**{YOUR FULL NAME}**

**{YOUR FULL ADDRESS}**
**{YOUR POSTCODE}**

**{PHONE NUMBER}**

**{EMAIL ADDRESS}**

Dear **{MP NAME}**,

I am writing to you today because I want to request your support for veterans of the British Nuclear Test Programme and their families.

**2022 is the 70th Anniversary of Operation Hurricane, the first test of a British atomic device.** The UK conducted 45 nuclear bomb tests, and 593 highly-radioactive ‘minor trials’ on trigger devices, in Australia, America and the South Pacific between 1952 and 1991. Around 22,000 servicemen were involved.

In the 1980s, veterans first realised they had developed a catalogue of health problems they attributed to their service. Similar issues have been reported by servicemen of other countries, as well as indigenous peoples whose land was used for them: sterility, blood disorders, cancers, and rare conditions. Genetic analysis by [Rowland et al. 2007](https://www.labrats.international/_files/ugd/71499a_e8c04e100eef45ec84ed9003bdd06d82.pdf) has established that a sample of servicemen at some of the UK tests demonstrated the same rate of DNA damage as clean-up workers at Chernobyl. Many of their descendants are also now reporting rare, genetically-linked health issues, though very little research has been done on this aspect to date.

This is something that’s particularly important to me. **{EXPLAIN KEY REASONS AND ANY PERSONAL EXPERIENCES THAT HAVE INFORMED THIS IF YOU WISH}**

The UK is the only nuclear power on Earth which refuses to acknowledge, memorialise or compensate veterans of its nuclear tests. The USA, France, Russia, China, Australia, New Zealand, and even Fiji and the Isle of Man whose citizens were used in UK tests, all do.

Many of these veterans have already passed away from these illnesses, and more are being lost. Please get involved now before it is too late for many of them to receive their well-deserved official thanks.

* **Please contact the Government to raise my concerns and express your support for medallic recognition for British Nuclear Test Veterans.**
* **Please contact** [LABRATS international](https://www.labrats.international/) **to find out about how you can support their Look Me in The Eye Campaign further, or your colleagues Rebecca Long-Bailey MP or Sir John Hayes MP who have been involved in the working group.**
* **Please reach out to your constituents to hear the stories of your local Nuclear Test Veterans and their descendants too, and share their experiences, so more people learn about this part of neglected part of history and the campaign.**

In your response, I would appreciate you outlining the ways you intend to address this on my behalf. Please do keep me informed of any progress made.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully