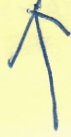


DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Regional Office
20 Washington Place
Newark NJ 07102-3174



DEC 21 2005



IMPORTANT -- reply needed

Dear Mr. Derosa:

We are working on your application for service-connected compensation for **Type II Diabetes**.

This letter will give you information about what we will do, how long the claims process will take, what you can do to help us, and when you will hear from us. Please see the enclosed attachment "How You Can Help and How VA Can Help You" for more information about your claim.

What Do We Still Need from You?

We need additional things from you. ***Please put your VA file number on the first page of every document you send us.***

We need to know how your military duties exposed you to herbicides. There are two possibilities:

- you served in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam Era (January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975). Service in the Republic of Vietnam includes service in the waters offshore and service in other locations if the conditions of service involved duty or visitation in the Republic of Vietnam.
- your job in service (other than in Vietnam) exposed you to herbicides.

If you served in Vietnam, please send us evidence of this service. If you did not serve in Vietnam, we need to know when, where, and how you were exposed. You may include statements of persons who know of your exposure. Any person making a statement should provide as much description of the exposure as possible, and include his or her name, service number, unit assignment, and dates of service.

Send us medical evidence that shows the diagnosis and earliest symptoms for each disability below that resulted from your exposure to herbicides (Agent Orange):

Diabetes Type II

If you are claiming a skin condition, we need medical evidence that shows your skin