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ACTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20525

March 31, 1982

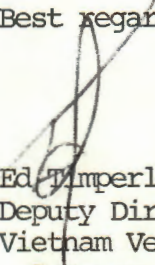
*file
Vietnam Veterans
against the
War.*

Ms. Kathy Christiansen
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Kathy:

Enclosed is the limited information we have on operation Dewey Canyon IV. We will continue to monitor and keep Morton informed.

Best regards,


Ed Timperlake
Deputy Director
Vietnam Veterans Leadership
Program

Enclosure



National Office
P.O. Box 25592
Chicago, IL 60625

Nonprofit Org
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No 3425

AGENT ORANGE pages 3-4

NEW VIETNAM S pages 10-11

Vietnam War Veterans Library
Box 454
Santa Rosa, CA 95402



THE VETERAN

Vietnam Veterans Against the War

25¢

VOL. 12 NO. 1

P.O. Box 25592 Chicago IL 60625

Feb-Mar 1982

How Many Died for his Lies and Career **PUT WESTMORELAND ON TRIAL**

If even half the evidence presented on the January 23rd issue of "CBS Reports" is true, ex-general William Westmoreland should be shot or worse. Certainly he should not be allowed to parade around the country drawing huge honorariums for talking his trash and should certainly not be allowed to collect a military retirement paid for by U.S. taxpayers.

The Mike Wallace program, titled "The Haunted General"

sense of how many North Vietnamese troops were moving into South Vietnam in preparation for the Tet Offensive of 1968. Intelligence sources came up with a figure of 20,000 infiltrators a month; the figure that got back to the U.S. government was 5,000 a month. And it is clear that Westmoreland was the one who stopped the accurate figure and supplied a far lower figure.

Westmoreland had his

U.S. out of an unwinnable war would have been almost inevitable.

But Westmoreland and his cronies were not the ones who were fighting the war—just the ones lying about it. They could afford to worry about their careers while the rest of us were worrying about saving our tails. They could trump up figures about how their military expertise and tactical brilliance had almost defeated the enemy, but

then there were none of them) would have lost the ground or even a platoon if he thought his position or area was threatened by an NVA Regiment instead of a VC Company. Yet during the Tet Offensive of 1968, American troops were chewed up all over Vietnam because lower level commanders were basing their plans on knowingly falsified intelligence figures. Straight from the office of MAJ GEN

showed interviews with a number of high-ranking officers and ex-CIA members, all of whom made it clear that U.S. intelligence had a pretty good

bunch of nose-raking decisions had their careers on the line. If the government and the American people had the correct figures, the movement to get the

only that was three to four times greater than intelligence led us to believe.

Only the wisest of command-

turn to page 14

A Limited Incursion into Congress 'Land'

OPERATION DEWEY CANYON IV



**Wed. thru Sat.
12th thru 15th May**

Veterans' Counterattack

TEST, TREAT & COMPENSATE AGENT ORANGE VICTIMS
DECENT BENEFITS FOR ALL VETS
STOP ALL V.A. CUTS / SUPPORT INCARCERATED VETS
JUSTICE IN INCOME / SINGLE TYPE DISCHARGE
NO AID TO EL SALVADOR / NO WAR

Vietnam vets have the choice of crawling in the gutters to lick up the couple of crumbs we're given, or to fight back. Dewey Canyon IV, a vets offensive on Washington, says to "Fight Back!" We'll be lobbying, going to Congress, picketing the V.A. and the Office of Management and Budget, marching on the White House and the Capitol. No one can speak better about the problems of Vietnam vets than Vietnam vets and our families. Be there: bring your fatigues, your DD 214 and your medals (if you've still got any of them). On the final day we'll be remembering our friends who die with a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

All vets, families, friends and supporters are welcome; we were used once and then thrown aside—we don't plan to let it happen again!

Jobs of F&E TYPE
SINGLE TYPE DISCHARGE
NO MORE VIETNAMIS!

No Intervention in El Salvador
TEST, TREAT, COMPENSATE
AGENT ORANGE VICTIMS
STOP



The basic academic for the "limited incursion" into the Capitol's "land" is as follows:

Beginning on the morning of May 12th we will set up a photo display on the history of the Vietnam struggle, on the history of Vietnam vets and the vets. In the afternoon will be registration and the opening of the camp beginning with the 5 o'clock folkloric press conference. At 7 PM there will be a musical performance on the White House lawn with speeches and music by Vietnam vets and their families. As part of this ceremony we will be using photos of vets' children to help represent their great love and support for the war.

Thursday, May 13th, 1970 - starting at the spot where one of the World War vets was killed in 1918, picketed by a picket line at the W. Street Capitol. In the afternoon, picketing all congressional offices of Congress. At 1:00 PM there will be a reception for the vets and their families. Music followed by 4:00 PM and rap groups in the evening.

Friday, May 14th, A 10:00 AM picket line at Stockton's Office. At 1:00 PM there will be a picket line at the W. Street Capitol. In the afternoon, picketing all congressional offices. At 5:00 PM there will be a reception for the vets and their families. Music followed by 4:00 PM and rap groups in the evening.

Saturday, May 15th, A 10:00 AM picket line at the W. Street Capitol. In the afternoon, picketing all congressional offices. At 5:00 PM there will be a reception for the vets and their families. Music followed by 4:00 PM and rap groups in the evening.

Sunday, May 16th, A 10:00 AM picket line at the W. Street Capitol. In the afternoon, picketing all congressional offices. At 5:00 PM there will be a reception for the vets and their families. Music followed by 4:00 PM and rap groups in the evening.

I would like to say that on behalf of my members and myself, we, The Virginia Vietnam Veterans Corps gladly endorse and support "Operation Dewey Canyon IV." Furthermore, we pledge to VVAW our help in spreading the message and literature about "DC IV" to all concerned persons in our locale.

Publicity materials such as posters, flyers and newsletters are needed....

Very truly yours,
Wes Caton

Acting Commander
Virginia Vietnam Veteran Corps

Dear VVAW:

President Winpisinger has assigned me to work with you in a cooperative effort to offer whatever assistance we might be capable of toward endorsing your activities and demonstrations in Washington, DC on May 12 through 16, 1982.

Either I or someone from my department intend to be at your National Planning Meeting to be held in Chicago on February 13 and 14, 1982, to become more familiar with your program.

If you need an official letter of endorsement from President Winpisinger, please let me know as soon as possible.

Fraternally,
George J Robinson
Director, Occupational Safety & Health and Community Services

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Dear VVAW,

Best wishes for "Operation Dewey Canyon IV." The enclosed check will help get someone to the big event.

Sincerely,
C. Julstrom
Macomb, IL

Dear VVAW:

Thank you for your letter and accompanying material on the upcoming activities scheduled for the week of May 12. We shall mark it on our calendar and send a delegate if we possibly can.

Let me indicate that we do support your organization and its efforts for the Vietnam Veterans.

We extend our best wishes for every success in this endeavor.

Most Sincerely,
Rev Willie Barrow
National Director and Special Assistant to the President,
Operation PUSH

Dear VVAW:

I am pleased to write to say that the Peace Center Board of Directors fully endorses the May, 1982, activities, and that the Center will publicize DC IV in the newsletter. In fact, we are planning a special issue on veterans in April or May, so please keep us informed.

Enclosed is a donation to cover your expenses for mailing and such to us at the Center. Keep up the good work.

In Peace,
Elise Fisher
Washington Peace Center

Dear Friends,

Mike Sutton, the VVAW person in Washington, asked if we would be interested in endorsing the DC IV activities, and if we were, to write and let you know. We are, and we did. Consider this, then, an endorsement by the Community for Creative Non-Violence, for what little it may be worth.

Thanks for your good work and for your ongoing contribution to the struggle. Best

up to date on developments, if you can.

Peace to y'all,
Mitch Snyder
Community for Creative Non-Violence

DC IV Permits FLASH

In early February, two representatives of the VVAW National Office and the Washington, DC coordinator for VVAW met with 12 police representatives in Washington DC. The police represented various Washington police agencies including the Capitol Police, the DC Police, the Park Police, the Secret Service, and the Department of the Interior Police. The meeting was arranged in order to finalize permits for Dewey Canyon IV.

VVAW got almost everything we asked for! Permits for all the marches, demonstrations, picket lines and rallies are now cleared; we have permits to use the Mall and put up three large tents, plus permission for 50 people to stay there 24 hours a day. Negotiations are still going on for the right to sleep on the Mall; other negotiations are continuing for alternative housing.

VVAW representatives also met with three members of Congress--Cardiss Collins of Illinois, Ron Dellums of California, and Henry Reuss of Wisconsin, all of whom are writing letters to the Mayor of Washington urging that the City of Washington allow VVAW to use a school near the Mall for housing.

DEWEY CANYON IV, WASHINGTON, DC, MAY 12-16, 1982
-JULIE UHLL-

Veterans' Counterattack

Test, Treat & Compensate Agent Orange Victims!
Decent Benefits for All Vets, Widows, Orphans!

laced with the same problems as vets everywhere—particularly lack of money—vets decided that they wanted to take part in Operation Dewey Canyon IV even though they could not afford the lengthy trip to Washington. So they came up with the idea of a DC IV, Southern California version, so that veterans who could not afford either the money or the time to go to Washington could still take part.

Plans for the exact activities are still being worked out. For further information contact Lee Lubinsky, 24618 Redlands Blvd, San Bernardino, CA 92408.

Endorsers (Partial List) DEWEY CANYON IV-Wash. DC

Vietnam Veterans Against the War; National Association of Black Veterans; National Association of Concerned Veterans; Retired Humber Strikers; Vets Coalition of Southern California; Vets Crisis Hotline of Los Angeles; Black Veterans for Social Justice of Brooklyn, NY; Country Joe MacDonald; Al Santoli, author of Everything We Had; Pete Seeger; Tad Foster, creator of "The Vietnam Funny Book"; President William Winpisinger of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers; Tom Loftus, Majority Leader, Wisconsin State Assembly; Center for Creative Non-Violence of Washington, DC; Washington Peace Center; Bob Chenoweth, Vietnam POW; United Professionals of Wisconsin; Idaho Vietnam Vets Association; Vietnam Veterans Corps of Virginia; O'Hare Local, American Postal Workers Union; Local 423, District 46, AFSCME; Operation PUSH; Agent Orange Victims of New Jersey; Monmouth County (NJ) Peace and Equal Rights Committee; Veterans of the Vietnam War, Salt Lake City; Swords Into Plowshares of San Francisco; Bill Davis, Chairman, Illinois Vietnam Veterans Civic Council; Vets for Peace; Jack Gladde, Student Body President, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee; Incarcerated Veterans Project of San Francisco.

and money and, in Milwaukee, Local 423 of District Council 48 of AFSCME has already endorsed Dewey Canyon IV. In addition to local unions, Outreach has also begun to groups like the American Legion and VFW, despite not-so-close relations over the years. But at a presentation to one local post at the end of November, we presented information on Agent Orange, veterans' outbacks and Dewey Canyon IV and, to our surprise, they loved it and will consider giving money in April. The moral of the story is start the outreach now!

Milwaukee VVAW



Labor Department figures put out at the beginning of 1982 show a total of 616,000 veterans unemployed. While earlier figures showed a large unemployment rate among young vets—those who were just getting out of the service—the latest figures show that some 450,000 unemployed vets are thirty and over.

Clearly it's no fun facing unemployment in the weeks and months after discharge from the military. But for vets over 30, many with families to support and with GI Bill benefits having run out, unemployment can well be a catastrophe.

Of course there's the govern-

ment that was so willing to us off to fight their war in Southeast Asia—and will gladly set us up again to fight their new war wherever they decide to fight it. Under Reaganomic unemployment is a necessary evil, which is fine for the politicians (and for Reagan's wealthy buddies) who don't have to try to feed a family on nothing. And so training programs have been cut along with almost everything else that would keep the poor alive. According to the government, the solution is to wait until Reagan's benefits trickle down to the rest of us. Our solution is to fight!

Contact Ceremonies Office:
Captain Hamer 703 693-0636

To write:
HQ Military District of Washington
Directorate of Ceremonies & Special Events
Attention Captain Hamer
Ft. Leslie J. McNair, Virginia 20350

*They Laid the
Wreath*



APR 16 RECD MB

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR

National Office
P.O. Box 25592, Chicago, IL 60625

NATIONAL COORDINATORS
Bill Davis
1921 463-2177
Barry Romo
1921 959-4684
Peter Zastrow
1921 275-0043
John Lindquist
1414 963-0388

April 13, 1982

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

Dear Ms. Dole:

On behalf of the National Office of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, I am contacting you at the suggestion of Camille Haney, a friend and former co-worker of mine at the Wisconsin Department of Justice. As you probably know, "Operation Dewey Canyon IV" under the auspices of our national organization is scheduled to take place in Washington from May 12 through May 15, 1982. The basic objective is to focus attention and attempt to obtain remedial program changes and/or legislation with regard to matters which are of vital concern to Vietnam veterans and their families including, in particular, Veterans Administration job, medical, and educational benefits; and Agent Orange testing, treatment, and compensation.

One of the events scheduled for the final day is a wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. On each prior occasion that Vietnam Veterans Against the War has requested a permit to perform this ceremony, the permit has been denied. Each time the Vietnam veterans still peacefully went to Arlington only to be locked out. To me, and many other veterans and non-veterans alike, this is a real tragedy--especially for veterans of a war whose service and sacrifices have basically gone unrecognized to date. It appears that the Arlington permit for May 15, 1982 will also be denied. There are reasons I am sure which can be used to justify doing so including certain federal regulations. However, the equities involved should override these factors.

On May 15th, the Vietnam veterans and their families want only the opportunity to enter Arlington National Cemetery to lay a wreath in the memory of those Vietnam veterans who will never come home, as well as those who are struggling with the effects of Agent Orange and delayed post-traumatic stress disorders so they can eventually come home. If necessary, those present will conduct the ceremony silently. In no event will there be any chants or protest signs. They would like the chance, if possible, to have taps played at the time the wreath is laid and to have either a Vietnam veteran's widow, child, or Gold Star mother present a brief eulogy.

I shall be in Washington approximately a week prior to May 12 and respectfully request an opportunity to discuss this matter with you in

Ms. Elizabeth Hanford Dole

Page Two


April 13, 1982

person to explore what can possibly be done to facilitate the granting of the Arlington permit. Needless to say, if there is anything you can do prior to that time, it would be greatly appreciated. I shall call your office in about a week to schedule an appointment with you. If you desire to contact me prior to that time, my direct mailing address is 6627 Columbus Drive, Middleton, Wisconsin 53562 and my telephone number is 608/836-6586.

I might add a personal note. I served in Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division, was exposed to Agent Orange, and am presently on an extended medical leave of absence from the Department of Justice primarily due to a delayed post-traumatic stress disorder resulting from my tour in Vietnam. I have worked for the Department of Justice for almost eleven years as a senior staff investigator and if I had any reason to believe there was a potential for the Arlington ceremony being anything other than a peaceful one, I would not be contacting you now. It is not the desire of Vietnam veterans and their families to embarrass the President, their country, or themselves in any manner at Arlington. The President himself has recently referred to the Vietnam War as a noble cause. The granting of the Arlington permit would be one appropriate way in which the President could help honor the veterans of a war who most Americans have chosen to forget.

I look forward to our meeting in Washington in early May.

Sincerely,



Marvin J. Freedman
For the National Office
Vietnam Veterans Against the War

cc. Ms. Camille Haney
Mr. Peter Zastrow
Mr. John Lindquist