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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 29, 1983

Dear Mr. Pauken,

Thank you for your memorandum regarding Mr. Rick Eilert and his new book, For Self and Country.

We are processing a letter from the President to Mr. Eilert, as you suggested.

We will also propose that there be a meeting for Mr. Eilert with the President.

From your description, Mr. Eilert sounds like a courageous veteran with an important message. I hope his message reaches a wide audience.

I appreciate your bringing this to my attention.

Sincerely,

Faith Whittlesey  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

Mr. Thomas W. Pauken  
Director, ACTION  
806 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20525

FW:mcb m



**ACTION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20525

*Action + VLP*

January 6, 1983

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
Old Executive Office Bldg., Room 191  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Morton:

As you requested from Ed at our meeting on Tuesday, I am enclosing the recent centerfold photo and article from the U.V.V.O.'s magazine, their article about the VLP and the Stars and Stripes rebuttal.

We appreciate your work on our behalf and look forward to seeing you again at the end of the month.

Sincerely,

*Marcia*

Marcia Landau  
Media Director  
Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program

Enclosure



# Washington Bullets...and more

—U.V.V.O. was recently against legislation that penalizes retirees from working within the Federal Government. Our General Counsel is reviewing the constitutionality of this legislation. Why should the government restrict (by penalties) good people who proved themselves within the military from working with Uncle Sam as civilians. Is it more ethical to reward civilians who never served with good government jobs!!!

—U.V.V.O.'s Washington D.C. officers will be meeting with Dr. Blank to discuss the future of the Psychological Outreach Centers and we will hear a full report in our next edition. We will report the who, what, when where and hows of the Outreach programs. Look in next month's Washington Bullets Section.

—Our Agent Orange Computer tests are going to be delayed for 6 to 8 weeks (look for Christmas). The reason is that someone sabotaged our computers. This is not new. We have had our National Headquarters robbed twice of important documents and have had approximately 14 thousand dollars worth of equipment destroyed but our enemies are only making us stronger because they can't crush our will.

—As mentioned earlier, U.V.V.O.'s backing of H.R. 6782 looks like our disabled veterans will be getting a 7.4 percent increase in disability compensation and service connected death benefits (D.I.C.). The U.S. House of Representatives adopted this meaningful legislation by a 400 to 0 vote. The proposed rates of disability compensation are as follows:

10% . . . . \$ 62.00	(k) . . . no increase
20% . . . . \$ 114.00	(l) . . . \$1,506.00
30% . . . . \$ 173.00	(m) . . . \$1,662.00
40% . . . . \$ 249.00	(n) . . . \$1,888.00
50% . . . . \$ 352.00	(o) . . . \$2,111.00
60% . . . . \$ 443.00	(a) . . . no increase
70% . . . . \$ 559.00	(r1) . . . \$ 906
80% . . . . \$ 648.00	(r2) . . . \$1,350
90% . . . . \$ 729.00	(s) . . . \$1,357
100% . . . . \$1,213.00	(t) . . . \$ 262

## Proposed DIC Rates

Pay Grade	Monthly Rate	Pay Grade	Monthly Rate
E-1	\$445	W-4	\$636
E-2	459	O-1	563
E-3	470	O-2	582
E-4	500	O-3	622
E-5	514	O-4	658
E-6	526	O-5	726
E-7	552	O-6	817



E-8	582	O-7	884
E-9	608	O-8	989
W-1	536	O-9	1,041
W-2	586	O-10	1,139
W-3	603		

U.V.V.O.'s legislative liaison, Stan Swain, will call on key members of Congress to insure that this legislation passes the Senate with the same success. High White House sources indicate that President Reagan will sign this legislation when it hits the Oval Office. Some other provisions of H.R. 6782 are; increase in clothing allowance for certain disabled veterans, increases in compensation for certain blinded veterans, restoration of burial benefits in certain situations, allowance for the V.A. to increase the quality of medical care to our veterans by being able to contract out certain services that are lacking in some V.A. medical treatment Centers.

U.V.V.O. urges all members to thank your Congressmen and U.S. Senators for H.R. 6782 and other needed legislation that will help our brother and sister veterans.

—A Vietnam Veteran has again been appointed to the number 2 position in the V.A. Everett Alvarez, Jr. became the most recent Deputy Administrator of the V.A. Alvarez was much publicized as being the longest held P.O.W. in Vietnam (8 1/2 years). He is a highly decorated veteran. The news media also questioned his

readjustment problems when he returned home because his sister was active in the Brown Power movement for hispanics in California. By all indications Alvarez seems to have adjusted through the turbulent seventies and he is now in a leadership position for Vietnam Veterans in the eighties. After he gets his feet wet in the V.A. we are sure that Alvarez will attest that the enemy was much more identifiable in Vietnam than in Washington for the Vietnam Vets. Good Luck Mr. Alvarez because you'll need it!!!!

—U.V.V.O.'s push for a cost of living increase for our disabled Vets looks like a reality in the near future.

—U.V.V.O.'s concern for a stay of execution for the Hale Koa Hotel in Hawaii that was bought and paid for from P.X. monies from Vietnam, has succeeded in stopping the sale.

—The Survivor Benefit Plan one-time open enrollment period which began on October 1, 1981, comes to a close on September 30, 1982. This is for members entitled to receive retired pay as a result of disability or longevity (20+ years).

—The Action Agency which is launching a Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program nationwide has all but ignored U.V.V.O.'s request to assist with a program that concerns Vietnam Veterans. Millions of dollars have been targeted to this program. We are starting to feel that this is a Command and Control Ship (C&C Chopper) being flown out of Washington for a national white wash. Monies were recently transferred — \$850,000 plus dollars — to this agency from much needed job programs in Labor for Vietnam Vets. It seems that the same R.E.M.F.'s in Vietnam are taking control of our battles in the States. Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of V.A. monies to this same elitist group. Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report said these folks in Action are spending \$8 million for Viet Vets leadership program.

—U.V.V.O. made a galant effort for a Career Development Job Training Program under the direction of Forrest Lindley. Lindley rumbled through the Halls of Congress educating staffers and members on the severe need of career development because of the high rates of unemployment and underemployment. But many members of Congress are acting like Tom Paukens, Action Agency, by using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment.

—The above sounds an awful lot like strategy that was used once before — "Remember Vietnam."

FORT BRAGGS (VPS) — An article under the *New York Times* by-line in the Fayetteville, NC newspaper, *The Fayetteville Times* said that the efforts of the Green Berets and Counterinsurgency in Vietnam was a campaign of "Meager success" and gave "counterinsurgency a bad name." This has sparked a damning barrage of flak from Chuck Allen, former Lieutenant Colonel of the most highly decorated Green Beret unit in Vietnam.

"I take exception to that portion of the article and personally feel that it is an insult to the historically documented success of the US Army Special Forces effort in the jungles of Vietnam. The green Berets were successful without exception on their operations as long as they were used in the manner for which they had been trained," said the fiery Allen, who commanded Project Delta/ Detachment B-52, a high secret and covert wing of the 5th Special Forces Group, which literally shut down communist activities in their areas of operation by the use of sophisticated anti-guerrilla war techniques for which the Green Berets were trained. Allen's men used Road Runners, teams of ethnic nationals dressed in North Vietnamese uniforms, which penetrated the ranks of the Viet Cong and NVA for reasons of observation and intelligence, to be used to expel the VC and NVA from the area. The Green Berets under Allen's command were decorated time after time for the conduct of the Road Runner operations as well as for their own special operational 'Team' activities which are heralded in the annuals of Special forces and Rangers halls of fame.

In 1967, General Wm. Westmoreland, commander of all forces in Vietnam, commended Allen personally for his control of operations within the 5th Special Forces Group, for operations of the Colonels' Green Berets in

gathering of critical intelligence, and for combat results against enemy tanks and truck convoys which had never been engaged by American troops up to that time. The operations of Project Delta included the management and control of more than 800 square kilometers, by Allen. At one time there were upwards of 85,000 combat troops under the control of 5th Special Forces Group, which were producing more successful results in Vietnam than most of the other American units engaged. Their success was so sweeping that it was hard for anyone to realize or believe their rate of accomplishment.

"There were certain jealousies amongst the regular Army people towards the Green Berets because of our ability to do the best with the least. We consistently produced monthly body counts numbering in the thousands while at times, the Army's operations would show "meager success." That was unbelievable and that is what happened. No one, then or today, has given the Special Forces effort the credit they deserve for their dedicated service and their successful operations," said Allen at the headquarters of the national Vietnam Veterans Review near Fort Bragg.

Picking up copies of books like the history of Merrill's Marauders, the Rangers of World War II, Mosby's Rangers, the Swamp fox, Francis Marion, Allen uses them as an example of the kind of treatment the Green Berets have received from historians.

"The history of the Green Berets under my command, and Special Forces units as a whole, deserve to be on the shelves of libraries and book stores everywhere just like these. We as a group, and I'm talking about the Special Forces, accomplished missions as a course of everyday operations what many of these units that I hold in my hand did as a singular action. This is not to take anything

away from the unit histories of these infamous Ranger groups, but it is something that needs to be set straight for the historical record.

"These units were written about during a more romantic period of American history. That is also when the movies were made. This was an advantage for them and one which the Vietnam units did not enjoy. Much of the notoriety those historical units experienced was based on 'folklore'. That folklore is sometimes far short of what actually occurred under my command and by actions of the total Special Forces effort during Vietnam. This is documented without amplification."

Allen spent a total of eleven and one half years in Southeast Asia, to include a trip to the city of Hanoi in 1953. He is considered expert in the field of special operations conducted in that part of the world.

Allen is to be the subject of a book and hopefully a movie, on the story of the Green Berets under his command, co-authored by best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize Nominee Al Santoli, who wrote an oral history of the Vietnam War, *EVERYTHING WE HAD*, and Jim Pollock, author of the best-selling and much heralded book, *MISSION: MIA*.

"I want my book to set the record straight," says Allen. "We weren't all John Waynes listening to the Ballad of the Green Berets and charging sand hills. In Vietnam we were America's fighting forces who earned and deserve a place in the history of this nation. I intend to see that I contribute my part to that goal," he says.

Allen is the editor/publisher of the national *Vietnam Veterans Review* and director of the Veterans Press Syndicate, which is working to solve the problems of the Vietnam-era veteran, and set the historical record into a perspective that has never appeared in the American media concerning what REALLY went on in Vietnam.



## Letters From Pg. 8

any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at KQGL.—Al Grover, Salt Lake City, UT.★

### Brother Fighting Brother

The United Vietnam Veterans Organization took an uncalled-for, lousy, crack at the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program in the last issue of their newspaper.

They listed the following accusations, none of which are true.

1. The ACTION Agency...has all but ignored UVVO's request to assist with a program that concerns Vietnam Veterans.

2. Millions of dollars have been targeted to this program.

3. "We are starting to feel that this is a Command and Control Ship...being flown out of Washington for a national white wash."

4. "Monies were recently transferred—\$850,000 plus dollars—to this agency from much needed job programs in Labor for Vietnam veterans."

5. "It seems that the same REMFs in Vietnam are taking control of our battles in the states."

6. "Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of VA monies to this same elitist group."

7. "Newsweek and U.S. News & World Report said these folks in ACTION are spending \$8 million for Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program."

"But many members of Congress are acting like Tom Pauken, ACTION Agency, (sic) by using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment."

I am personally appalled that Vietnam veterans, and particularly a brand new group, would attack a brand new program which promises to establish Vietnam veterans as leaders in American society.

Just to set the record straight, these are the facts:

RE item 1.—On April 19, 1982, ACTION received a letter from David Christian thanking Pauken for meeting with Christian and UVVO's officers inviting Pauken to speak at the convention and urging him "to keep up the good work."

On October 5th, Stanley Swain and representatives of ten other veterans' groups attended a morning-long roundtable discussion at ACTION headquarters to discuss VVLP with Pauken and the VVLP staff.

Swain voiced no criticism of VVLP's so-called "refusal" to accept an unknown offer of assistance. The meeting was amicable and constructive.

There has been no specific offer of assistance for VVLP to ignore and VVLP has attempted to keep UVVO, along with other VSOs informed.

RE item 2.—The total lifetime cost of this program is targeted at \$6.5 million, less than the cost of fighting the war for six hours.

The HIRE program, as another comparison, spent well over \$100 million.

RE item 3.—VVLP is criticized as a "Command and Control Ship." Who is doing the criticism? What does it amount to? Who is the unidentified writer speaking for? Christian? Does he contend that a program should have no national leadership?

Criticism is false, at any rate. Check with VVLP volunteer chairmen.

VVLP is founded on the idea that committed, intelligent leaders among the Vietnam veteran community can formulate their own plans so that differing conditions around the country are reflected in the goals and objectives of each local VVLP.

RE item 4.—VVLP was criticized because of a DoL transfer of \$850,000 from "much needed job programs in Labor." This is false. Money was transferred from Employment and Training Administration and it was money that could not have been spent for VES.

This was a case of VVLP gaining the use of funds that normally would not have been available for veterans. This is also the case with all funds VVLP has expended and agreed to expend on behalf of veterans.

Sources of funding include the following, with previous Vietnam veteran initiatives in parentheses: ACTION (approximately \$100,000 spent on VETREACH in 1974—two programs, one run by Red Cross, other by ACTION and VA).

HHS—Community Service Administration and Office of Community Services (virtually zero spent on behalf of Vietnam veterans in the history of the agency); VISTA (virtually zero spent on behalf of Vietnam veterans in the history of the program); ETA of DoL (funds spent on behalf of veterans only as a type of "program eligible" lumped with addicts, convicts, etc.).

RE item 5.—Unknown author criticizes VVLP as "REMFs... taking control of our battles." This is totally negative, divisive, unfair, reprehensible conduct. Who is making these accusations?

Again, the accusations are completely and utterly false. The ACTION VVLP leadership includes an Army intelligence officer, a Marine F-4 pilot, a two-tour West Point graduate who commanded an infantry company and was wounded twice, and three enlisted Marines (two riflemen and one forward observer), who were all wounded in action and of whom two are blind as a result of their wounds.

VVLP leadership around the country is composed almost entirely of combat veterans including three Medal of Honor winners, approximately 30 Purple Heart recipients, several men with severe disabilities including blindness and loss of limbs as a result of wounds suffered in combat.

Calling such people dirty names should be consorted, violently.

RE item 6.—The UVVO publication says "Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of VA monies to this same elitist group." Again, irresponsible name calling.

ACTION withdrew its request for VA support when it became known that responsible veterans' service organizations considered the VA budget untouchable.

RE item 7.—U.S. News & World Report and Newsweek have never cited a cost of \$8 million. Nevertheless, the total lifetime cost of VVLP, over a three-year period, is estimated at \$6.5 million.

RE item 8.—Tom Pauken and ACTION (VVLP) are criticized for "using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment." This is stupid nonsense.

VVLP, relative to Federal initiatives, is nothing if not unconventional in its approach to

## Commissioned Officers Can Join OEB

Washington, DC (S&S)—Commissioned officers of all branches of the Armed Forces are now being invited to join The Officers' Organization for Economic Benefits (OEB), according to spokesman David Swanston.

This is the first national organization for military personnel to be formed in many years, and the only one concerned exclusively with the economic well-being of its members.

According to the group's director, Robert A. Courtemanche, LtCol (Ret), OEB has just one purpose, "to provide comprehensive professional guidance in personal money management, implementing service benefits and entitlements, achieving financial goals, and providing for a financially secure future."

The organization is not concerned with lobbying activities, nor with any social programs, he said.

Membership is open to all U.S. commissioned officers, both on active duty and retire. The \$10 lifetime membership dues covers both the officer and his family.

For additional information, write OEB's headquarters at 2100 M St, NW, Washington, DC 20063 - Telephone 800-424-9711.★

## Metro From Pg. 27

fant Plaza stop on the Orange/Blue line.

All other organization Headquarters are not near any 'Metro' stop.

The 'Metro' system in the Nation's Capitol is one of the newest in the country. There are elevators in every station and these are especially suited for wheelchairs, or for anyone who does not wish to use the escalators. In fact, the whole system is efficient and convenient and can help make your trip to Washington enjoyable and fun.

The Stars and Stripes Building at 40-44 G Street, NE, is just behind the Main Post Office Building, and next to the Union Station. Take the Metro to the Union Station stop.★

## Guard From Pg. 27

modern, deployable equipment.

•Seek an increase in the full-time support needed to obtain combat readiness.

•Support a GI Bill which includes educational assistance for members of the Guard.

•See improved medical benefits for Guard members on their way to and from (portal to portal coverage) and during inactive duty training.

•See increased Servicemen's Group Life Insurance coverage, if coverage for active personnel is increased.

The presiding officer for the conference was Maj Gen Edward R. Fry of Topeka, KS, the association's president since 1980.★

solving employment problems.

"Conventional" programs are those such as CETA, son of CETA, HIRE and many others that have failed to have a positive impact, despite ten years of effort and billions of dollars.

Enough is enough of brothers stabbing brothers.—John P. Collins, Haymarket, VA.★

## Vermont Remembers Vietnam



Dignitaries included (left to right) Lt Governor James M. Jeffords; Selectman of the town of Chaplain Lt. Col. Daniel Kellin; Gold Star Mother Patrick J. Leahy; Chairman Bob Rummel; Maj General, Vermont National Guard; and W. A. Yas Center, White River Junction, VT.

have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall enjoy a new birth of freedom and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth," is inscribed on the Memorial's face.

Pickett said, "We have created a statement that will stand forever to reflect our love for lost Vermonters and their families, but also serves as a reminder of who pays the ultimate cost of war."

Louise Ransom, a Gold Star Mother from Burlington who lost her son Michael in 1968, quoted Archibald MacLeish: "We will remember how they looked the last time we saw them. We will remember the weddings never attended, the houses never built, the children never born, the fields never plowed, the books never written, the songs never sung."

"We could never have completed the project without the support of a number of people," said Pickett. "They were all invaluable and we owe them our gratitude."

## Real People Rally New Yorkers For M Public Invited To Support Appeal To UN And R

Washington, DC (S&S)—Real People is presenting an 11 minute segment about MIAs on their Veterans Day Special on Wednesday, November 10 (NBC-TV 8 p.m.) to deliver an urgent message: that the Vietnamese have said that they will extend more cooperation in locating and returning the MIAs, if they see strong public interest from the American people.

To that end, Veterans Day, November 11, will be capped by an extraordinary public rally in New York aboard a Staten Island Ferry organized by the National Human Rights Committee for POW-MIA's.

Over 3,000 families and friends of POWs and MIAs, community groups, students and concerned citizens, including Real People's Sarah Purcell, Vietnam veteran Bill Rafferty, Byron Allen, Peter Billingsley and George Schlatter, have united to show support for—and draw attention to—the fate of 2500 missing American servicemen in Southeast Asia.

Boarding a Staten Island Ferry at Battery Park at 2:30 p.m., the coalition, accompanied by a flotilla

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Additional veterans or: auxiliaries, Gold Star fa cerned Vern donations.

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## From The Founder

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and specifically Jack Anderson, was false in his yellow journalism reports. Mr. Nimmo was honored by a standing ovation after he made his address.

Television, radio and newspapers from around the United States were represented to record our tremendous success or failure at our first National Convention. Well, we are all proud to say it was a success and we can all take a much deserved bow for our hard work. (Especially you, Pat DiPilla).

Elaine Zettick and Andy Warren represented Bucks County as the County's highest ranking elected officials. Congressman Coyne, Secretary of Human Resources for Pennsylvania, Charles Liebreth, U.S. Senate Candidate Cyril Wecht, U.S. Congressional Candidate Marino, and U.S. Congressional Candidate Kostmayer all graced us with their presence.

We had Media Awards presented to Radio Personality Stan Major for his never-ending role in highlighting the plight of the Vietnam Veterans. Other media award recipients were Bernie Weinraub from the New York Times, Ted Turner (owner of Turner Broadcasting) and Carlton Sherwood, Pulitzer Prize winner with Gannett News Service.

District Attorney Rendell from the City of Philadelphia addressed our Formal Luncheon that was shared with our membership and City Council.

The Veterans Administration was represented from Washington. The U.S. Department of Labor was represented from Washington and executives of the AFL-CIO were represented with the highest officials in the State of Pennsylvania and Washington.

We have the challenges of Veterans Day; the Death Valley Run and preparations for new year's convention — we will participate and accomplish these with honor. Also we will press Congress with substantive legislative packages for extending the delimiting date for education under the G.I. Bill; push for jobs for Veterans; answers to Agent Orange; legislation to make V.A. Outreach Centers a permanent part of the V.A. system and establish compensable disability claims for all delayed stress victims. We will take Capitol Hill with all of the above. We will keep on keeping on because we are #1 — U.V.V.O. Vets.



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The Veteran Experience - U.V.V.O. Nov-Dec 1982 - centerfold



## A Message From The Founder

Excitement and challenges have surrounded U.V.V.O. since we opened our doors for national membership in July of this year. We started off with 24,000 thousand pledged members from many organizations and leaders from around the United States. To date, we have over 8,000 paid members and we are presently growing by the rate of over 100 a day.

With our organization open for national membership we made reality out of dreams. Our first project was a grand National Convention in Philadelphia. This was accomplished with tremendous style. The Governor of Pennsylvania, Dick Thornburgh, welcomed U.V.V.O. to the State; the Mayor of Philadelphia, William Green, the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees represented by Congressman Edgar (D, Pa) and U.S. Senator Alan Cranston (D, Ca) were also present. Philadelphia City Council convened a special session to pass a Bill out of committee which would establish the first memorial for Vietnam Veterans in Philadelphia. Our National Commander, Dan Jordan, and myself, got to see Philadelphia politics in the works by testifying on the importance of a permanent memorial for Vietnam Veterans in the 'City of Brotherly Love.' Veterans Administrator, Robert Nimmo, was asked to address the terrible charges that the media directed at him. This was a tense moment, a moment of truth. He walked to the podium after I personally challenged him to address the questions being raised in the press. The audience was quiet. He was tense in the city that was the birthplace of our nation with the theme of freedom and rights. Now he was looking out at the largest crowd of Vietnam Veterans he has seen in his career. These Vietnam Veterans in the audience were doing their forefathers proud because Philadelphia was also the birthplace of U.V.V.O. and it was also formed to preserve the freedom and rights of a group that has been disenfranchised by a society.

Bob Nimmo courageously took on issue after issue by the media. He brought honor to the Reagan Administration and to our group and to himself personally by admitting where he made mistakes and was wrong and by stating that he would correct his wrongs. He went further to say that the press

and specifically Jack Anderson, was false in his yellow journalism reports. Mr. Nimmo was honored by a standing ovation after he made his address.

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MILITARY SERVICE DATES FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

OVERSEAS DUTY DATES IF APPLICABLE FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

**IF REGISTERING AS A SPOUSE OR BLOOD RELATIVE OF QUALIFIED VETERAN OR CIVILIAN WHO SERVED IN VIETNAM, THE ABOVE INFORMATION SHOULD BE COMPLETED WHERE APPLICABLE, ALONG WITH THE FOLLOWING:**

NON VETERAN'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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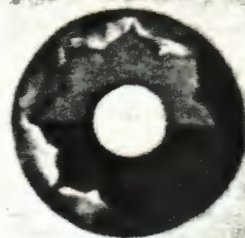
OFFICE USE ONLY  
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PD

**I CERTIFY THAT I AM AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN AND WILL PROVIDE PROOF OF SAME UPON REQUEST.**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE APPLICATION AND MAIL WITH \$20.00 MEMBERSHIP FEE TO:

U.V.V.O. /MEMBERSHIP  
741 Levittown Center  
Levittown, PA.19055







OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

# ACTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20525

Ms Dodie Livingston  
Special Assistant to the President  
480 Old Executive Office Building  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Ms. Livingston:

On Veterans Day Mayor Cathy Whittmire of Houston will be reading a proclamation honoring Vietnam Veterans in that city. The Houston Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program (WLP) has been asked to participate in the ceremony. (Please see enclosed fact sheet on WLP.)

Richard Kolb, the Houston executive who voluntarily chairs the Houston WLP has been asked if he can present a letter from the President at the ceremony which will be read aloud.

The draft letter enclosed is based on the President's remarks during the ceremony that launched the WLP last November.

As you can see, time is of the essence.

Anything you can do to expedite this would be deeply appreciated.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Pauken  
Director

✓ cc: Morton Blackwell



D R A F T

Hon. Cathy Whittmire  
Mayor  
City of Houston  
Houston, Texas

Dear Mayor Whittmire:

Congratulations to you and the people of the truly great American city of Houston for your special recognition of our Vietnam veterans on this solemn day.

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month 54 years ago, the guns ceased booming along the Western Front and what the world hoped was "the war to end all wars" finally came to a halt. Since that day we have learned—to our sorrow—that lasting peace requires more than hope. Americans have fought in World War II, Korea and Vietnam and we have learned that in a hostile world a nation's future is only as certain as the devotion of its defenders, and the nation must be as loyal to them as they are to the nation.

A long dragged-out tragedy, Vietnam divided our nation and damaged America's self-image, and part of the tragedy, a major part, was the sacrifice by men who fought as bravely as any American fighting men have ever fought. Millions of young Americans, when they were called upon, did their duty and demonstrated courage and dedication in the finest tradition of our country's military service.

I want to express appreciation on behalf of all Americans to those veterans who are here today. The granting of this proclamation is an important part of the process of remembering your courage and sacrifice, a process that is long overdue all across our country. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan  
President



Vietnam Veterans  
Leadership Program  
ACTION  
this file?

when

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1982

TO: Diana

FROM: Morton

The Veterans Administration informed my office last week of this request.

ACTION had asked the VA to enter into an interagency agreement for \$1 million to support the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program (VVLV).

They have withdrawn this proposal, but now they are going to the Hill to request that non-veteran monies in ACTION be used to support the VVLV.

Diana,  
I presume, then,  
that we need take  
no action. Correct?  
Morton



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

8/9

Morton -

Would you please  
look into this &  
advise EHA?

Should be  
considered a priority.  
thanks -

D.



W. F. (B. V.) MONTGOMERY, MISS.  
ION EDWARDS, CALIF.  
ACK BRINKLEY, GA.  
ONALD M. MOTT, OHIO  
OB EDGAR, PA.  
AM B. HALL, JR., TEX.  
DUGLAS APPELGATE, OHIO  
ARVIN LEATH, TEX.  
ILLIAM HILL BOWER, TENN.  
ICHARD C. SHELBY, ALA.  
AN MICA, FLA.  
OMAS A. DASCHLE, S. DAK.  
OB STUMP, ARIZ.  
AYNE DOWDY, MISS.  
IL GRAMM, TEX.  
JSTIN J. MURPHY, PA.  
IRON L. DORGAN, N. DAK.  
TONIO WON PAT, GUAM

G. V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY  
CHAIRMAN

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS**  
335 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 5, 1982

JOHN PAUL RYAN, ILL.  
MARGARET M. FITZGERALD, MASS.  
CHALMERS P. WYLLIE, OHIO  
ELWOOD HILL, IND.  
HAROLD S. SAWYER, MICH.  
GERALD B. H. SOLOMON, N.Y.  
JIM JEFFRIES, KANS.  
BOB MC EWEN, OHIO  
JIM DUNN, MICH.  
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, N.J.  
ALBERT LEE SMITH, JR., ALA.  
DENNY SMITH, OREG.  
MARK SILJANDER, MICH.  
JOHN L. NAPIER, S.C.  
JAMES L. NELLIGAN, PA.

MAC K FLEMING

CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole  
Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Elizabeth:

I am informed that certain Administration officials at the White House are about to direct the Veterans Administration and other agencies to transfer 3 million or more dollars to ACTION to fund one of that agency's programs relating to veterans.

Assuming for the moment that ACTION's proposed program is meritorious, I nevertheless feel that such a transfer of funds would be a very serious mistake and I urge you to do what you can to prevent it. My request is made for the following reasons:

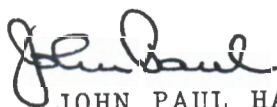
- a. Any ACTION program should be justified through the usual budget and appropriations process and not with a "backdoor" transfer of funds appropriated for other purposes. ACTION has had ample time to seek funds for this or any other program.
- b. This proposed transfer is an example of forcing "absorption" of the costs of a program rather than obtaining of appropriations.
- c. VA's General Counsel has advised its Administrator that any transfer of funds for the purpose indicated is of very questionable legality.
- d. My position as Ranking Member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee causes me to be particularly knowledgeable of VA's budget. It is understood that over one million dollars is proposed to come from that budget which is already very tight with funding substantially reduced from VA's original request. VA's General Operating Expense account is very strained and it is my understanding that that account is the only one from which any transfer could be made--even if the legal obstacles were overcome--without specific Congressional approval.



Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole  
August 5, 1982  
Page 2

It is imperative--in my view--that all programs of the government stand on their own merits. ACTION's proposed veterans program should follow the normal course of budgeting. If it is a good program--and I trust that it is--then it is my belief that the Congress will act responsibly. But in no event should VA's budget and appropriations or those of other agencies be used for programs other than those justified in the normal manner. I trust you will agree and your assistance toward that end would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT  
Member of Congress

JPH/wpd



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Vietnam  
Veterans*

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/5/81 NUMBER: 018636CA DUE BY: -----  
SUBJECT: CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES -- June 9, 1981 Meeting

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Allen Lenz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don Moran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bob Carleson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ann Fairbanks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Pauken	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Nimmo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Morton Blackwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
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Remarks: Attached are the agenda a background paper for the next meeting of the Cabinet Council on Human Resources, scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, at 2:45 PM in The Treaty Room.

RETURN TO:

Craig L. Fuller  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Director,  
Office of Cabinet Administration  
455-2823

CONTACT: Kenneth Cribb, Jr.  
Assistant Director  
Office of Cabinet  
Administration  
456-2800



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES

June 9, 1981

2:45 PM

Treaty Room

AGENDA

1. ACTION's Volunteer Outreach Program for Vietnam Veterans



ACTION'S VOLUNTEER OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR VIETNAM VETERANS

I. SUBJECT: Volunteer Outreach Program for Vietnam Veterans

II. ORIGINATOR: Tom Pauken, ACTION DATE: June 5, 1981

III. ACTION FORCING EVENT: Ongoing Visibility of Veterans  
Issues.

IV. ANALYSIS: Attached

V. RECOMMENDATION: To initiate within ACTION a time-limited  
volunteer outreach program to complement  
and reinforce existing Federal programs  
for Vietnam Veterans.

VI. DECISION:

\_\_\_\_\_approve \_\_\_\_\_approve as amended \_\_\_\_\_reject \_\_\_\_\_no action

## ACTION'S VOLUNTEER OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR VIETNAM VETERANS

PROGRAM PROPOSAL: TO INCREASE VOLUNTEER SUPPORT  
FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS THAT AID VIETNAM  
VETERANS

### THE NEW RESOURCE

Now, ten years after the peak of the Vietnam war, and six years after the fall of Saigon, there appears to be available a potential major new resource for adding to the effectiveness of federal programs that aid Vietnam veterans: the resource is Vietnam veterans themselves, especially the many able, vigorous and successful men and women who returned from military service. Their military service lent to them a mark of self-giving, commitment, and sacrifice. Through it they grew in maturity and in wisdom. They are now assuming leadership roles in their home communities. This resource has naturally taken time to ripen, since even a two-year hitch in the service interrupted a man's (or woman's) life for three or more years, given the disruptions of preparing for service and then re-entering civilian life. But, the consensus among experienced observers is that the new potential leadership is now available to be tapped.

The key is that there is strong allegiance among those who wore the uniform in the Vietnam era. There is a ready and powerful communicative energy when they meet, especially among those who were in the war zone, and in combat. These Americans cared for each other: the typical act of valor in Vietnam was not assaulting the foe; it was saving a friend's life. They still care for each other, as do their parents and spouses, and this caring is a significant volunteer resource to be tapped.



### THE NEED

Many veterans of the Vietnam War continue to encounter serious personal difficulties. These problems range from drug abuse to obstacles in finding employment. Also, Vietnam veterans tend, to some extent, to be viewed popularly as victims, instead of as potential leaders, who have much to offer their country. In addition, the wartime service has been to some extent a taboo subject, especially in the sense of affirming the integrity and honor of military service in the war. Even among the strongest, emerging young American leaders who served in the Vietnam War, there is reticence about discussing the war and claiming pride for serving their country.

The need is (1) to assure effective help for Vietnam veterans who need such help as drug counselling or finding a job, (2) to demonstrate the leadership potential of the Vietnam veteran, and (3) to encourage the Vietnam veterans to step forward, meet and help their brothers and sisters who served, and claim the pride in service that is rightfully theirs.

### THE CONCEPT

The concept is to use ACTION's resources to go into a community and stimulate the Vietnam veterans who are among the community leadership to join a volunteer effort to meet these needs. . The volunteers would do this by taking steps in their communities that complement and reinforce the present federal and volunteer programs for veterans. The key is to bring the new resource to bear as a source of volunteers.

### ILLUSTRATIVE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

The volunteers in each community would:

- encourage use of and membership in Veterans Administration volunteer programs (such as Veterans Administration Volunteer Services).
- aid and support (and when and if appropriate, attend) the Veterans Administration Vietnam veteran counselling centers.
- encourage and help Vietnam veterans to make full use of all volunteer activities that support them, especially the veterans' membership organizations.

- encourage and help Vietnam veterans to make full use of all federal, state, and community government activities that support them (for example, programs of HHS, DOL, and DOE).
- help arrange for donation of needed office or counselling space.
- investigate and inventory all local resources which might be available to the Vietnam veteran.
- persuade local institutions to make more resources available to the solution of veterans' problems.
- establish contacts and lines of communication with local businesses.
- assure (with D O L) that there is available a full inventory of the local employment opportunities for Vietnam veterans.
- assure successful referral of veterans to other existing programs which can help them.
- establish good relations with local representatives of veterans membership organizations in order to encourage use of their resources by Vietnam veterans.
- publicize the existence of all these services for Vietnam veterans.

#### PILOT PHASE AND OPERATIONAL PHASE

This program will begin with a pilot phase in some four or five test communities. The purpose will be to take "baby steps" to learn which approaches appear to work and which do not. The pilot phase may last up to twelve months, including start-up time (thus extending perhaps to May 1982, though preferably sooner). Assuming that the pilot phase is successful, the operational phase in some 50 communities would proceed.

#### PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Detailing planning for these two phases is under way. The purpose is to make full use of other experiences in use of volunteers to help Vietnam veterans (for example, the "Vetreach" experience in FY 1974). The planning is in the form of a draft Operations



Plan which will be fully coordinated with all concerned federal agencies and veterans organizations.

THIS PROGRAM IS PROPOSED TO EXPIRE 2 YEARS FROM THE DATE OF INITIATION.

#### ACTION'S INPUT

ACTION would recruit volunteers, especially other Vietnam veterans who have made a successful transition to civilian life, to assist in their assigned area on a part-time basis in carrying out the activities for Vietnam veterans. ACTION would utilize its experience and national administrative network to find and to stimulate these volunteers. ACTION would employ in its offices in Washington a National project director, who would be a Vietnam veteran. The national project director would supervise full-time project directors in each community served by the project. These also would be Vietnam veterans. It is to be stressed that the work of these directors is to stimulate volunteer resources that directly aid the work of and report to existing federal and volunteer programs. The ACTION employees' work is to bring ACTION's unique capability to bear in providing new volunteers.

ACTION brings to these tasks its expertise in community relations, knowledge of local resources, strong tradition of volunteer service, data on many thousands of non-governmental institutions, and skill in mobilizing volunteers. ACTION would use its network of regional and state offices, the Office of Voluntary Citizen Participation in the offices of many governors, and contacts in the operations of many nonprofit organizations.

#### TRAINING

A key factor in the planning and pilot phase will be to identify any special training or needs of the community project directors. The directors, for example, will have to be familiar with the capabilities and needs of the major federal programs for veterans (such as those in the VA and DOL) and also the programs of veterans' membership organizations.

#### AN EFFECT ON NATIONAL DEFENSE

This program will affect national defense in a perhaps modest, but direct, way. By meeting the needs of affirming the integrity of military service during the Vietnam War, the program will serve to repair the national perception that military service is an honorable call. There is a consensus that a

major (perhaps the major) military problem faced by our country is finding enough good recruits, especially in the volunteer mode. By affirming the role and lifetime value of military service, this ACTION program can help (modestly but importantly) to create a national mood in which young and able military recruits will be more forthcoming to meet national defense needs.

### COST

The pilot phase is estimated to cost under \$200,000.00 and is now funded by ACTION. The operational phase, with 50 communities, is estimated at \$2 million a year. The cost is low, because this is a voluntarism approach. The key resources to be employed by ACTION -- technical expertise in community relations and voluntary action, data on community organizations -- already exist. Local resources mobilized to assist in the program would provide another major factor reducing the costs of this program.

The \$2 million a year operational phase cost would be funded by direct budget authority and appropriation to ACTION, and also by transfer from other agencies having an interest in veterans, such as the Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, and the Veterans Administration. The program would be administered by ACTION under its present statutory authority, and no special authorization would be required. ACTION would aim to undertake a highly effective program at minimal cost.

### CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS

In the pilot phase, success would be defined by:

- (1) arousing strong volunteer interest among the identified new resource.
- (2) bringing more Vietnam veterans into existing programs of federal and local governments.
- (3) bringing more Vietnam veterans into existing programs of veterans' membership organizations.
- (4) significant learning as to the feasibility of the operational phase.
- (5) approval by Vietnam veterans in the test communities.



- (6) effective communication among VA, DOEd, DOL, ACTION, veterans' membership organizations, and state and community governments and institutions.

In the operational phase, success would be further defined by:

- (7) continued small and well-controlled costs for the total program.
- ((8) steady flow of able and enthusiastic volunteers.
- (9) continued support of Vietnam veterans and all veterans.
- (10) integration of Vietnam veterans into the existing federal programs (especially VA) and the activities of veterans' membership organizations.
- (11) evidence of pride and a sense of honor among Vietnam veterans for having served their country.
- (12) enhanced popular national perception that Vietnam veterans have much to offer their country as a source of leadership.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

In recent months, there has appeared a significant body of new literature which documents the need for and the potential of the program in this memorandum. The following material, in particular, is worth the attention of senior federal officials:

- (1) A.D. Horne (ed.), THE WOUNDED GENERATION (Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall 1981) (to appear November, 1981) (printed in substantial part in The Washington Post, Outlook Section, May 25, 1980) (copies available from ACTION Director's office, phone 254-3120).
- (2) Victor Fischer and Louis Harris and Associates, MYTHS AND REALITIES: A Study of Attitudes Toward Vietnam Era Beterans (Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Committee Print No. 29, 96th Congress, 2d Session) (1980)..
- (3) Charles R. Figley and Seymour Leventman (eds.), STRANGERS AT HOME (New York: Praeger 1980).
- (4) Al Santoli (ed.), EVERYTHING WE HAD (New York: Random House 1981).
- (5) Mark Baker (ed.), NAM (New York: William MORrow and Company, INc. 1981).

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 8, 1981

FOR: HUMAN RESOURCES CABINET COUNCIL  
Meeting, Tuesday June 9, 1981

FROM: TOM PAUKEN *TP*

SUBJECT: Summary of Program Proposal:  
Vietnam Veterans as Volunteers

ACTION, the federal agency for voluntarism proposes to encourage the able and successful Vietnam Veterans now moving into positions of leadership in their communities to serve as volunteers to help their fellow Vietnam veterans in need. The program will complement the already existing federal, local, and private veterans programs, and place particular emphasis on working closely with the Veterans Administration and the traditional veterans organizations.

BACKGROUND

Vietnam as a symbolic issue will not go away. The negative stereotyping of Vietnam Veterans in the 1960's and early 1970's was fostered by certain forces in our society who seemed bent on portraying Vietnam Veterans as victims. In point of fact, most Vietnam veterans do not regret or feel apologetic about their service -- their objections go to the way the war was fought and its ultimate outcome. It is time to turn to that enormous untapped resource of able and successful Vietnam veterans who stand ready, with the proper encouragement to come forward and help their fellow veterans with lingering problems associated with their Vietnam military service.

This voluntary program has both practical and symbolic impact:

1. It would recruit a significant number of Vietnam veterans to serve in a voluntary capacity who are not now involved in efforts to assist those Vietnam veterans with particular needs.

2. It would recognize that Vietnam veterans are a leadership resource, not a group to be pitied.



## PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION

The program will begin with a pilot phase in some four or five test communities, and will be judged according to such pre-determined criteria for success as quality and quantity of volunteers, cost, effectiveness of bringing veterans who need help into existing programs, and approval by Vietnam veterans. The pilot phase would last long enough to assure adequate learning. Assuming a successful pilot phase, the operational phase would proceed in some 50 communities. ACTION employees would be a national project director and a local director in each community. Cost for the pilot phase is estimated at under \$200,000 and is now funded by ACTION. The operational phase, with 50 communities, is estimated at \$2 million per year, from direct budget authority and appropriation to ACTION, and/or such fund transfers as are possible from other federal agencies which have an interest in veterans.

The ACTION Program would be planned to end in late 1983 or early 1984 with the continuing flow of volunteers to be handled by existing agencies and programs.

The work of the ACTION volunteers would be to use their leadership, management and other professional skills, and community and local government contacts to encourage Vietnam veterans to make full use of all federal and veterans' members organization programs that aid Vietnam veterans. They would donate professional services and resources as appropriate.

These key factors should be noted:

1. There will be no "anti-establishment" bias. The objective is to use volunteer leadership to stimulate Vietnam veterans successfully to turn to the resources of federal and local government veteran programs and the veterans' membership organization programs.

2. Under its new leadership, the ACTION agency is suited to identify and motivate the types of local directors and volunteers who will meet this objective. The new Director of ACTION is a Vietnam veteran as is the Director of this project and all who will be directly responsible for implementing it.

3. ACTION's local directors will exemplify the approach of the project: they will be able and successful professionals who are Vietnam veterans willing to contribute a portion of their lives before returning to their full-time vocations. They will not be disaffected, bitter, or alienated.

4. This effort is to stimulate a flow of new, able volunteers to complement and reinforce existing government veteran and veterans' membership organization programs.

5. The local directors will coordinate with the government agency representatives and veterans' membership organizations in the community to match volunteers to needed tasks.

6. The pilot phase is needed to spot the tasks which these volunteers can best perform and to identify the best manner to provide training if needed for volunteers and to coordinate volunteer activities in the community.

7. There is strong evidence that this voluntarism approach will work: the fellowship among many Vietnam veterans is strong, as exemplified, for example, in the successful organization (by volunteer Vietnam veteran professionals) of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, which has been sponsored by Nancy Reagan, and which has been entrusted with creating a national landscaped memorial on two acres in the Mall area.

8. This is a short-term (two-year) volunteer program designed to be effective and low in cost, and in which the first step is a pilot phase to assure a successful operation. We are not interested in creating another permanent bureaucracy, nor in perpetuating "career Vietnam veterans." That is why we propose to phase out the federal role after a two-year period, and this aspect should be written into the program in the beginning.



CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES

PARTICIPANTS

June 9, 1981

The Vice President, Ex Officio Member

Secretary Schweiker, Chairman Pro Tempore

General Smith

Secretary Bell

Robert Carleson, Executive Secretary

Deputy Secretary Trent

(Representing Secretary Lewis)

For Presentation:

Thomas Pauken

Robert Nimmo

Donald Custis

Frank Hodsoll

(Representing James A. Baker III)

Kenneth Cribb, Jr.

Thadd Garrett

Ann Fairbanks

Don Moran

Pam Turner

Assistant Secretary Savas

(Representing Secretary Pierce)

Assistant Secretary-designate Dotson

(Representing Secretary Donovan)

Col. John Fugh

(Representing Secretary Weinberger)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN RESOURCES

June 9, 1981

2:45 PM

Treaty Room

AGENDA

1. ACTION's Volunteer Outreach Program for Vietnam Veterans (CM80)



# VVLP NEWS

## Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program

An ACTION Program

UPDATE

NOVEMBER 1, 1982

CONTACT: BILL JAYNE  
202/254-8270

The Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program is a federal initiative administered by ACTION, the national volunteer agency. The program encourages successful Vietnam veterans nationwide to volunteer their time, effort and creative leadership to help solve the problems still faced by some of their fellow veterans.

The program is the brain-child of Thomas W. Pauken, Director of ACTION and a Vietnam veteran and was launched in a White House Rose Garden ceremony by President Reagan on the eve of Veterans Day, 1981.

At its first year mark the VVLP points with pride to the following significant achievements:

- \* Thirty-three operational VVLPs have been established, 25 within the last eight months. All are developed and implemented by Vietnam veterans. Each project director and each chairman of each program and almost all board members are Vietnam combat veterans. Three hold the Congressional Medal of Honor, approximately half the chairmen and project directors hold at least one Purple Heart and a number are severely disabled as a result of their service to the nation.
- \* Over 600 non-stipend volunteers have stepped forward. These individuals, for the most part, are Vietnam veterans working at the highest levels of their communities. They have volunteered over 30,000 hours of time to materially improve the situation of Vietnam veterans.
- \* Various VVLPs around the country have:

- MORE -

- Identified over 400 jobs to be filled on a priority basis by Vietnam veterans
- Placed over 175 Vietnam veterans in jobs
- 11 programs have hosted major recognition events in which Vietnam veterans were presented in a healthy light that emphasizes their continuing contribution to our society
- 6 programs have focused on assisting Vietnam veterans in small business development
- 2 programs are assisting in health education
- Approximately \$50,000 has been donated by private sources
- All programs are working to destroy the false stereotypes of the Vietnam veteran as anything from a drug-crazed killer to a guilt-ridden victim
- All programs are affirming the pride and integrity of military service during difficult days

#### REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITIES

\* Baltimore WLP organized and directed on behalf of the Mayor's office a highly successful July 4 tribute to Vietnam veterans, especially the 410 citizens of Baltimore who gave their lives in the Vietnam War. Over 5,000 (some estimates range to 10,000) attended the day-long event which included a parade, ceremonial tribute, entertainment and presentations by both the Mayor of Baltimore and the Governor of Maryland. Press coverage of the event reported favorably on the focus of the salute: The city should be proud of its Vietnam veterans and lend a hand to those still experiencing problems related to their service to the nation. Events such as this--repeated or planned by almost every WLP--are designed to reach out to veterans in the places where they live and work and encourage them to build on their pride in service to work through their problems.

\* San Antonio WLP has taken the lead in raising funds to support athletic events for wheelchair-bound Vietnam veterans.



\* Tennessee WLP (a "double" program) has identified over 150 jobs for which Vietnam veterans will receive head-of-the-line application privileges, enlisting the support of major employers such as WSM, Inc. (the Grand Ole Opry) and Vanderbilt University. Approximately 75 veterans have been placed in jobs.

\* Wilmington (Delaware) WLP has acted as a catalyst for the development of a cooperative year-long event to be called "Vet Info '82." WLP volunteers and contacts are playing a key role in the three-phase program intended to make unemployed veterans "job ready" and then place them in productive career opportunities.

\* Philadelphia WLP has focused on developmental activities including securing private funding sufficient to support an expanded program.

\* Phoenix WLP staged a luncheon hosted by the majority leader of the Arizona House of Representatives at which the program was presented to members of the board of major industries in the state and their cooperation sought for projects to aid Vietnam veterans. Through the efforts of the program, a school for training refrigeration mechanics has offered a scholarship for a Vietnam veteran.

\* Albuquerque WLP has initiated a "Profiles in Courage" public education campaign that highlights the contributions of New Mexico Vietnam veterans in civilian life. The project director has been tapped by the Governor to manage New Mexico's participation in this November's National Salute to Vietnam veterans.

\* Chicago WLP, utilizing the expertise and talent of its volunteers, has developed a series of seminars in entrepreneurship that are being presented for Vietnam veterans at local junior and community colleges.

\* Hartford WLP has established contact with a major employer--Aetna Life and Casualty--that ensures qualified veterans will receive competitive consideration along with other applicants having special needs. Hartford WLP is building on this success to secure similar cooperation from other employers.

\* Houston VLP has been successful in developing contacts with employers and has placed several veterans in career opportunities. In addition, the program has provided information to veterans from other parts of the country who are considering moving to the Houston area.

\* Northern California VLP (a "double" program) is participating with the U. S. Small Business Administration in a special program intended to aid veterans seeking to establish their own businesses. The program has also begun a major public education effort consisting of presentations to business and civic groups.

\* St. Louis VLP has made approximately 100 job placements already in its few short months of operation and had also laid the groundwork for an emergency food distribution center to aid veterans and their families.

\* Seattle VLP has taken the lead in the development of a telephone information service for veterans and has established a temporary employment service for needy veterans.

\* South Dakota VLP is also working toward establishment of a statewide telephone information service for the state's mostly rural veteran population.

\* Southern California VLP (a "double" program) established a network of professionals (e.g., attorneys, accountants, a dentist, etc.) who provide limited pro bono services to veterans. Job placements include career civil service jobs and 20 security guards at \$10 per hour.

\* Vermont VLP is active in the job placement field and has taken the lead in coordinating existing veterans services, especially the many isolated community-based organizations seeking to aid veterans in Vermont.

\* New York VLP (a "double" program) completed an extensive survey of 60 persons working in the area of veterans services to determine the greatest needs of Metropolitan New York City veterans and to gain guidance on the best methods of addressing those needs. Program volunteers are working to enhance the outreach capability of New York area VA Vet Centers.



\* Arkansas WLP, the newest WLP, has already established contact with the Vought Company, a major defense contractor with manufacturing facilities in the state, to facilitate the employment of Vietnam veterans by the company.

VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM  
Status Report  
End of FY 1982

FUNDED/OPERATIONAL

Albuquerque  
Arkansas  
Baltimore  
Chicago  
Hartford, CT  
Houston  
New York - 2  
Northern California - 2  
Philadelphia  
Phoenix  
St. Louis  
San Antonio  
Seattle  
South Dakota  
Southern California - 2  
Tennessee - 2  
Vermont  
Wilmington, Delaware

FUNDED/START UP

Indiana  
Virginia  
Dallas  
Ogden, Utah  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Minneapolis

GRANT APPROVED

South Carolina  
Portland, Oregon  
Louisville, Kentucky  
Columbus, Ohio  
Alabama

GRANT CYCLE IN PROCESS

Boston  
Hawaii  
Mississippi  
South Florida  
Washington, DC



VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM  
Chairmen and Program Directors

ALBUQUERQUE

James Reichert, Chairman - Was military advisor to a Vietnamese armored cavalry units. Within two weeks of returning home was in law school. Is now an attorney in private practice.

John Garcia, Program Director - Four months after high school graduation was in Vietnam with the 4th Infantry Division. Ten days after his return home he was married. Successfully opened and operated a retail store that employed 20 people. Before joining the VVLP, was an account executive with an insurance firm.

ARIZONA

Jim Hartdegen, Chairman - Was a fire team leader with 25th Infantry Division. Works with the Safety Department of the Noranda Mining Company and is a representative in the Arizona State Legislature.

Pat Chorprenning, Program Director - Enlisted in Marines after graduating from college. Was infantry platoon commander in Vietnam. Lost a leg when half his company was killed in ambush. Earned Master's degree from Harvard. Was executive director of Arizona Apartment Association and coordinator of intergovernmental activities for Arizona Department of Health Services.

ARKANSAS

Leon Clements, Chairman - Drafted by Cincinnati Royals basketball team. First Team All American basketball player in 1965. Served with 1st Air Cavalry as company commander. Now, senior vice president of Simmons First National Bank, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Donald Grigg, Program Director - Was with 1st Battalion 12th Cavalry (Airborne). Lost leg in combat yet returned for a second tour as a hospital administrator. Earned M.A. in hospital administration, worked with hospitals and medical consulting firm. Was Director of Personnel at University of Arkansas.

BALTIMORE

Mark Treanor, Chairman - Naval academy graduate, served with the 1st Marine Division as rifle platoon commander. Now partner with Baltimore law firm.

David DeChant, Program Director - Spent 31 months in Vietnam as a Marine scout and liaison between military and civilian leaders. Managed restaurant before joining VVLP.

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## CHICAGO

Dennis Coll, Chairman - West Point graduate, was with Army Concept Team in Vietnam. Earned M.B.A. at University of Chicago. Now President and Chief Executive Officer of Murdoch and Coll, Inc., a commercial real estate firm.

Richard Eilert, Program Director - Marine rifleman in Vietnam where he was severely wounded, thirty-eight operations since his return home. Author of soon to be published book, THREE SOUTH.

## COLUMBUS, OHIO\*

Gene Watts, Ph.D., Chairman - Army Captain with 509th radio research group in Vietnam. Now Associate Professor of History and a Research Associate for the Study of Crime and Delinquency, Ohio State University. Holds several post-doctoral awards and is a book review editor.

## DALLAS\*

Pat Haggerty, Chairman - Was with the Mobile Riverine Force with the Navy in Vietnam. Holds M.B.A. from University of Dallas. Is industrial real estate broker.

## HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Max Patterson, Chairman - Served in Vietnam with the 1st Infantry Division. Earned B.A. and Master's degrees at Michigan State University. Now police chief, Windsor, Connecticut.

Dennis Peaslee, Program Director - Was with 1st Marine Regiment as intelligence scout. Two tours. Founded and was president of Connecticut Advocates for Vietnam veterans. Counseled at vet center.

## HOUSTON

Richard Kolb, Chairman - Was radio operator with the 1st Airborne in Vietnam. Works in the field of exploration in the petroleum industry. Free lance author-- numerous articles affirming the integrity of service.

Stan Horton, Program Director - Was Navy seabee and worked with 5th Marines in I Corps. After Navy he enlisted in Marines, became a pilot and earned college degree in aeronautics.

## INDIANA\*

Ron Layer, Chairman - West Point graduate. Captain, fire support coordinator, 9th infantry division. Purple Heart. Graduated Indiana Law School, now trial lawyer.

## NEW ORLEANS\*

Bill Ryan, Chairman - Was a Marine platoon commander. Received three Purple Hearts, legally blind as a result of wounds. Is a businessman and attorney. Develops commercial real estate.



## NEW YORK

William Schmick, Chairman - Joined Marines at 17 and served in Vietnam with the Combined Action Program. Decorated for valor and wounded in action. Wrote an award winning column for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin while earning his journalism degree. Holds M.B.A. from New York University. Was Fulbright Fellow in Japan. Wrote for FORBES MAGAZINE and is now an institutional broker for Drexel, Burnham, Lambert.

Gene Gitelson, Program Director - Was support platoon leader and rifle platoon leader in Vietnam. Worked in marketing research for Joseph E. Seagrams Company. Directed drug prevention program in South Bronx. Earned M.B.A. with honors from New York University. Was second Vice President of Chase Manhattan and consultant to multi-national corporations. Is guest lecturer at N.Y.U. School of Public Administration and the American Management Association.

## NIAGARA FRONTIER (BUFFALO, NY)\*

Joe Ryan, Chairman - Navy Lt., commanded team of professional divers. Founding partner of National Public Professional Associates, Inc. Degree in labor relations from Cornell University. Brother, Bill, is chairman of New Orleans WLP.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

John Cummings, Co-Chairman - Served first tour with Special Forces. Was commander of A Company, 4/21st Infantry, 199th Light Infantry Brigade second tour. Wounded. Now an attorney in private practice.

Glen Kendall, Co-Chairman - Served in Vietnam with 196th Infantry Brigade as rifle company commander and battalion staff officer. Holds Master's from Dartmouth College and was White House Fellow. Was Director of Policy Planning for the Environmental Protection Agency. Now President of Terradata, Inc. and Kendall Associates, a consulting firm.

Jeff Wilcox, Program Director - West Point graduate. Was rifle platoon leader and company commander with 191st Airborne Division. Wounded in action; received Bronze Star. Worked with IBM selling computer systems to Fortune 500 corporations.

Vadon 'Mac' McIlwain, Program Director - Served with Seabee team in Vietnam. Received B.A. at California State College, Stanislaus. Early organizer of veterans support and civic action groups. Was Director of Veterans Affairs on several California college campuses assisting veterans interested in post-secondary education and worked with multi-service veterans outreach project in California.

## PHILADELPHIA

Chuck O'Brien, Chairman - Was platoon leader with the 9th Infantry Division, airborne and ranger qualified. Lost part of his leg. Taught skiing to handicapped. Climbed Mt. Rainier July 1981. Is an attorney in private practice.

Doug Foster, Program Director - Enlisted in Army at 18, Retired as Major. Wounded in action. Degree in business administration.

#### PITTSBURGH\*

Don Bailey, Chairman - Was company commander with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. Awarded a Silver Star and two Bronze Stars. Served two terms in the U.S. Congress and is the most highly decorated Vietnam veteran in the House of Representatives

#### ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Jerry Wamser, Chairman - Was a MACV advisor to the 23rd Vietnamese Infantry Division. Worked with Red Cross to help relocate South Vietnamese refugees after the war. An attorney in private practice, involved in variety of civic affairs including a gubernatorial appointment to the Board of Elections Commission, City of St. Louis.

Pat Schommer, Program Director - Army combat medic in Middle East. Founded Veterans Service Center in St. Louis. Chairman of Special Task Force for Veterans Affairs, St. Louis. Was consultant to Department of Medicine and Surgery for VA. Coordinator for training VA's Southeast Regional Medical Education Center.

#### SAN ANTONIO

John D. Baines, Chairman - A Navy Seabee, founder and president of John D. Baines Properties, Inc., brokers and develops international commercial real estate.

Bill Stensland, Program Director - Naval Academy graduate, after 15 years of active Marine Corps service, Major Stensland retired due to wounds suffered in Vietnam.

#### SEATTLE

Joe Murphy, Chairman - Served with Army in Ton Son Nhut with crypto-logistics unit. Two degrees from Notre Dame; Cornell Law School. Now partner with a Seattle law firm.

Mike McWatters, Program Director - Navy corpsman, served with 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and 3rd Recon Battalion in Vietnam. Was recognized in 1980 as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America." Was outreach specialist in VA's Operation Outreach Program. Worked with Department of Human Resources, City of Seattle, Seattle Veterans Action Center (SEA-VAC).

#### SOUTH CAROLINA\*

Bobby Kinard, Chairman - Was a Sergeant with the 3rd TAC Fighter Wing of the Air Force in Vietnam. Graduated from the Citadel and University of South Carolina Law School. Presently in private practice of law. Serves as representative to South Carolina legislature.



## SOUTH DAKOTA

David Volk, Chairman - Served as journalist and photographer with 101st Airborne. Returned to South Dakota and was elected States Treasurer. Has held that post ever since.

David Ressler, Program Director - Served in Vietnam two and one-half years. Helicopter crew chief with 159th Assault Helicopter Battalion. Shot down three times. Worked in broadcasting industry and managed antiques restoration company.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Leo Thorsness, Chairman - Flew 93 missions. POW six years. Ran against George McGovern for Senate seat in South Dakota. Earned Congressional Medal of Honor. Now corporate executive with Litton Industries.

Roland Cinciarelli, Program Director - Retired from Marine Corps as Brigadier General. Real estate investor before joining WVLP. Commanding officer of maintenance company in Vietnam.

David Szumowski, Program Director, San Diego - Was tank platoon leader with 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Blinded. Graduated Denver Law School. Passed bar in Colorado and California. Was press secretary to Congressional campaign. Was veterans benefits counselor.

## TENNESSEE

Sam Bartholomew, Chairman - Was with the 3rd Squadron 4th Cavalry after graduating from West Point. Was legislative assistant and campaign manager to Senator Howard Baker while earning law degree at Vanderbilt University. Is now an attorney in private practice.

Fred Tucker, Program Director - Enlisted in the Marines at 16. Served two tours of duty in Vietnam. After retiring earned Master's degree in Communications and taught college. Was general manager for Carpet Barn and managed ten stores in three states.

John Furgess, Administrative Director - Served with U.S. Army's America/Division at Chu Lai and is member of the Tennessee Army National Guard. Holds business degree from Middle Tennessee State University and was a life insurance executive. Writes a weekly column on veterans affairs for local newspaper.

## UTAH\*

Franklin Maughan, Chairman - Was platoon leader, 1st squadron 4th cavalry, 1st Infantry Division. Now is County Commissioner of Weber County, Utah.

Bill Galbraith, Program Director - Served with Army Field Artillery as Lt. Col. in Vietnam. Started two vocational training schools in-country for ARVN. Degree in business administration. Was business manager of hospital, purchasing and personnel director of a savings and loan company and now owns a retail business.

## VERMONT

Robert E. Rummel, Chairman - Machine gunner with 101st Airborne, wounded in action. President of Robert E. Rummel Construction Company and president of Green Mountain Futures, a development company.

William Fagginger-Auer, Program Director - Served in Navy as operations officer aboard "Franklin Delano Roosevelt." Was director of Project to Advance Veterans Employment (PAVE).

## VIRGINIA\*

Phil Hough, Chairman - Was Navy operations officer and Assistant Senior Advisor and Team Leader in Vietnam. Naval Academy graduate. Master's in public administration from University of Southern California. Consultant to U.S. and European defense industries.

Stephen Brixey, Vice Chairman - Naval Academy graduate. Marine Officer. A-6 bombardier navigator in Southeast Asia. Now executive with Texas Instruments in Northern Virginia.

Carl White, Program Director - Served as advisor to Vietnamese Marines. Retired from Marines as major. Holds degree in broadcast journalism. Was magazine editor and had own publications design and editorial consulting firm.

## WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Kip Becker, Ph.D. Chairman - Was helicopter pilot with 119th Assault Helicopter Company in Vietnam. Holds two master's degrees, a doctorate and is working on a third master's degree in computer sciences. Is Assistant Dean of Behavioral Sciences and M.B.A. coordinator, Wilmington College.

Wayne Hanby, Program Director - Served with 2nd Battalion 3rd Marines. Lost an eye and a hand in combat. Was a Justice of the Peace for the State of Delaware.



VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM  
National Advisors

ROY ADAMS

Served with 101st Airborne as infantry platoon leader and assistant operations officer. Is now Special Assistant to U.S. Senator Jeremiah Denton (R-Ala.).

FRANCIS GUESS

Served with 1st Infantry Division. Received Master's from Vanderbilt University. Is Commissioner of the Department of General Services for the State of Tennessee. Past president of Tennessee Council of Urban Leagues.

GRACE-MARIE McALISTER

Air Force staff sergeant in Vietnam. Selected to crew aboard Air Force One and flew for three years. Holds Master's degree in business administration. Currently is Administrative Officer for National Security Affairs, Office of the Vice President and Staff Security Officer.

JAMES McCLOSKEY

Was an advisor in Vietnam assigned to 1st Marine Division. Now a major in Army Reserves. Wounded. Earned a Master's in finance. Teaches at LaSalle College and is economist with the Department of Commerce, City of Philadelphia.

JOCK NASH

Was a Marine platoon commander in Vietnam. Holds a law degree from Georgetown University and is chief counsel and staff director of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate.

LUIS SANZ, M.D.

Was medic with 29th Evacuation Hospital. Graduated college in three years and finished medical school at the top of his class. Now full-time faculty member at Georgetown University and maintains private obstetrics and gynecology practice.

GEORGE SKYPECK

Wounded several times in Vietnam after enlisting in Army. Became an officer without college degree. Later earned Master's from University of Massachusetts. Is an artist who has exhibited throughout the country.

WILLIAM VOGT

West Point graduate, M.B.A. Cornell University. Earned bronze star with Army Medical Service Corps. Defense analyst. Wrote Veterans Day editorial for WASHINGTON POST "Don't Turn Vietnam Veterans into Another Welfare Constituency."

JAMES WEBB

A Marine company commander, twice wounded in Vietnam. Earned law degree at Georgetown University and was counsel to House Veterans Affairs Committee. Taught poetry and the novel at the Naval Academy. Best selling author: FIELDS OF FIRE and A SENSE OF HONOR.

JOHN P. WHEELER III

Took leave of absence from legal practice to serve as first national director of WLP. Graduated from West Point as Distinguished Cadet, earned M.B.A. from Harvard and graduated with honors from Yale Law School. Organized Southeast Asia Memorial at West Point and is Chairman of the Board of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Originator of THE WOUNDED GENERATION and author of numerous articles about the leadership role of the Vietnam veteran.



ACTION  
VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

THOMAS PAUKEN, DIRECTOR, ACTION

Enlisted in U.S. Army and served in Vietnam as a Province Intelligence Officer and Senior Analyst for Strategic Research and Analysis. Graduated from Georgetown University and received law degree from Southern Methodist University. Was an attorney in private practice in Dallas, Texas.

EDWARD TIMPERLAKE, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, VVLP

An Annapolis graduate and Marine F-4 pilot, earned his M.B.A. at Cornell University. Timperlake headed a team under contract to the Office of the Secretary of Defense analyzing the national security balance between the Soviets and the U.S. before becoming Deputy Director of the VVLP in October 1981. Recently became National Director, VVLP.

WILLIAM JAYNE, NATIONAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR, VVLP

Marine rifleman wounded at Khe Sanh during Tet offensive. Received B.A. with honors from University of California at Berkeley. Was Director of Information at Associated General Contractors of America before becoming National Deputy Director of VVLP.

KENNETH MOOREFIELD, NATIONAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR, VVLP

First served as advisor to a South Vietnamese infantry battalion. Second tour as a company commander with 9th infantry division and aide-de-camp for 25th infantry division commander. Returned to Vietnam as the Special Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador and managed the evacuation of refugees from Ton Son Nhut Air Base during the fall of Saigon. Served with the Foreign Service as Science and Technology Attache at American Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela. Worked in private sector as international business consultant.

JERRY E. YATES, VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS LIAISON (on loan to VVLP from VA)

Served with Korean Military Advisory Group in Southeast Asia. Earned Master's degree from Western Michigan University. Worked for Veterans Administration in four midwestern states before coming to Washington to work in Executive Development and Training Service. Founder of first two national weekend tributes to Vietnam veterans in West Virginia.

MARCIA LANDAU, MEDIA DIRECTOR, VVLP

Fundraising and public relations consultant for a variety of clients including Playboy, William R. Hearst II, Aerospace Education Foundation and Arizona State. Co-authored book on holistic health care.

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VALERIE WHEELER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, VWLP

B.E. degree. Served with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia. Reservist for Army Civil Affairs Company in Riverdale, Maryland, for three years. Taught high school and college students in New England before coming to Washington, D.C.

DAVID HUFFMAN, PROGRAM PLANNER, VWLP

Marine rifleman in Vietnam, blinded when booby trap detonated. A high school dropout before serving in Vietnam, Huffman is the first blind student to graduate from Delaware Law School. Member of Pennsylvania Bar. He is pioneering an innovative effort to train and place severely disabled veterans in worthwhile employment.

JOHN FALES, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF ACTION

Served with Marines. Blinded in combat. Was employment Director at Blinded Veterans Association. Columnist.



United Vietnam Veterans Organization/Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program  
Issues Raised

1. The ACTION Agency . . . has all but ignored UVVO's request to assist with a program that concerns Vietnam Veterans.
2. Millions of dollars have been targeted to this program.
3. We are starting to feel that this is a Command and Control Ship . . . being flown out of Washington for a national white wash.
4. Monies were recently transferred -- \$850,000 plus dollars -- to this agency from much needed job programs in Labor for Vietnam veterans.
5. It seems that the same REMFs in Vietnam are taking control of our battles in the states.
6. Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of VA monies to this same elitist group.
7. NEWSWEEK and U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT said these folks in ACTION are spending \$8 million for Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program.
8. But many members of Congress are acting like Tom Paukens, ACTION Agency, (sic) by using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment.

## UVVO/VVLP Issues Addressed

1. On April 19, 1982, ACTION received a letter from David Christian thanking Pauken for meeting with Christian and UVVO's officers, inviting Pauken to speak at the convention and urging him "to keep up the good work." On October 5th, Stanley Swain and representatives of ten other veterans' groups attended a morning-long roundtable discussion at ACTION headquarters to discuss VVLP with Pauken and the VVLP staff. Swain voiced no criticism of VVLP's so-called "refusal" to accept an unknown offer of assistance. The meeting was amicable and constructive. There has been no specific offer of assistance for VVLP to ignore and VVLP has attempted to keep UVVO, along with other VSOs informed.
2. The total lifetime cost of this program is targeted at \$6.5 million, less than the cost of fighting the war for six hours. The HIRE program, as another comparison, spent well over \$100 million.
3. VVLP is criticized as a "Command and Control Ship." Who is doing the criticism? What does it amount to? Is the unidentified writer speaking for Christian, Swain, Jordan? Does he contend that a program should have no national leadership? Criticism is false, at any rate. Check with VVLP volunteer chairmen. VVLP is founded on the idea that committed, intelligent leaders among the Vietnam veteran community can formulate their own plans so that the differing conditions around the country are reflected in the goals and objectives of each local VVLP.
4. VVLP criticized because of DOL transfer of \$850,000 from "much needed job programs in Labor." This is false. Money was transferred from Employment and Training Administration and it was money that could not have been spent for VES. This was a case of VVLP gaining the use of funds that normally would not have been available for veterans. This is also the case with all funds VVLP has expended and agreed to expend on behalf of veterans. Sources of funding include the following with previous Vietnam veteran initiatives in parentheses: (approximately \$100,000 spent on VETREACH in 1974—two programs, one run by Red Cross, other by ACTION and VA). HHS—Community Services Administration and Office of Community Services (virtually) zero spent on behalf of Vietnam veterans in the history of the agency); VISTA (virtually zero spent on behalf of Vietnam veterans in the history of the program); ETA of DOL (funds spent on behalf of veterans only as a type of "program eligible" lumped with addicts, convicts, etc.).
5. Unknown author criticizes VVLP as "REMFs . . . taking control of our battles." This is totally negative, divisive, unfair, reprehensible conduct. Who is making these accusations? Again, the accusations are completely and utterly false. The ACTION VVLP leadership includes an Army intelligence officer, a Marine F-4 pilot, a two-tour West Point graduate who commanded an infantry company and was wounded twice, and three enlisted Marines (two riflemen and one forward observer), who were all wounded in action and of whom two are blind as a result of their wounds. VVLP leadership around the country is composed almost entirely of combat veterans including three Medal of Honor winners, approximately 30 Purple Heart recipients, several men with severe disabilities including blindness and loss of limbs as a result of wounds suffered in combat. Calling such people dirty names should be censored violently.



6. The UVVO publication says "Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of VA monies to this same elitist group." Again, irresponsible name calling. ACTION withdrew its request for VA support when it became known that responsible veterans' service organizations considered the VA budget untouchable.
7. U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT and NEWSWEEK, to our knowledge, have never cited a cost of \$8 million. Nevertheless, the total lifetime cost of VVLP, over a three-year period, is estimated at \$6.5 million.
8. Tom Pauken and ACTION (VVLP) are criticized for "using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment." This is stupid nonsense. VVLP, relative to federal initiatives, is nothing if not unconventional in its approach to solving employment problems. "Conventional" programs are those such as CETA, son of CETA, HIRE and many others that have failed to have a positive impact despite ten years of effort and billions of dollars.

# lets...and more



readjustment problems when he returned home because his sister was active in the Brown Power movement for hispanics in California. By all indications Alvarez seems to have adjusted through the turbulent seventies and he is now in a leadership position for Vietnam Veterans in the eighties. After he gets his feet wet in the V.A. we are sure that Alvarez will attest that the enemy was much more identifiable in Vietnam than in Washington for the Vietnam Vets. Good Luck Mr. Alvarez because you'll need it!!!!

—U.V.V.O.'s push for a cost of living increase for our disabled Vets looks like a reality in the near future.

—U.V.V.O.'s concern for a stay of execution for the Hale Koa Hotel in Hawaii that was bought and paid for from P.X. monies from Vietnam, has succeeded in stopping the sale.

—The Survivor Benefit Plan one-time open enrollment period which began on October 1, 1981, comes to a close on September 30, 1982. This is for members entitled to receive retired pay as a result of disability or longevity (20+ years).

—The Action Agency which is launching a Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program nationwide has all but ignored U.V.V.O.'s request to assist with a program that concerns Vietnam Veterans. Millions of dollars have been targeted to this program. We are starting to feel that this is a Command and Control Ship (C&C Chopper) being flown out of Washington for a national white wash. Monies were recently transferred — \$850,000 plus dollars — to this agency from much needed job programs in Labor for Vietnam Vets. It seems that the same R.E.M.F.'s in Vietnam are taking control of our battles in the States. Thank God Congressman Sonny Montgomery recently stopped the requested transfer of V.A. monies to this same elitist group. Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report said these folks in Action are spending \$8 million for Viet Vets leadership program.

—U.V.V.O. made a galant effort for a Career Development Job Training Program under the direction of Forrest Lindley. Lindley rumbled through the Halls of Congress educating staffers and members on the severe need of career development because of the high rates of unemployment and underemployment. But many members of Congress are acting like Tom Paukens, Action Agency, by using conventional efforts to fight an unconventional war against unemployment.

—The above sounds an awful lot like strategy that was used once before — "Remember Vietnam."

582	0-7	884
608	0-8	960
536	0-9	1,041
586	0-10	1,139
603		

ve liaison, Stan Swain, will call on press to insure that this legislation th the same success. High White e that President Reagan will sign it hits the Oval Office. Some other 6782 are; increase in clothing 1 disabled veterans, increases in tain blinded veterans, restoration ertain situations, allowance for the quality of medical care to our le to contract out certain services ne V.A. medical treatment Centers. members to thank your Congress- s for H.R. 6782 and other needed lp our brother and sister veterans an has again bee appointed to the n the V.A. Everett Alvarez, Jr. ent Deputy Administrator of the h publicized as being the longest nam (8½ years). He is a highly ie news media also questioned his

ntelligence, and for combat results and truck convoys which had never erican troops up to that time. The Delta included the management e than 800 square kilometers, by ere were upwards of 85,000 combat ntrol of 5th Special Forces Group, ing more successful results in the other American units engaged. o sweeping that it was hard for believe their rate of accomplish-

away from the unit histories of these infamous Ranger groups, but it is something that needs to be set straight for the historical record.

"These units were written about during a more romantic period of American history. That is also when the movies were made. This was an advantage for them and one which the Vietnam units did not enjoy. Much of the notoriety those historical units experienced was based on 'folklore'. That folklore is sometimes far short of what actually occurred under my command and by actions of the total Special Forces effort during Vietnam. This is documented without amplification."

