THE PENTAGON'S HISTORY WITH PFAS CHEMICALS

1960s: With 3M, Navy develops AFFF firefighting foam containing PFOA and PFOS

1963: Navy seeks AFFF patent

1966: Navy granted patent

1967: Navy use begins

1969: Navy requires use

1974: Navy report raises ecological concerns

1975: 3M scientists informed of PFAS buildup in human body

1976: Navy memo again raises ecological concerns

1976: Navy suggests exploring risks of AFFF, alternatives

1976: 3M finds PFAS chemicals in workers' blood

1976: Navy memo cites 3M stonewalling

1978-79: 3M studies, independent experts confirm risks of PFAS

1978: 3M decides not to report risks

1980: Air Force memo cites PFOA toxicity, begins research

1981: Air Force study finds AFFF harmful to rats

1983: Air Force study suggests cell damage

1985: Second Air Force study again suggests cell damage

1989: Animal deaths lead Air Force to contain spread of AFFF

1991: Army Corps of Engineers deems AFFF hazardous

1991: Corps of Engineers tells base to stop use

1996: Navy study highlights AFFF toxicity, persistence

1997: Army tells soldiers to treat AFFF as hazardous waste

1997: Navy starts exploring alternatives to AFFF with PFOA and PFOS.

2000: Military learns from EPA that 3M has stopped PFOS production

2000: EPA alerts DOD about 3M studies showing health risks

2001: Navy studies cite PFOA and PFOS bioaccumulation

2011: DOD issues risk alert for AFFF

2015: DOD begins transition from AFFF with PFOA/PFOS

2018: Air Force completes transition from AFFF with PFOA/PFOS

2019: Army scheduled to replace AFFF made with PFOA/PFOS

2020: Navy scheduled to replace older AFFF formulations

Source: EWG, from references detailed in accompanying article