

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Blackwell, Morton: Files
Folder Title: American Association of
Minority Veterans Program Administrators
Box: 41

To see more digitized collections visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

The Stars and Stripes

The National Veterans' Newspaper

THE ONLY NATIONAL VETERANS' NEWSPAPER

WASHINGTON, DC, THURSDAY, July 10, 1980

White House Veterans' Head Reportedly Leaving Post



During Honor Vietnam Veterans Week, May 31 to June 7, 1979, the White House released a fact sheet on the Vietnam veteran. Part of that fact sheet stated:

"An important recommendation (of the Presidential Review Memorandum on the status of the

Vietnam veteran) was the establishment of an inter-agency Veterans Federal Coordinating Committee, composed of representatives of eight agencies which have veterans' programs responsibilities. A combat veteran of the Vietnam war, William E. Lawson was appointed Director of the White House based committee."

In an analysis of that fact sheet appearing in the June 21, 1979 issue of *The Stars and Stripes*, it was stated:

"The inter-agency Veterans Federal Coordinating Committee is the fourth such committee since the Vietnam war began. It will be even less effective than its predecessors, largely because of its executive Director William E. Lawson. Lawson's appointment and performance will bear a striking resemblance to the White House's appointment of Roland Mora as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment. Mora was forced to resign after serious damage had been done to veterans' employment programs.

"Lawson's recognized incompetence and ineffectiveness combined with his eagerness to put personal and political expediency and public relations ahead of the veterans' substantive interests made him the White House choice for the 48,000 dollar-a-year job the Administration really does not want to be successful. Lawson already appears more adept at re-enforcing the Federal Agencies' negative images of Vietnam veterans than coordinating their programs and services for veterans. When his self-serving has done irreversible damage to veteran's programs, he will resign as did Mora."

Lawson has recently confirmed rumors that his resignation from the White House position is expected. We therefore felt it appropriate to assess how closely he followed the course we predicted for him.

The Senate Veterans Affairs

Committee in its report of June 1980 on S. 1188 containing vocational rehabilitation and employment provisions for Vietnam veterans, said of William Lawson's effectiveness, "The Committee is unable to conclude other than that the White House Veterans Federal Coordinating Committee has failed to achieve any significant gains in terms of inter-agency efforts or improved service to veterans and serve as a central focus of the Federal government's responsibilities in this regard."

The following excerpts are from a report compiled by *The Stars and Stripes* after reviewing Lawson's 18 month service which details some of his activities.

Veterans Organization Briefings: Despite staff recommendations that the Committee (Veterans Coordinating Committee) hold briefings on the Veterans Outreach and Community Services Program in the spring of 1979, such a briefing was not held until October of 1979 and only after pressure was applied by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Lawson has been heard to say that he represents the veterans organizations and, there, briefings were not a top priority with the Committee.

Under Lawson's leadership, the Committee has become an appendage to the committee's staff. The Committee has no yearly planning, holds infrequent meetings with increasingly poor participation from the principal members involved, and the inter-agency coordination of services for the Veterans Outreach and Community Services program has not been as successful as it might have been. All responsibility for the Veterans Outreach and Community Services Programs, the major initiative of the Committee, was transferred from Lawson's office to DoL three months ago. Moreover, the committee meetings have been closed. No minutes have been made available to the public so that the purposes of

the committee remain pretty much in the dark as far as the public is concerned.

In many of the VOCS target cities, mayoral staff and community based organizations have expressed, off the record, that they would rather not see the Executive Director visit their cities; fearing his disruptive influence as was the case in Chicago and Minneapolis.

The first VOCS target city that Lawson visited was Chicago. During his meeting with Mayor Byrne, Lawson participated in a loud dispute with Chicago's CETA Director over the HIRE (Help Through Industry Retiring and Employment) program, which it is reported embarrassed the CETA Director and raised questions in Mayor Byrne's mind over the efficiency of support.

Lawson reportedly visited Chicago several weeks later to attend celebration of Vietnam Veterans Week in Grant Park carrying a brief case handcuffed to his wrist. Chicago veterans officials report that because of the meeting with the mayor, Chicago decided not to participate in the program.

In Minneapolis, Lawson addressed the Mayor's Coordinating Committee, brought together to oversee the VOCS program. At that meeting, it is reported that Lawson accused the VA of being a racist agency and that the VA denigrated the services provided to veterans by local agencies such as the State Departments of Veterans Affairs. Officials further comment that he offered no facts to substantiate his statement that the VA was a racist agency. His comments in Minneapolis so angered the veterans organizations and CETA prime sponsors that the prime sponsors reneged on their commitment to partially fund the Veterans Resource Center at the University of Minnesota.

When Roland Mora was dethroned from his position at the Labor Department in July 1978, VA Administrator Max Cleland wrote a personal letter of support for Lawson, urging that the Administration appoint Lawson as Mora's successor despite the fact that Lawson had only become interested in veterans employment matters subsequent to the creation of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment position by Congress in October 1976. Prior to that time, Lawson's main interest was education programs for veterans.

In his attempt to curry favor and it is believed to receive support for his quest of Mora's DoL job, Lawson strongly opposed the Carter Administration's 1978 proposed changes of the veterans preference law. He plagiarized arguments opposing the Carter position that had been prepared by the DAV but instead of attacking the Carter position on substantive grounds, Lawson personally attacked the motives of Congressman Bonior of Michigan, who was spearheading the Administration's proposed modifications of veterans preference. This personal attack on Bonior's motives appeared in Lawson's veterans' newsletter printed by the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

Lawson attempted to run for Congress on the Republican ticket in Buffalo, NY in 1972, but failed to get the required number of signatures to place his name on the

With respect to the rumors of his departure from the White House, Lawson has informed veterans that he has been considering moving on for several months. A person such as himself, he says, "is eminently marketable" and "would have no problem finding a new job."

As a GS-16 on the VA payroll receiving \$47,889 per year, it is interesting to note that Lawson had made arrangements to participate in the Buffalo, N.Y. VA 50th Anniversary ceremonies and declined on the same day, an invitation he received to the VA 50th Anniversary ceremonies at the White House.

The establishment of the White House Committee for veterans corroborated the urgent need for Federal inter-agency coordination. In the opinion of many veteran leaders in Washington, deliberate bureaucratic bungles pre-empted the Committees' opportunity to function, "if it was ever intended to function at all."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 15, 1981

Charlotte,

Morton does not think that Elizabeth needs to meet with these people. If you like we will try to schedule Morton for a meeting with them.

We await your advice.

Thanks

Maiselle

6/17
Yes, pls handle
Charlotte
Let's do it.
DB

They will
call about a
meeting

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 6/11

TO: Morton

FROM: Diana

For your info ✓

Per our conversation

Other:

Pls. recommend.

File

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY VETERANS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

June 2, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth Dole
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

The executive officers of the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators will be meeting in Washington, D.C. on Friday, June 19, 1981. On the 19th we would very much welcome an opportunity to visit with you to share our thoughts on the proposed G.I. Bill. We strongly support a new G.I. Bill for the All Volunteer Force.

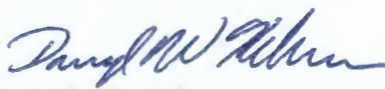
Our members serve as veterans' affairs coordinators on college and university campuses nationwide. We have much experience in providing the professional counseling services which are necessary in helping Vietnam era and post-Vietnam era veterans return to the classroom.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing a brochure from our sixth annual convention which will tell you about our fine organization. I have also enclosed a copy of National Conference on Vietnam Era Veterans--Issues and Recommendations, which I co-authored.

We offer our fullest cooperation and look forward to working with you on behalf of our nation's veterans.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,


Darryl W. Kehrer
Chairman of the Board

TO: Deana / Martin 49
PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS
COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS
RETURN TO CHARLOTTE BY _____

Enclosures

JUN 09 1981

**Sixth Annual
AAMVPA
Convention**

**Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle
Washington, DC
September 23-25, 1980**



Alan Cranston
U.S. Senator

Señator Alan Cranston has served in the United States Senate for two terms. He has twice been elected Senate Majority Whip. Cranston chairs the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, and is the author of the Veterans Cost of Instruction Program legislation. Cranston is a World War II veteran who declined a government deferment to serve in the Army infantry.

Larry Pressler, United States Senator from South Dakota, is a Vietnam veteran who served in the U.S. Army from 1966-68. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Pressler is a member of several key committees, including the Budget Committee and the Select Committee on Small Business.



Larry Pressler
U.S. Senator

Thomas A. Daschle is a Vietnam era veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he was a Strategic Intelligence Officer. He is a first term Congressman who was elected Vice President of the New Members in Congress Caucus. Daschle also serves as Vice President of Vietnam Veterans in Congress. He is a co-author of the White House Conference on Veterans legislation.



Thomas A. Daschle
U.S. Congressman



Paul L. Thompson
Disabled American
Veterans

Paul L. Thompson has served as National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans for the past year. He is the first black veteran ever to hold that position. Thompson is a veteran of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He was instrumental in establishing the DAV's nationwide Vietnam Vet Outreach Program to address readjustment needs of Vietnam veterans.



William E. Lawson
The White House

William E. Lawson, a Vietnam combat veteran, is Executive Director of the White House Veterans Federal Coordinating Committee. He is responsible for policymaking decisions regarding White House initiatives growing out of the Presidential Policy Review Memorandum of 1978. He is past Chairman of the Board of AAMVPA and a recipient of AAMVPA's Man of the Year Award.

Dennis R. Wyant, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment at the U.S. Department of Labor, is responsible for the evaluation and monitoring of over 2,500 Job Service offices and over 400 CETA programs as they relate to employment and training for veterans. Wyant is a Vietnam era veteran, and past National Commander of the Blinded Veterans Association.



Dennis R. Wyant
Department of Labor



Parren J. Mitchell
U.S. Congressman

Parren J. Mitchell was elected to Congress ten years ago as Maryland's first Black Congressman. He is a past Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. Mitchell currently serves as Whip-At-Large. He is a member of the Small Business Committee, and Chairman of its Task Force on Minority Enterprise, as well as a senior member of the House Banking Finance and Urban Affairs Committee.

Bill Bradley is serving his first term in the U.S. Senate. Besides being a gold medalist in the 1964 Olympic Games and a past professional basketball player for the New York Knicks, Bradley has taught in urban street schools and worked for the former Office of Economic Opportunity. He is now a member of the Finance Committee, and chairs the Subcommittee on Revenue Sharing.



Bill Bradley
U.S. Senator

Joan Zeldes Bernstein is the General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services. She currently serves as the Chairwoman of the Inter-agency Work Group to Study the Possible Long Term Effects of Phenoxy Herbicides and Contaminates. The work group is examining the possible effects of dioxins like Agent Orange on Vietnam veterans and other citizens.



Joan Zeldes Bernstein
Dept. of Health &
Human Services



Daniel A. Mica
U.S. Congressman

Daniel A. Mica is a Congressman from the 11th Congressional District in Florida. He serves on the Veterans Affairs Committee, and is a member of the Subcommittees on Medical Facilities and Benefits; Compensation, Pension, Insurance and Memorial Affairs; and Special Investigations. He is serving his first term in Congress, and is chairman of the New Members Caucus.



Chalmers P. Wylie
U.S. Congressman

Chalmers P. Wylie was first elected to Congress in 1966. He serves on the House Veterans Affairs Committee and the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs. He is a highly decorated World War II combat veteran who enlisted as a private in the Army and obtained the rank of first lieutenant. He is currently a colonel in the Army Reserves.

Robert Edgar has served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee and the Subcommittees on Compensation, Pension, Insurance and Memorial Affairs, and Medical Facilities and Benefits. He has sponsored legislation to extend the delimiting date, as well as offered legislation on several other key veterans issues.



Robert Edgar
U.S. Congressman

AAMVPA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

September 23-25, 1980
 Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle
 Washington, DC 20005
 202-737-1200

I wish to register for the Sixth Annual AAMVPA Convention, September 23-25, 1980, at the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle, Washington, DC. I understand that I am responsible for making my own hotel accommodations directly with the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle.

Please Print

Name _____
 Address _____
 College or Organization _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____
 Veteran ☐ Yes ☐ No War Veteran ☐ Yes ☐ No

Fees Per Person:

\$45 Registration Fee, if postmarked & paid by September 15, 1980; \$50 Registration Fee, if postmarked & paid after September 15, 1980; \$50, Membership Dues only.

Please return to: AAMVPA, P.O. Box 14095, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044

AGENDA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1980

9:00 a.m. Board of Directors' Meeting Room 311
 1:00 p.m. Registration Cumberland A & B
 to
 5:00 p.m.
 7:00 p.m. Opening Session Cumberland A & B
 to
 8:30 p.m. Veterans Legislation Cumberland C
 Consumer & Program
 Information Center
 8:30 p.m. Wine & Cheese Reception Shiloh Room
 to
 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1980

9:00 a.m. Hill Session Room 5110 Dirksen
 to Senate Office Building
 12:00 p.m. Federal Agencies
 12:00 p.m. Lunch (On your own)
 to
 1:30 p.m.
 1:30 p.m. Hill Session Room 5110 Dirksen
 to Senate Office Building
 4:00 p.m. Legislative Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Regional Caucuses See Announcement Board

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1980

8:30 a.m. Workshop Cumberland A & B
 to Veterans Employment
 and Training
 10:00 a.m. Workshops Cumberland A & B
 to Veterans Cost of
 Instruction Program
 10:45 a.m. Or
 Grantsmanship Cumberland C
 Or
 Enhancing Opportunities for Room 311
 Veteran Offenders
 10:45 a.m. Workshops Cumberland A & B
 to Readjustment of
 Minority Veterans
 11:30 a.m. Or
 Servicemembers' Cumberland C
 Opportunity Colleges
 Or
 Small Business Development Room 311
 12:15 p.m. Awards Luncheon
 to
 2:00 p.m. Mayflower Hotel East Room
 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW
 2:00 p.m. Business Meeting Cumberland A & B
 to (Members Only)
 5:00 p.m. Election of Board Members
 Adoption of Resolutions
 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

AAMVPA

Board of Directors

Earl C. Abrams Philadelphia, PA	Raymond Moon Philadelphia, PA
Frank Brown Tacoma, WA	Bruce M. Mort St. Louis, MO
Carl J. Dumberg Miami, FL	John M.T. Tracey Boston, MA
Nicholas Early Cleveland, OH	Bill Warren Coolidge, AZ
Darryl W. Kehrer Washington, DC	Gloria C. Williams Richardson, TX

Alternates

Dorothy Buckles New Orleans, LA	Jack Lutes Portland, OR
Ronald DeChant St. Louis, MO	Clint Walker Augusta, GA
Cynthia L. Wolff Washington, DC	

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Benefits Counselors
- Campus Veterans Affairs Officers
- Disabled Veterans Employment Assistants
- Employment and Training Administrators
- Prison Administrators
- Probation or Parole Officers
- Regulations Writers
- State Approvers
- Veterans Employment Representatives
- Veterans Outreach Center Counselors

CONSUMER & PROGRAM
INFORMATION CENTER

A special feature of the AAMVPA Convention will again be the Consumer and Program Information Center. This center offers participants a chance to leisurely review information provided by federal agencies who are mandated to serve veterans. In addition, veterans program administrators from around the country will display information on the programs they operate for veterans.

AAMVPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print

I accept your invitation to become a member of AAMVPA.

Name _____ Title _____ How long is present position _____

Institution or Organization _____

Business Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Type of Organization: ☐ Education ☐ Non-Education ☐ Phone _____ (_____) _____ Home _____

VCIP Recipient: ☐ Yes ☐ No Veteran: ☐ Yes ☐ No War Veteran: ☐ Yes ☐ No

MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$50.00. Please make checks payable to "AAMVPA." New ☐ Renewal ☐

All dues are payable by October 1 of each year and will be considered delinquent sixty days thereafter. By-Laws, Article III, as amended.

Please Print

HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print

I am attending the Sixth Annual Convention of the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators September 23-25, 1980, at the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle, Massachusetts Avenue at Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 737-1200. **I am responsible for making my own hotel reservations, and I understand that there are a limited number of rooms reserved for this meeting. I also understand that check-out time is 12 o'clock noon, and that if I am arriving after 6 p.m., I must remit the first night's lodging in advance.**

Name _____ Title _____

College or Association _____

Arrival Date _____ AM _____ PM _____

Departure Date _____ AM _____ PM _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Single (45.00 + tax) _____ Double (\$54.00 + tax) _____

Please mail directly to the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle.

REGISTRATION & FEES

Registration for the convention will be on September 23, 1980, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. **only** at the Holiday Inn in Cumberland Rooms A & B.

Registration fees are:

- \$45—registration fee, if postmarked and paid by September 15, 1980**
- \$50—registration fee, if postmarked and paid after September 15, 1980**
- \$50—membership dues**

Conferees who have pre-registered may pick up their convention packets at a special desk in the registration area so that they may avoid the registration line. If you wish to pre-register, please complete the printed form in this brochure and return it to AAMVPA no later than September 15, 1980, to assure that it is received in time for your packet to be prepared.

Please make checks payable to "AAMVPA."

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Site for the Sixth Annual AAMVPA Convention will be the Holiday Inn at Thomas Circle, Washington, D.C. It is conveniently located within easy walking distance from the Metro subway station at McPherson Square, the White House, and many other historical sites. It provides easy access to all government offices and the Congress, and is only minutes away from the Kennedy Center, National Airport, and the train depot at Union Station.

Special convention rates at the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle are:

- \$45.00—Single + 8% tax + \$.80 city tax**
- \$58.00—Double + 8% tax + \$.80 city tax**

Participants arriving after 6:00 p.m. must provide the hotel with one night's room deposit in advance. Participants are responsible for **their own** room and travel arrangements.

A convenient hotel registration card is included in this brochure. If you make your reservations by telephone, be sure you notify the hotel registration personnel that you are attending the AAMVPA Convention so that you will get the special convention rate.

The AAMVPA block of rooms will be held only until September 9. After that date, lodging is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Free parking is available for registered guests. Parking for speakers and those not registered at the hotel is on a space available basis.

through their brochures, pamphlets, posters, and other outreach items.

All program administrators are invited to participate in this feature of the convention. If you wish to include your program office in the center, please forward your materials to:

Ms. Joan Schuldenfrei
Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle
Massachusetts Avenue & Thomas Circle, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Materials must reach the convention site no later than Friday, September 19, 1980. Mark them "Hold for AAMVPA Convention." Unfortunately, materials cannot be returned. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Alfred Simons, Supervisor, Veterans Upward Bound, Prince Georges Community College, Largo, MD 20870, (301) 420-8728.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Airports—Three airports serve the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

National Airport is about 20 minutes from the downtown area. Subway service is approximately \$.75. Cab fare is approximately \$7.00 and airport bus service is \$3.25.

Dulles International Airport is about an hour from the center of the city. There is airport bus service to the downtown area for \$6.00. Cab fare is about \$24.00 per person.

Baltimore-Washington International Airport is approximately one hour from downtown Washington. Limousine service is \$6.50 and taxi fare is about \$24.00.

Rail Service—Both **Amtrak** and **Southern Railways** have passenger service to Washington, D.C. arriving at Union Station, only three blocks from the U.S. Capitol. Subway service to the downtown and suburban areas is available at the station.

Bus Service—Washington, D.C. is served by both Greyhound and Trailways bus lines, with service approximately every half hour into and out of the city.

Metro—The **McPherson Square Metro Subway** stop at 14th Street, N.W. is just 2½ blocks from the Holiday Inn—Thomas Circle. Subway service begins at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00 midnight, Monday through Saturday. Limited service is available on Sunday. The Blue, Orange and Red Lines are operational. Minimum cost is \$.50 and is based on the distance ridden and the time of day.

Taxi Service—Within the District of Columbia, service is zoned, not metered, and relatively inexpensive. The minimum fare for zone one, between the hotel and the Congress, for example, is \$1.45, with graduated increases from zone to zone.



VA Administrator Max Cleland speaks to AAMVPA conferees as Chairman Darryl W. Kehrer looks on.

Photo by Finnegan & Associates

YOU Are A Minority Veterans Program Administrator!

If you serve Black, Spanish-speaking, Oriental or Native American veterans in your program or college, then you are a minority veterans program administrator.

The needs of all veterans, but especially Vietnam era veterans, are important and are the prime focus of the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators.

Join us in Washington, D.C., from September 23-25, 1980, for the Sixth Annual AAMVPA Convention!

EXCITING MEETINGS

The AAMVPA Convention includes a complete round of exciting meetings on a variety of topics of interest to veteran program administrators. Workshops, general sessions, and an entire day of discussions with Senators, Congressmen, White House personnel, and Federal Agency representatives make up the core of the AAMVPA Convention Program.

A DAY ON THE HILL

Highlighting the Sixth Annual AAMVPA Convention will be a day spent with Senators, Congressmen, White House personnel, and Federal Agency representatives who will exchange their ideas and concerns with convention participants. Convention registrants will be able to speak directly with these leaders and policymakers. Convention registrants will be able to question the speak-

ers about the programs and policies of their offices or agencies. Convention registrants will be able to express their concerns and voice their needs on behalf of the veterans with whom they work.

This full day of discussion and information exchange will take place in Room 5110 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill. Among others, conferees will meet with the Honorable Alan Cranston, chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee; the Honorable Larry Pressler, member of the Small Business Committee in the Senate; the Honorable John Heinz, member of the Senate Committee on Finance; and the Honorable Bill Bradley, also a member of the Senate Finance Committee.

Also speaking will be the Honorable Parren Mitchell, former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and member of the House Committee on Small Business; the Honorable Robert Edgar, member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee; the Honorable Chalmers P. Wylie, member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee; the Honorable Thomas A. Daschle, member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee; and the Honorable Dan Mica, also a member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs.

William E. Lawson, founder and former chairman of the Board of AAMVPA, will be with us for the "Hill" session in his capacity as executive director of the White House Veterans Federal Coordinating Committee.

High ranking federal agency personnel who have agreed to speak include VA Administrator Max Cleland; Alan K. Campbell, director of the Office of Personnel Management; Jody Bernstein, general counsel for the Department of Health and Human Services; and Dennis R. Wyant, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop topics include:

- Veterans Cost of Instruction Program
- Veterans Employment and Training
- Grantsmanship
- Opportunities for Veteran-Offenders
- Readjustment of Minority Veterans
- Servicemembers' Opportunity Colleges
- Small Business Development

An awards luncheon will honor outstanding men and women who have worked diligently to benefit Vietnam era veterans, especially minority veterans. A series of timely resolutions will be passed at the business meeting following the luncheon.

The AAMVPA Convention is approved for VCIP travel.

MAJOR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Through the years, the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators has proved itself as a leadership organization in many areas. AAMVPA has been especially active in the areas of veteran offenders, education, judicial review, employment and discharge upgrading. AAMVPA has testified on these and other issues before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees, at regional congressional hearings, and at federal departmental hearings.

Three of the major accomplishments of the association have been:

- Encouraged, under the leadership of then Chairman William E. Lawson, the elimination of the age limitation for veteran participation in the Upward Bound program. This measure was passed by the Congress in 1978, after three years of diligent work by AAMVPA members. The measure now allows formerly ineligible veterans to participate in Upward Bound programs administered by the Department of Education.
- Sensitized the Veterans Administration, other federal agencies, and the Congress to the readjustment needs of incarcerated veterans. Veterans Administration outreach services have increased fivefold since AAMVPA began its initiative in 1975. Veteran inmates are being served more and more by campus veterans affairs offices. Within the last year, the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee has twice held substantive hearings on the issue of incarcerated veterans.
- A group of campus Veterans Affairs Administrators, led by AAMVPA Chairman Darryl W. Kehrer, in conjunction with the National Conference on Vietnam Era Veterans, met in 1979 with then Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano regarding much needed legislative changes in the Veterans Cost of Instruction Program. Most of the recommendations were adopted by the federal agency and submitted to the Congress, which included the changes in the Higher Education Reauthorization Act of 1980.

The Sixth Annual AAMVPA Convention is co-sponsored, in part, by the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY VETERANS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

June 2, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth Dole
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

The executive officers of the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators will be meeting in Washington, D.C. on Friday, June 19, 1981. On the 19th we would very much welcome an opportunity to visit with you to share our thoughts on the proposed G.I. Bill. We strongly support a new G.I. Bill for the All Volunteer Force.

Our members serve as veterans' affairs coordinators on college and university campuses nationwide. We have much experience in providing the professional counseling services which are necessary in helping Vietnam era and post-Vietnam era veterans return to the classroom.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing a brochure from our sixth annual convention which will tell you about our fine organization. I have also enclosed a copy of National Conference on Vietnam Era Veterans--Issues and Recommendations, which I co-authored.

We offer our fullest cooperation and look forward to working with you on behalf of our nation's veterans.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Darryl W. Kehrer
Darryl W. Kehrer
Chairman of the Board

TO: *Deane / Martin 6/9*
PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS
COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING RE
RETURN TO CHARLOTTE BY _____

Enclosures

JUN 09 REC'D

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY VETERANS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

June 2, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth Dole
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

The executive officers of the American Association of Minority Veterans Program Administrators will be meeting in Washington, D.C. on Friday, June 19, 1981. On the 19th we would very much welcome an opportunity to visit with you to share our thoughts on the proposed G.I. Bill. We strongly support a new G.I. Bill for the All Volunteer Force.

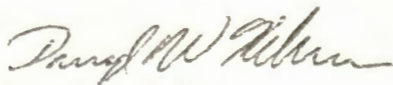
Our members serve as veterans' affairs coordinators on college and university campuses nationwide. We have much experience in providing the professional counseling services which are necessary in helping Vietnam era and post-Vietnam era veterans return to the classroom.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing a brochure from our sixth annual convention which will tell you about our fine organization. I have also enclosed a copy of National Conference on Vietnam Era Veterans--Issues and Recommendations, which I co-authored.

We offer our fullest cooperation and look forward to working with you on behalf of our nation's veterans.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,


Darryl W. Kehrer
Chairman of the Board

TO: Deana / extm 6/9
PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS
COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING RE
RETURN TO CHARLOTTE BY _____

Enclosures

JUN 09 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 15, 1981

Charlotte,

Morton does not think that Elizabeth needs to meet with these people. If you like we will try to schedule Morton for a meeting with them.

We await your advice.

Thanks

Maiselle

File

see letterhead