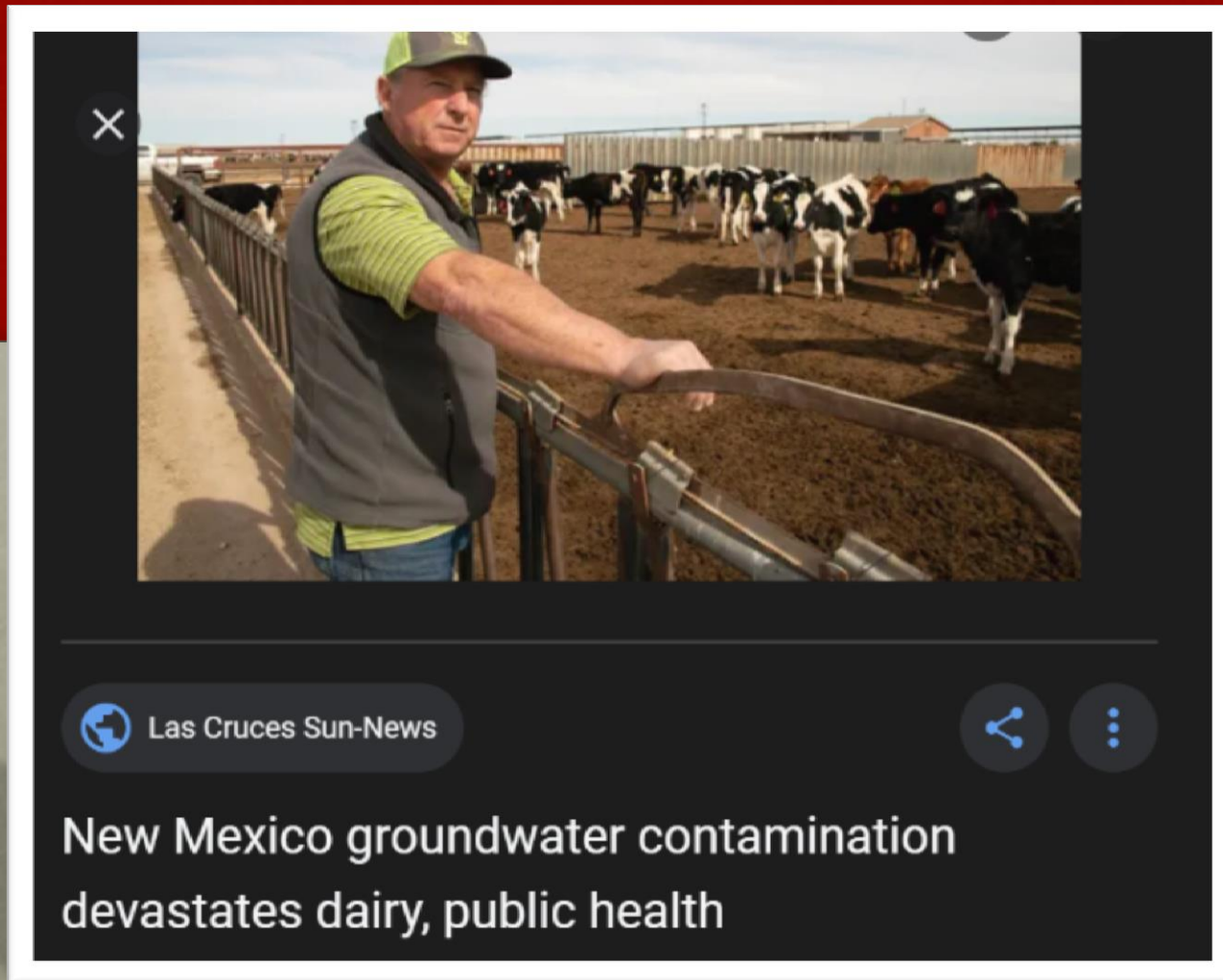
Ms. Michelle Hunter  
Chief, Ground Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

**RE: Notice of Violation, Cannon Air Force Base, Soil and Groundwater Contamination with Per and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**

Dear Ms. Hunter,

The United States Air Force (Air Force) acknowledges the receipt of the Notice of Violation (NOV) dated 30 November 2018 issued against Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. Based on our review of the legal authority cited within the NOV, the New Mexico Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations (20.6.2 NMAC) do not apply to the Air Force and the New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) lacks authority to enforce the cited regulations against the Air Force.

The Air Force says it has the right to poison people, animals and the environment around the world. This farmer exterminated 4,000 cows because of their poisoned milk. Meanwhile, he cannot sue.







**A wastewater treatment facility at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.**

The U.S. is poisoning the sewer sludge at military bases in Germany and around the world. The dried sludge is typically applied to farm fields, but the German government will not allow the adjacent town of Wittlich-Land to apply the poisoned material to fields.

**The US military incinerates PFAS at this plant in Ohio. Critics say the process leaves the airborne carcinogens intact, sprinkling death in the region.**



Instead, the German government says the town must incinerate the sludge, an extraordinarily dangerous and costly solution. The town of Wittlich-Land discovered it cannot sue the U.S., so it is suing the German government.





- NATO statutes require the US to return bases in the same condition that they were initially conveyed.
- If a base is to be returned, the resulting value of the land is determined by adding improvements and subtracting costs of environmental cleanup.
- Germany & US cannot seem to agree on the standards regarding clean-up, particularly the contamination of aquifers.
- When Status of Forces Agreements (SOFA's) were written no one considered the devastating impact of Per and Poly Fluoroalkyl Substances.

# U.S. - Japan Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA)

- “Within the facilities and areas - the United States may take all the measures necessary for their establishment, operation, safeguarding and control.”
- Authorities seeking the source of PFAS-contaminated water in Okinawa have been denied access to U.S. bases.
- SOFA hinders Japanese officials trying to address health problems facing local residents.



Marine Corps Air  
Station Futenma



They're covering up records of women who drank PFAS-laced water and had miscarriages and children with birth defects.

14. Female disorder, Ch[redacted] [redacted] history 1975, with morning nausea in August 1975. Two [redacted] [redacted]. In late September 1975 [redacted] at post [redacted] first had [redacted] frequent bleeding for 2-3 minutes, and no further symptoms. On 20 October she again began a normal menstrual flow. See OB - GYN consultation.

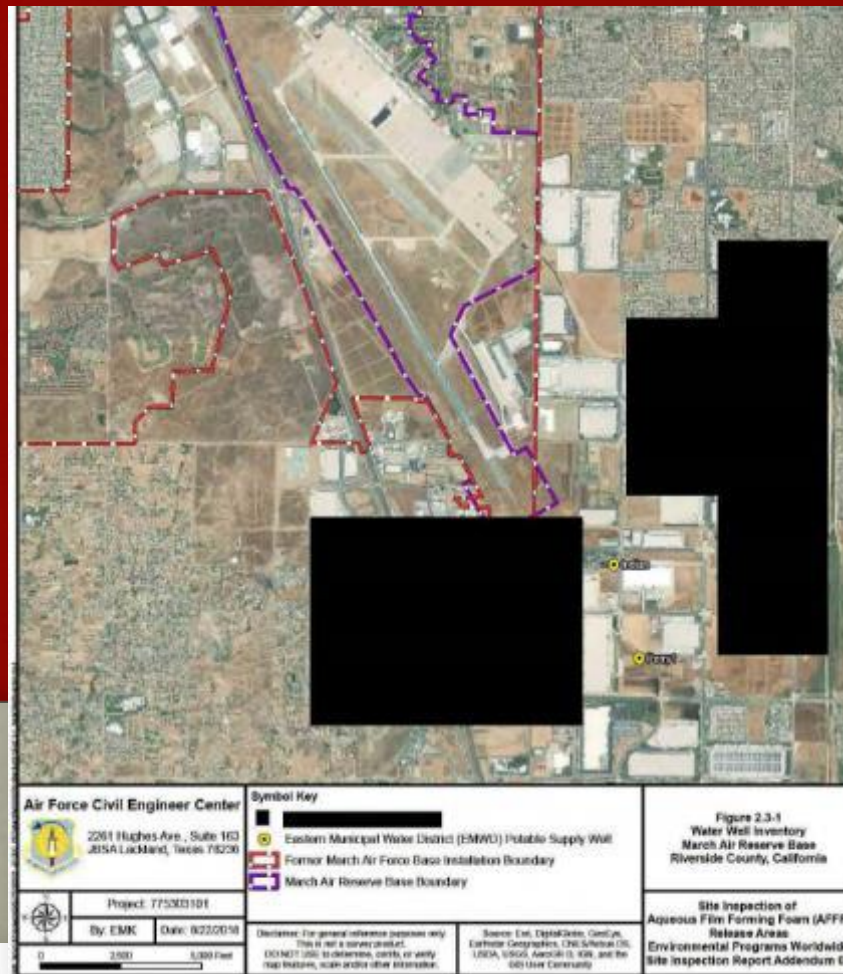
16. Diabetes and psychosis history unknown

17. Exam denies all other significant history.

Robert O. Moore

ROBERT G. MOORE, Major, USAF, MC, FS

They're covering up environmental records by redacting crucial information like these from March AFB, CA.



#### 2.4.3 Offsite Drinking Water Supply and Private Well Sampling

Based on the results from the FT007 site investigation, additional sampling was warranted to further confirm the presence or absence of PFOS and PFOA in four offsite, downgradient drinking water wells. Groundwater from two offsite municipal drinking water supply wells (Wells #59 and #56) [REDACTED] were sampled as shown on Figure 2-2 (AMEC, 2016b). The combined concentration of PFOS and PFOA in Well #59 was 167.5 ng/L and in Well #56 was 16.8 ng/L. [REDACTED]

Upon issuance of the lifetime HA by the EPA in May 2016, the USAF initiated mitigation actions by providing alternate water supply to the residences and coordinated with the public water supplier to immediately stop use of the supply well (Well #59).



# They're involved in a psychological operation



A Fox affiliate in Georgia reported on Robins AFB recently:

“A 2018 Defense Department report **revealed trace amounts** of PFOS and PFOA in three of Robins’ five shallow groundwater wells on the nearly 7,000-acre installation. These surface groundwater wells are not associated with the base’s deep aquifer drinking water source.”

The base had contaminated the groundwater at 291,000 ppt, making it one of the most contaminated places on earth. By comparison, Vermont limits groundwater to 20 ppt. The report, like many others, fails to mention multiple pathways to human ingestion.

# How bad is it?



Many have died of cancer who lived close to this base. Drinking water was found to contain 7,910 ppt. of PFAS while a groundwater well had 88,000 ppt.



# Steve Patterson

At least 10 of Steve Patterson's family members and in-laws, including his father, sister, uncle, cousin and niece, have died from different kinds of cancer. A dozen or so more family members are battling cancer.

Recently, his 14-year-old grandson required a kidney transplant. They all live in communities near the base, downgradient of the fire-fighting area.



## **Mark Favors, shown here in the center, with surviving family members**

Former Army reservist Spc. Mark Favors comes from a military family who has lived for generations near Colorado Springs' Air Force and Army installations.

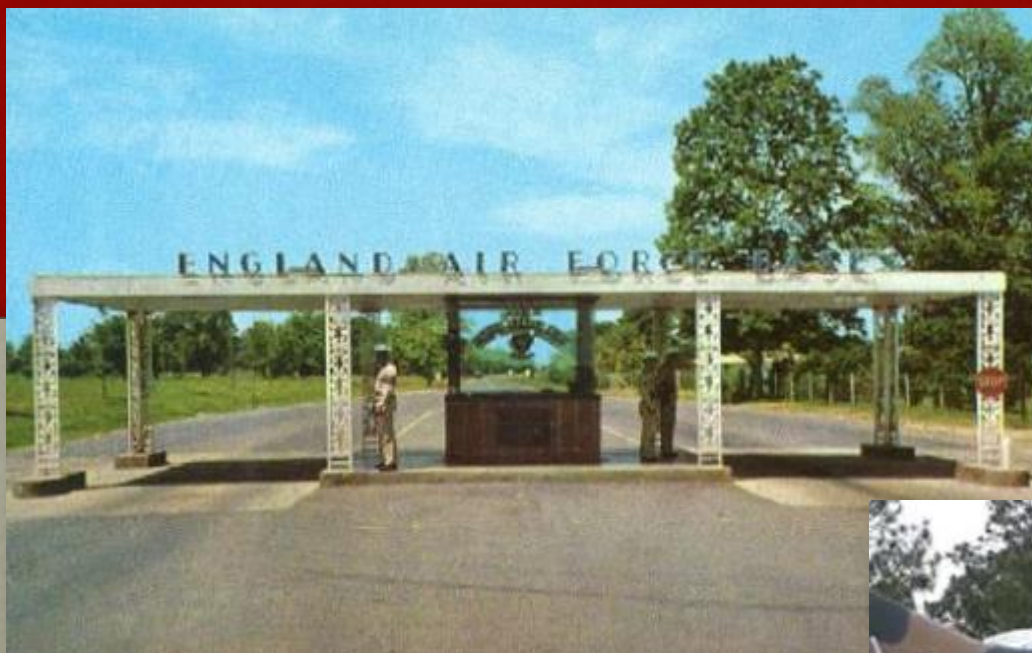
“In my family alone, we have had five kidney cancer deaths,” Favors said. “And those people only lived in the contaminated area.”





# How bad is it?

England Air Force Base in Alexandria, Louisiana closed in 1992. It was recently found to have PFAS in the groundwater at 10,900,000 ppt. That's 123 times worse than Peterson AFB. I saw impoverished shanties served by well water nearby.



Pat Elder at England AFB,  
Louisiana in March, 2019



PFAS – laced fire-fighting foam was used at Shannon Airport on August 15, 2019 when a US troop transport plane caught fire.

