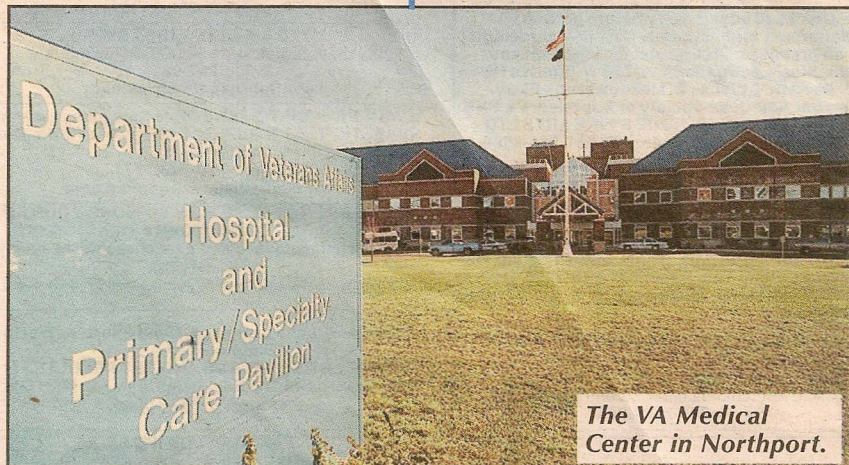


# Agent Orange:

The Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2003 added the eligibility of veterans who served on the Korean DMZ in 1968 and 1969 for presumptive service connection due to exposure to Agent Orange just as Vietnam veterans are. They must have served with a unit that rotated to the DMZ for a tour of duty and are listed on a DoD provided list of units. They must have been on the DMZ during 1968 and 1969 when AO was used.

## Healthnotes

### Healthcare and compensation for vets



*The VA Medical Center in Northport.*

**From** 1962-1971 more than 19 million gallons of herbicides, commonly referred to as Agent Orange, were sprayed over Vietnam in an effort to kill plant life and deny cover to enemy forces.

Since then, these toxins have been found to cause many illnesses and cancers, including Hodgkin's disease and Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

If you're a Vietnam veteran who has been exposed to Agent Orange, free healthcare and monthly tax-free compensation are available. The

benefits, which include a free health exam, are available to veterans who served in Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962 and May 7, 1976.

Veterans who served in Korea's Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between April 1, 1961 and Aug. 31, 1971, or in Thailand between Feb. 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975, also are eligible.

For information call the VA Hospital in Northport's Agent Orange Registry at 631-261-4400, or call the Mental Health Association of Nassau County at 516-504-HELP.