

Wednesday August 25, 2010

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BP Gulf Oil Spill's Walking Dead

Terrence Aym Salem-News.com

"And I think the media now has to...tell the American people who's getting money for poisoning the millions of people in the Gulf." - Hugh Kaufman, senior EPA analyst, admits millions have been poisoned in the Gulf states.

(CHICAGO) - A biochemical bomb went off in the Gulf of Mexico on April 20, 2010--as dangerous and destructive as a nuclear blast.

While an atom bomb's destruction can be measured immediately after detonation, BP's unintentional biochemical bomb is a slow-motion explosion that's driving a continuing disaster. Unfortunately, lingering death occurs with both types of explosions.



NASA photo courtesy: usahitman.com

Millions exposed to uncontrolled hemorrhaging, lesions, cancers

Recently, frustrated scientists presented evidence that millions of Gulf area residents were poisoned by the BP Gulf disaster. Worse, they believe that millions more could be exposed to long term poisoning.

Yet other than those worried scientists few seemed to care.

Now more frightening evidence has emerged: areas of the Gulf Coast may have been saturated with high levels of benzene, hydrogen sulfide and radioactive hydrocarbon effluents--three deadly substances that can cause disease and death years after the initial exposures.

[Full report available [here.](#)]

The EPA and the ongoing news blackout

The curtain of silence that dropped just days after the Deepwater Horizon blowout has never been fully lifted. At the time, a no-man's land was created prohibiting fishermen, reporters, news helicopters and civilian sea and air craft from approaching the immediate disaster zone. The US Coast Guard and BP conducted joint operations feverishly attempting to quell the spreading disaster.

Reporters were threatened with arrest. News stories were yanked. Scientific reports buried. And data from the NOAA research vessel--initially sent to the region to take readings of the seafloor--was suppressed.

Yet some information leaked.

Beyond the oil gushing into the Gulf at a rate never before seen, deadly methane gas flooded the region. The methane reached such high levels of density in the Gulf that brilliant scientists like Dr. John Kessler of Texas A&M recorded stunning readings of methane--amounts one million times higher than normal. His reports managed to reach the media.

Although access to the forbidden zone has been restored, a partial news blackout remains in place blocking public access to the data that measured toxicity in the Gulf waters and Gulf states from April into August.

A conveyor belt of death: deep sea oil plume 22-miles long

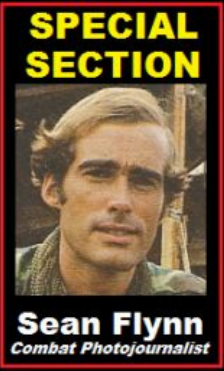
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Poisons flooded into the Gulf for three months. Unabated, these poisons have affected the ecology of the region. Now evidence is mounting that the delicate infrastructure of life inhabiting the Gulf continues to absorb much of the poison and is passing it on to unsuspecting humans. Reports that sea life in the Gulf have remained uncontaminated are being vigorously challenged.

And new reports are circulating the globe that the missing oil's been found. A plume 22-miles long is suspended deep in the cold, dark waters of the Gulf. It's not breaking up and it's not being eaten by microbes.

It is, however, acting as a conveyor belt of death.

Cocktail of poisons

Some environmental experts are calling what's pouring into the land, sea and air from the seabed breach 'a chemical cocktail of poisons.'

Areas of methane dead zones devoid of oxygen are continuing to drive species of fish into foreign waters, are killing plankton and other tiny sea life that are the foundation for the entire food chain, and are polluting the air with cancer-causing chemicals and poisonous rainfalls.

And before the news blackout fully descended, the EPA released data that benzene levels in New Orleans had rocketed to as high as 3,000 parts per billion (ppb).

Benzene is extremely toxic, even short term exposure at low levels can cause agonizing illness and slow death from cancerous lesions and leukemia years later. But 3,000ppb is far from a low reading.

Hydrogen sulfide was also detected by the EPA monitoring stations around the New Orleans area. The EPA reported hydrogen sulfide levels as high as 1200ppb. A normal, safe level falls between 5 to 10ppb.

Recently, Ron Kendall, an ecotoxicologist from Texas Tech University, was interviewed by National Geographic concerning the affect of the poisons released by the blown out well on bacteria and plankton in the Gulf.

The results were not looking good. Indications of a major, ongoing poisoning occurring in the Gulf were widespread. "This is what we've been worried about, because this is the base of the food chain," he told National Geographic. "Any effects on that level can work their way right on up."

Meaning right up the food chain to humans--many of whom have already been exposed to poisons from the air and water.

The bio-chemical time bomb

According to a report issued by Michael Harbart, Professor of internal medicine at Wayne State University and Kathleen Burns, Ph.D., Director of Sciencecorps, long-term exposure of the chemicals released by the ongoing BP Gulf disaster--at relatively low levels--should be avoided at all costs because "the potential for serious health damage is substantial. Chronic health effects are typically evaluated for specific crude oil components and vary from cancer to permanent neurological damage. They cover a range of diseases affecting all the organ systems..." [Sciencecorps.org: "Gulf Oil Spill Health Hazards"]

Senior EPA analyst admits millions poisoned in Gulf

Recently--in an eye-opening interview with 'Democracy Now!'--Hugh Kaufman, a senior policy analyst at the EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, made this shocking admission:

"And I think the media now has to follow the money, just as they did in Watergate, and tell the American people who's getting money for poisoning the millions of people in the Gulf."

As Alexander Higgins at 'Democracy Now!' points out: "Hugh Kaufman has been at the EPA since the Agency was created in the early 1970s, as an engineer, investigator and policy analyst. Prior to joining the EPA in the beginning of 1971, he was a captain in the US Air Force. He helped write all the Federal laws

regulating the treatment, storage, disposal, and remediation of solid and hazardous waste. He has been the Chief Investigator on numerous contamination cases, including Love Canal and Times Beach."

[For links to the transcript of interview and the EPA analyst's video testimony, go [here](#).]

The walking dead

Like those exposed to the Russian Chernobyl disaster, or the many thousands now sick and dying after exposure to the 9-11 Twin Towers toxic cloud, the people of the Gulf coast may have joined the ranks of the walking dead.

Experts cannot predict with any certainty that the poisons will be contained exclusively to the Gulf states. Weather patterns and the variable density of the substances could conceivably expand the Death Zone into parts of the Midwest and East coast of the United States.

Download the PDFs and study the scientific papers [here](#).

Review the 26 source links [here](#).

Access the video interview of EPA whistle blower Hugh Kaufman [here](#).

>Terrence Aym is a Salem-News.com Contributor based in Chicago, who is well known nationally for his stirring reports on the top ranked site, [helium.com](#). Born in Minnesota, Terrence Aym grew up in the Chicagoland suburbs. Having traveled to 40 of the 50 states and lived in 7 of them, Aym is no stranger to travel. He's also spent time in Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia and Western Africa. An executive for many years with Wall Street broker-dealer firms, Aym has also had a life-long interest in science, technology, the arts, philosophy and history. If it's still possible to be a 'Renaissance man' in the 21st Century, Aym is working hard to be one.

Aym has several book projects in the works. Media sites that have recently featured Aym, and/or discussed his articles, include ABC News, TIME Magazine, Business Insider, Crunchgear.com, Discover, Dvice, Benzinga and more recently, his work has been showing up in South Africa and Russia.



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gp August 24, 2010 8:05 pm (Pacific time)

good article on the BP coverups- <http://www.counterpunch.org/mcclintock08232010.html>

Shepton August 23, 2010 3:53 am (Pacific time)