

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

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

Collection: Blackwell, Morton: Files
Folder Title: "Frank, A Vietnam Veteran"
Showing, 10/08/1981
Box: 51

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

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

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

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

MEMORANDUM

*check name
sheet
needed*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INVITEES TO Oct. 8, 3 PM SHOWING OF "FRANK, A VIETNAM VETERAN"

Pauline Brown
American Ex-Prisoners of War

OK

Mylio Kraja 861-2700
The American Legion

Sally - E. Philip Riggin

OK

Robert Ashworth 459-9600
AMVETS

John Bronsky Peter Currier

OK

Norman B. Har^{HN}tett 554-3506
Disabled American Veterans

OK

John Fales, Jr. 347-4010
Blinded Veterans Assoc.

OK

George G. Baran 737-9600
Catholic War Veterans

Raymond Williams

OK

Harris B. Stone 265-6280
Jewish War Veterans

Steve Shaw

OK

Richard Gallant 642-5360, or 5361
Military Order of the Purple Heart

OK

Frederick L. Jones 842-2900
National Black Veterans Org.

Ann Griffiths 223-6846
National League of Families

OK

Mack McKinney 546-7891
Non Commissioned Officers Assoc.

Dick Johnson

OK

R. Jack Powell 652-2135
Paralyzed Veterans of Amer.

OK

Cooper T. Holt 543-2239
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Donald Schwab, Fred Juarbe

OK

Robert O. Muller 546-3700
Vietnam Veterans of America

John Terzano -

List of Invitees

- ✓ American Legion - 3
- ✓ Veterans of Foreign Wars
- ✓ AMVETS
- ✓ Disabled American Veterans
- ✓ Vietnam Veterans of America
- ✓ Veterans Leadership Conference
- ✓ National Black Veterans Organization
- ✓ American GI Forum of the US
- ✓ Blinded Veterans Association
- ✓ Paralyzed Veterans of America
- ✓ Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA
- ✓ Veterans of World War I of the USA
- ✓ Center for Veterans Rights
- ✓ National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia
- ✓ American Ex-Prisoners of War
- ✓ Non Commissioned Officers Association
- ✓ American Red Cross
- ✓ Catholic War Veterans
- ✓ Jewish War Veterans
- ✓ Marine Corps League
- ✓ National Association of Uniformed Services
- ✓ Retired Officers Association

Adnan
Geny Roberts -

Should we invite military Assoc

ROA

Army Assoc

Army Force Assoc

Navy League

Excluded

Non Com officers

A. F. Sergeants

Fleet Reserve Assoc

Marine Corps League

Nat'l Guard Assoc.

Jewish War Veterans

Lud Showery

September 30, 1981

TO:

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell

We have obtained a copy of the video tape "Frank, A Vietnam Veteran", which was shown earlier this year on station WGBH in Austin. Because of the strong concern in the veterans community about this portrayal, I think it is reasonable to expect significant reaction among your membership to the nationwide showing of this program on PBS which I understand will be on the evening of November 11, 1981.

As a convenience to you, we are going to show this program on October 8, 1981 in room 132 at 3 P.M. We would like to invite you or one or two others of your organization to this viewing. We hope that this will assist you in taking any steps you feel appropriate prior to November 11.

Please RSVP to either Maiselle Shortley or Kathy Christiansen of my office at 456-2657.

**PRESS RELEASE***Frank*

FROM:
Ivette Alemar (D.C.)
(202) 488-5074
Betsy Vorce (N.Y.)
(212) 753-7373

**PUBLIC TELEVISION LOOKS AT THE VIETNAM VETS
EXPERIENCES THROUGH SPECIAL PROGRAMS ON VETERANS DAY**

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 28, 1981--Veterans Day, November 11, will be commemorated on public television with special programs on the experiences of the Vietnam War veteran.* National radio personality Larry King will host two hours of documentaries and special reports about the veterans who came home to a less than enthusiastic nation.

"The Vietnam Veteran: A Matter of Life and Death Special," will be distributed nationally by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) at 9:00 p.m. (ET) on November 11.* This special program combines two documentaries "Frank: A Portrait of a Vietnam Veteran" and "Warrior's Women" along with special reports on the black veteran and veterans who have found themselves in prison with "post traumatic stress disorders."

"Frank: A Portrait of a Vietnam Veteran," the first documentary presented during the evening, looks at the problems of the returning vet through the eyes of one, who today is a social worker living in Boston. Frank is a twice-wounded, often-decorated U.S. Navy river patrolman. Upon his return from Vietnam Frank found himself unable to reconnect with society. In a compelling and emotionally-charged recollection, Frank tells the story of the night he arrived back in the States and

-more-

*check local listings for exact date and time of broadcast
in your area

his subsequent bouts with alcohol, drugs, a divorce, recurrent nightmares and occasional violent impulses.

The second documentary in the two-hour special is "Warrior's Women," a story of the women Vietnam veterans came home to. Four women speak candidly about the problems they faced and how their lives were affected. They also raise questions about society's neglect of the Vietnam veterans and the effect this will have on the next generation.

Black Americans made up a disproportionate share of foot soldiers in the Vietnam War. The next segment explores the impact of the returning Vietnam vet on the black community.

Another segment looks at the large number of vets who have ended up in prison.

"The Vietnam Veteran: A Matter of Life and Death Special," is a presentation of WGBH Boston and is funded through a grant by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and public television stations.

#

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Thursday
INVITEES TO *Oct. 8, 3 PM* SHOWING OF "FRANK, A VIETNAM VETERAN"

Pauline Brown
American Ex-Prisoners of War

yes ~~Mylio Kraja~~ *John Sommer*
The American Legion *Phillip Arigen*

yes Robert Ashworth
AMVETS

yes ~~Norman B. Hartnett~~ *521-8075 Jesse Brown, Charles Thompson*
Disabled American Veterans

yes John Fales, Jr.
Blinded Veterans Assoc.

yes ~~George G. Baran~~ *737-9600 will call back Raymond Williams*
Catholic War Veterans

no Harris B. Stone *265-6280*
Jewish War Veterans

yes Richard Gallant *642-5360*
Military Order of the Purple Heart

yes ~~Frederick L. Jones~~ *Leon Parrish, James Tihoe*
National Black Veterans Org.

yes Ann Griffiths, *Caryl Bates*
National League of Families

yes ~~Mack McKinney~~ *Charles A. Jackson & Richard W. Johnson*
Non Commissioned Officers Assoc.

yes ~~R. Jack Powell~~ *Douglas Vollmer, Frank De George*
Paralyzed Veterans of Amer.

yes ~~Cooper T. Holt~~ *Thorne H. Marlow, Fred Suarez*
Veterans of Foreign Wars

yes ~~Robert O. Muller~~ *John Terzano*
Vietnam Veterans of America

Action

Marcia Landau
Bill Jayne



MYLIO S. KRAJA

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE AMERICAN LEGION
WASHINGTON OFFICE**

**1 202 861 2711
1608 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006**

The American Legion

★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N. W. ★ WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 ★



OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER

*Frank: A Vietnam
Veteran*

October 22, 1981

Mr. Lawrence K. Grossman, President
Public Broadcasting Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Grossman:

I am writing in regard to PBS's plan to broadcast a special two hour Veterans Day program and to advise you that television stations around the country have been contacting American Legion officials to promote the program as well as handle phone calls from those who see it.

We have reviewed one segment of that program package, "Frank: A Vietnam Veteran", and find it to be a potentially damaging portrayal of Vietnam veterans. If the other segments are consistent with this one in content and tone, then your presentation will have been a disservice to the millions of young veterans who have made successful adjustments. Although we would never question your right to broadcast a program of this type, we do question the wisdom of once again portraying Vietnam veterans as a group of social and moral deviants.

Broadcasting "Frank" will likely reinforce certain prejudices which, over the last decade, have created employment and other obstacles for this youngest generation of veterans. It will also be perceived by many as justification to challenge the concept of service to the nation. I, therefore, am advising all Legion officials in the various states that the program is an unbalanced presentation and that their decisions to participate as phone volunteers must be made with the understanding that some of the callers may require professional counselling.

Mr. Grossman, I regret that your Service has decided to focus a major portion of the November 11 program on an individual whose interview lacks credibility because of contradictory remarks contained therein. But I regret even more that an opportunity will have been missed to treat the vast majority of Vietnam veterans with the respect they deserve.

Sincerely,

Jack W. Flynt
JACK W. FLYNT
National Commander

Oct 8, 1981

Room 132

Frank - Portrait of a ~~Great~~ Veteran

Jon Westby Nat'l Assoc of Veterans Upward Bound Project Personnel Mpls. Mn.

Edward C Keiser. " Ancunato Chief

T H MARLOW VFW

Fred Juande VFW

Doug Volmer PVA

CHARLIE THOMPSON DAV

Marcia Landan Action VVLP

William Joyce Action VVLP

Robert Hamming MOPH

Blm - Willam MOPH - MUC

Frank DeGeorge PVA

Donald M. Steeman PVA

Dick Johnson NCO Assn.

Chuck Jackson NCO Assn.

Ann Druffetto Nat'l League of POW/MIA Families

Carol Gates " "

John Sommer The American Legion

Phil Riggiv The American Legion

Jesse Brown DAV

RICHARD GALLANT MOPH

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge
Appointments Center
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on October 8, 19 81

for Morton C. Blackwell of Office of Public Liaison
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

SOMMER, John (The American Legion)
RIGGIN, Phillip (The American Legion)
BROWN, Jesse (Disabled American Veterans)
THOMPSON, Charles (Disabled American Veterans)
ASHWORTH, Robert (AMVETS)
FALES, John, Jr. (Blinded Veterans)
WILLIAMS, Raymond (Catholic War Veterans)
GALLANT, Richard (Military Order of the Purple Heart)
PARRISH, Leon (National Black Veterans Org.)
TIHOE, James (National Black Veterans)
GRIFFITHS, Ann (National League of Families)
BATES, Carol (National League of Families)
JACKSON, Charles R. (Non-Commissioned Officers Assoc.)
JOHNSON, Richard W. (Non-Commissioned Officers Assoc.)
VOLLMER, Douglas (Paralyzed Veterans of America) *Don Sherman*
DEGEORGE, Frank (Paralyzed Veterans of America)
MARLOW, Thorne H. ('Veterans of Foreign Wars)
JUARBE, Fred (Veterans of Foreign Wars)
TERZANO, John (Vietnam Veterans of America)

LANDAU, Marcia (ACTION) *Barbara Wyatt*
JAYNE, William (ACTION)

Ed Keiser } *Veterans Upward Bound*
John Westby }

Robt Cummings } *Military Order of the Purple Heart.*
Glenn Wallace }

MEETING LOCATION

Building OEOB Requested by Morton C. Blackwell
Room No. 132 Room No. 191 Telephone 2657
Time of Meeting 3 PM Date of request Oct. 7, 1981

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6046 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

Signal - VTR.

~~Mike~~ -

- Rick Anton

4125

How about

Thurs. Oct 8

for this showing.

in room 132?

at 3 P.M.

program at time at
place. We wd like to
invite u or others
& your suggesj from your
organization. In this view
We hope that this will
assist u in taking any steps
u feel appropriate prior to
Nov. 11

~~Ken Smith:~~

~~would u pls/rate me a
list of current membership &
& Indian issues work grp &
any other materials relat 2.
work grp that u think may be
useful 2 me.~~

Resumes for Civil Rights
Commission

Legion

Cath War Vets

VFW

Jewish War Vets

Amvets

DAV

Paul Fisher

PVA

- 2387 -

BVA

We have obtained a copy of
video tape Frank, A.V. Vet
which was shown earlier this
yr on stage WCBH in
Quinton Bg v. Strong
concern in Veterans
Community about this portrayal
I think it is reasonable to
expect significant reaction among
our membership & may
wonder show of this program
which I understand will be
on eve of Nov 11, 1981.

As a consequence to
we are going to show this



Veterans Administration

REFERENCE SLIP

TO (Name or title-Mail routing symbol)	INITIALS-DATE
1. Miss Shortley	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

REASON FOR REFERENCE

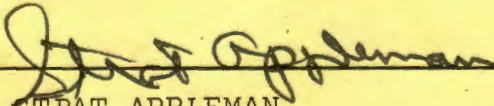
- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED | <input type="checkbox"/> FOR YOUR FILES | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS | <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION | <input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION | <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE |

REMARKS

The following organizations have seen the videotape, "Frank, A Vietnam Veteran."

- American Legion
- VFW
- AMVETS
- DAV
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- PVA

The Red Cross, of course, has seen it and is heavily involved. It is safe to say that veterans organizations do not view it the same as Red Cross.

FROM  STRAT APPLEMAN Acting Assistant Administrator for Information Services	DATE 9/28/81 TEL. EXT. 389-2443
--	--

VA FORM 3230
MAY 1980

EXISTING STOCKS OF VA FORM 3230,
AUG 1976, WILL BE USED.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INVITEES TO Oct. 8, 3 PM SHOWING OF "FRANK, A VIETNAM VETERAN"

Pauline Brown
American Ex-Prisoners of War

Mylio Kraja
The American Legion

Robert Ashworth
AMVETS

~~Norman B. Harnett~~
Disabled American Veterans

Jesse Brown and Charles Thompson

John Fales, Jr.
Blinded Veterans Assoc.

George G. Baran
Catholic War Veterans

Harris B. Stone
Jewish War Veterans

Richard Gallant
Military Order of the Purple Heart

Frederick L. Jones
National Black Veterans Org.

Ann Griffiths
National League of Families

Mack McKinney
Non Commissioned Officers Assoc.

R. Jack Powell
Paralyzed Veterans of Amer.

Cooper T. Holt
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Robert O. Muller
Vietnam Veterans of America

→ *Viet. Vet. Memorial Fund*
Donald Schaet or Jan Scruggs -
659-2498

[Handwritten signature]

Jack Wheeler

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 1981

TO:

FROM: Morton C. Blackwell

We have obtained a copy of the video tape "Frank, A Vietnam Veteran", which was shown earlier this year on station WGBH in Austin. Because of the strong concern in the veterans community about this portrayal, I think it is reasonable to expect significant reaction among your membership to the nationwide showing of this program on PBS which I understand will be on the evening of November 11, 1981.

As a convenience to you, we are going to show this program on October 8, 1981 in room 132 at 3 P.M. We would like to invite you or one or two others of your organization to this viewing. We hope that this will assist you in taking any steps you feel appropriate prior to November 11.

Please RSVP to either Maiselle Shortley or Kathy Christiansen of my office at 456-2657.

FRED SIMON

75 Court St., Newtonville, MA 02160

617-969-3218

W.R. Corson
Penthouse Magazine
1707 H. St. N.W.
Washington D.C.

June 22, 1981

Dear Bill,

As we discussed today, I am enclosing a cassette of FRANK: A VIETNAM VETERAN (which contains 6 minute followup program), a copy of my original memo which sets out the design and rationale of the followup program and phone in, and an in house memo from WGBH which details the response to the followup when FRANK aired locally on May 25.

The local response makes obvious the need for similar followups across the country when FRANK airs nationally on PBS on November 11 in nearly 200 cities.

I am grateful for your offer to assist us in making this happen. I only hope that the VA and other organizations and individuals will recognize the need.

I will be available to come to D.C. at the earliest date you feel is appropriate. As you pointed out, November is fast approaching and the organizational and financial problems to be solved are enormous.

At this time the specific kinds of support we are in need of are:

- 1) Phone banks to take incoming calls in each city in which the program will be aired.
- 2) Qualified Vietnam veterans and wives and family members of veterans to field the telephone calls. (organized through VA outreach centers?)
- 3) Professionals (psychiatrists, social workers, counselors,) to act as backups for the veterans answering the phones. The professionals would take the calls if crisis intervention is needed or if the caller desires to speak to a professional or a non-veteran.

- 4) The funding necessary to organize and execute a plan of this scope. (WGBH is actively seeking funding but all requests are still pending, and the amount needed will likely be in excess of what they can raise.)

As we discussed, I will call you on June 25 or 26.

Again, thanks for your concern and your help. I'm glad you're there.

Sincerely,


Fred Simon

TO: Peter McGhee
FROM: Fred Simon/Vince Canzoneri
RE: Followup program for Memorial Day airing of FRANK
DATE: April 8, 1981

Frank runs 51:51 exclusive of opening WGBH logo and funder credits, leaving approximately 6:30 for the followup.

PREMISE

Virtually all Vietnam veterans who have seen FRANK have voiced one common concern - that there are countless vets who have repressed for years the kinds of things that Frank talks about, and that seeing FRANK may be a catalyst which forces those things to the surface, along with serious anxiety. They have said, and we concur, that in broadcasting a program so potentially explosive for the vet who is watching, we are obligated to use the available followup time to encourage him to seek the help he needs and advise him where to find it.

(There are approximately 250,000 Vietnam era veterans in Massachusetts and 150,000 in greater Boston. Approximately 30% of these served in Vietnam.)

A further point - a followup directed at the veteran would also demonstrate to non-veteran viewers two important realities - that the kinds of problems Frank talks about are shared by other vets and that the Vietnam veteran's adjustment difficulties are not necessarily over.

THE PROGRAM

Those veterans who will be most disturbed by FRANK are likely to be those who have not yet come to terms with Vietnam, and consequently who probably have the most difficulty talking about it. It is these vets, along with their wives, families, and friends, that the followup should be designed to reach.

Both the tone and format of the followup should be non-patronizing, low key, reassuring, informal, honest, personal, and direct. It should both segue smoothly from FRANK, and provide a similar kind of identification for the viewer.

The "host" should be a Vietnam combat veteran rather than a television personality, psychiatrist, or other expert who may be viewed as another alien authority figure by the veteran.

The host should be able to make contact with the viewing veterans by his ability to show himself to be one of them. He should

be able to speak openly about his own readjustment problems, his own reactions upon seeing FRANK, his own difficulties in beginning to talk about Vietnam, his own reluctance to seek help, and the ultimate benefits of having become able to do so.

By virtue of both who he is and what he says, the host should be able to give the viewer license to admit and express his own feelings.

The host would list and describe the programs available to Vietnam veterans. The names, addresses, and phone numbers of those programs would appear on screen. (See enclosed list)

The host would explain that phone lines have been set up to receive calls from veterans for the rest of the evening; that the phones are being manned by other Vietnam vets but that psychiatrists and counselors are available should viewers want to talk to them; that the calls will be handled off air; that anyone wanting more detailed information on the programs available or simply wanting to talk to someone (anonymously if desired) should call in.

The host would acknowledge that it is not only vets, but also the wives, families, and friends of vets who must struggle with readjustment problems. He would then either give the names and phone numbers of appropriate places that offer help, or may instead introduce a veteran's wife who would establish herself as one who has gone through these problems and then give those names and phone numbers. (Perhaps a group of volunteer wives and family members might take calls on a second phone line.)

In closing, the host would give an address/phone number from which a complete list of programs mentioned in the followup could be obtained.

Nowhere in the followup would there be an attempt to comment on or analyze the content of FRANK. Nowhere would there be an attempt to postulate political, sociological, or psychological causes or ramifications of the adjustment problems of Frank in particular or the Vietnam veteran in general. The followup would function simply to offer needed falling time after FRANK and to quietly and reassuringly offer help to those who may need it.

P A N D U M

TO: Peter McGhee
FROM: Valerie Kilpatrick
RE: FRANK THE VET
DATE: 29 May 1981

The response to FRANK is heartening. The prevailing sense from Vietnam Vets and the community in general has been one of gratitude for the program itself and to GBH for providing the follow-up support service.

I ordered 30 phones but more people could have been serviced if we had utilized the full compliment of 50 phones. Immediately following the broadcast 302 calls were taken. This is an estimate because everyone was so busy answering the phones that some calls went unrecorded. For 2 days following the broadcast the Viet Vet Centers in Boston, Brighton and Brockton averaged 40 calls each ^{per} day in direct response to the program. The centers are also averaging 7-10 drop-ins per day in response to FRANK. On Tuesday morning (5/26) I took 6 calls in ½ hour on the 492-1111 number before it was disconnected. One wonders what happened to the people who called after the phones were disconnected. Hopefully they tried the Vet centers.

The switchboard and Audience Services report no calls in the days following FRANK. This indicates that the follow-up and the connected services provided did it's job - the Vets are using the appropriate channels for help. We have received 5 letters to date, 4 pro and one con, asking for equal time. We have received two requests for transcripts.

Following is a breakdown of the phone calls:

Combat Vets	156
Non-Coms	6
	<u>162</u>
Non-Vets	146
	<u>308</u>

Out of the 308 calls eleven were against the broadcast. All of the con calls were from Vets who felt that the portrayal of FRANK was stereotypical - "Not all VETS are like that." There were 93 calls applauding the program. We received 19 calls from women. There were 204 calls for immediate and/or referral service. 4 VETS called in threatening suicide. They are now receiving help from the VET Centers & professional counselors. One call was from a lawyer seeking back-up info for his client who is incarcerated for 20 years - life & seeking an appeal on delayed stress syndrom grounds.

PROFILE OF CALL-INS

<u>CONCERNS</u>	<u># OF CALLS</u>
MARITAL/FAMILY PROBLEMS	39
ANXIETY/FEARS/NIGHTMARES/FLASHBACKS	26
ALCOHOL/DRUG PROBLEMS	23
AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE	12
VA BENEFITS	9
VOCATIONAL/EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS	7
LEGAL AID QUESTIONS	5
PHYSICAL HANDICAPS	5
IMMEDIATE FUNDS	3
DISCHARGE UPGRADE INFORMATION	1

In addition to the 4 potential suicides previously mentioned, one VET came into the station and sat with us through the night. This VET contacted us three weeks prior to the broadcast of FRANK. Audience services referred his letter to me. The letter was accompanied by the VET's complete psychological evaluation, his poetry & article on Agent Orange, delayed stress, nightmare and suicide studies. All of the material suggested that he was suicidal, though there was no outright threat. However, Rick Stahl who is a VET counselor at U. Mass. and the VET we used in the follow-up received the same information along with an actual suicide threat. Rick and I worked with the VET, his psychiatrist and the psychiatrist we used as a consultant for FRANK. On Memorial Day the VET called Rick and again threatened suicide. Rick told him we would be at the station at 7:00 and he was welcome to come and stay with us. I don't know how much good we did but at least the VET knows we cared enough to try to help. We have since gotten the VET job counseling and we have gotten the VA board to review his case with an eye to upgrading his discharge and benefits.

Several VETS and one woman called to volunteer to talk with troubled VETS and their families. One group of Jamaica Plain VETS called to volunteer for the Auction as a way of saying 'Thank You' to GBH for airing FRANK.

A Connecticut VET called to get information on how to set up a VET outreach program in New London.

Another VET called wanting to contribute money.

Parents Against the Draft called to lend their support.

A VET program called requesting a cassette of FRANK for use in their therapy groups.

Frank came into the station the night of the broadcast. He wanted to thank everyone personally for coming together to

make the follow-up possible. Frank stayed for a short time and then left. He was unsure of what people's reaction would be to him after the broadcast. When it became clear that the overwhelming response was positive we called FRANK and he returned to the station. The fact that he returned was a triumphant moment for all concerned.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

A WWII VET: "Now I finally understand"

The family of a VET: "Frank shouldn't feel guilty"

"Excellent"

"Good"

"Important"

"My brother was there and I really feel for V.N. Vets, maybe now the Government will open their eyes"

"This was not typical. This is not the situation of the majority"

Eight staff members and the producers of FRANK acted as facilitators for the follow-up call-in. Their help was much appreciated and needed. Most of us wound up taking calls because the phone reponse was so great.

After Auction is over I plan to get the VETS back together. There are many ways that the follow-up process can be streamlined and the VETS input is essential.

^{What}
~~How~~

this all points to is the absolute need for a follow-up. When FRANK is broadcast nationally I think it must be every station's responsibility to provide support services to their communities immediately following the broadcast and back-up support in the days following. Henry mentioned yesterday in Executive Staff that Lewis Feedman would be coming to Boston next week. Can we enlist CPB's economic support to defray the per station cost of a follow-up program and all that it would entail?

VK:dj

THE WHITE HOUSE

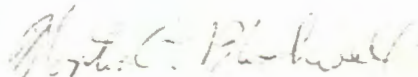
WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

Dear Commander Zweiman:

I'm sorry that we scheduled our showing of the P.B.S. program, "Frank, a Vietnam Veteran" on Yom Kippur. I will be pleased to arrange a special re-showing at your convenience.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to
the President

Robert Zweiman
National Commander
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.
1712 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

223004

2
3
4
5
6



WHA252(1143)(1-013923A280)PD 10/07/81 1105 OCT 7 P12:44

ICS IPMWGWC WSH

07421 10-07 1232P EDT

PMS WHITE HOUSE DC

4-017852S280 10/07/81

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

2022656280 TDMT WASHINGTON DC 46 10-07 1119A EST

PMS MORTON C BLACKWELL

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

JEWISH WAR VETERANS WILL NOT ATTEND SCREENING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 8

1981. DAY IS YOM KIPPUR, HIGHEST JEWISH HOLY DAY. SHOCKED AT INSENSITIVITY OF SCHEDULING ON THAT DAY. THIS IS AN AFFRONT TO US AND PRECLUDES OUR ATTENDANCE. REQUEST RESCHEDULING AND FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

ROBERT M ZWEIMAN
NATIONAL COMMANDER
JEWISH WAR VETERAN OF THE USA

1123 EST

NNNN

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

FORM 0805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

2
3
4
5
6
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

WHA252(1143)(1-013923A280)PD 10/07/81 1107 OCT 7 P12:44

ICS IPMWGWC WSH

07421 10-07 1232P EDT

PMS WHITE HOUSE DC

4-017852S280 10/07/81

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

2022656280 TDMT WASHINGTON DC 46 10-07 1119A EST

PMS MORTON C BLACKWELL

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

JEWISH WAR VETERANS WILL NOT ATTEND SCREENING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER
8

1981. DAY IS YOM KIPPUR, HIGHEST JEWISH HOLY DAY. SHOCKED AT
INSENSITIVITY OF SCHEDULING ON THAT DAY. THIS IS AN AFFRONT TO US AND
PRECLUDES OUR ATTENDANCE. REQUEST RESCHEDULING AND FUTURE
CONSIDERATION OF RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

ROBERT M ZWEIMAN

NATIONAL COMMANDER

JEWISH WAR VETERAN OF THE USA

1123 EST

NNNN

FORM 0805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.