

Semper Fi: Always Faithful Reviewed

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Film by Roy Rogers Oldenkamp, West Hollywood, California



America has always undervalued its military.

From inadequate PTSD counseling to Agent Orange and Gulf War Syndrome denial a pattern of neglect over decades is undeniable.

Now, Rachel Libert and Tony Hardmon expose a negligent military command knowingly jeopardizing the health and wellbeing of troops and their families spanning the same time frame, over thirty years, causing death and destruction in its inaction.

[Semper Fi: Always Faithful](#) tells the incredible story of an entire military base poisoned by contaminated water supply over decades, the cover-up and denials and the brave actions of one Marine to bring justice to power.

Master Sergeant Jerry Ensminger fights the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps command and national military control to speak out against this travesty. As a lead figure in the film, he projects a powerful and engaging presence.

Told in a largely clear timeline format and limiting the amount of interviews and characters to the essential few, Semper Fi digs deep and presents a damning picture that ultimately exposes this lack of concern for the environment as endemic, systemic and wholly disheartening.



Master Sergeant Jerry Ensminger fights the Camp Lejeune Marine Corps command and national military control to speak out against an entire military base poisoned by contaminated water supply over decades.

That entire families, base workers and the soldiers themselves were ingesting dangerously alarming quantities of toxins for long periods of time is both heartbreaking and maddening.

The film tells us there are currently over 130 contaminated military sites on the EPA Priority List, intimating a much higher complete total.

Sgt. Ensminger was a drill instructor for much of his career, and this moxie serves him well as he explores the hidden story of why his nine year old daughter Janey died of a rare type of leukemia, one of over one million marines and their families and base staff exposed thusly.

The film itself was a leviathan effort, commencing in 2007 and wrapping at the close of 2010, with post following. Taking on the DOD is no small feat.

An unobtrusive score by Ivor Guest and Robert Logan adds an appropriate finishing touch to the documentary.

Editing by Purcell Carson keeps the action propelled forward and lets the story unfold naturally, always a hallmark of fine editing.

Currently in festival rotation, watch for this film in theatres nationally, following a week long September run at Laemmle's Sunset 5 Theatres.

Hunt down this film and screen it, support it, support the EPA and support your country.

It's time this negligence by the Department of Defense, of whom this writer has been inextricably entwined since birth, be called for what it is: a blight to and on our fine land.

<http://wehonews.com/z/wehonews/archive/page.php?articleID=6662>