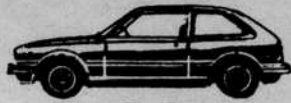


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# End of Vietnam War Commemorated



Vietnam veteran Julian Camp writes, "America has a morbid fascination with the one issue it cannot face head on." He goes on to say that during the 70's, prime time television portrayed the Vietnam Vet as mostly crazed, freaked out or terribly twisted. Now, he says, the theme is that of "the POW/MIA being kept as a pet for the amusement of the 'Yellow Peril' and his chums. Considering the US spent twice the amount of ordnance it did in WW II, including the atomic bombs, I'm sure the Vietnamese have nothing better to do than amuse themselves with a day at the zoo watching the antics of a stir-crazy, tattered pilot. . . . [Americans] are an image conscious people, and Vietnam damages our self-image. The public has preferred the veteran carry the emotional baggage of the war."

assuage our guilt about the only war America "lost"?

The coordinators of the above mentioned conference have as one of their purposes "to come to terms with the lessons of Vietnam . . . help heal the wounds of war, and to forestall . . . repetitions." Those of us who remember not only the end but also the beginnings of the Vietnam War can attest to the similarities between Vietnam and Central America. The conference hopes to address this similarity as well as tensions in the Middle East, the nuclear arms race, the militarization of American life, and racial and economic injustice at home and abroad. The attempt at such broad coverage is because all these issues are really related. If you look back throughout history, increased militarization of a society means less economic and social justice. As the tax man tightens

were freer to act and express our dissatisfaction with the war. Twenty years later, the military is that much more powerful, and the shape of the economy limits us. Hopefully, a conference such as the one taking place this week will educate us about the issues and help create feelings of solidarity.

During the conference there will be keynote speeches Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights by such people as Ada Sanchez (Northwest activist), Don Luce (writer, activist, with 12 years experience in Vietnam), Gloria Emerson (journalist, NY Times correspondent in Vietnam), Greg Calvert (UO graduate, former National Secretary of SDS), Janice Mirikitani (Asian-American poet from San Francisco) and many more.

### Film Precedes Conference Opening

The film *Americana* starring, co-produced and co-directed by Keith Carradine, will show on Saturday, April 27, at the Mayflower Theatre at 2:30 pm. It portrays a veteran's readjustment in a small, Kansas farm community through his restoring and reconstruction of an antique carousel. Mr. Carradine has offered the film as a benefit for the conference.

There will be workshops Monday and Tuesday afternoons, a Vietnam Veterans Speakout on Tuesday at noon, and a special Vietnam observance Tuesday evening, on the UO campus. For more information, call 485-1755.

Sponsored by Clergy and Laity Concerned, the Alliance to Counter Militarism and the EMU Cultural Forum, there will also be poetry readings, an art exhibit and some theater and music.

This cultural dimension to the conference is heartening. The poets, musicians, artists and actors bring us the messages of our inner selves, the expression of the dream, the point at which there is hope.

—Lucia McKelvey

### Conference at UO

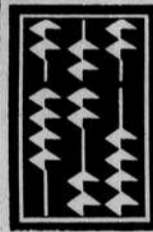
On April 28-30, the Conference entitled *Intervention and the Nuclear Threat: The Human Response* will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. Long-time disarmament activist Nancy Hale says she's very surprised there are not any other activities in the nation marking this event. My TV Guide tells me that the network television news is going to give us a lot of coverage, even broadcasting live from Ho Chi Minh City. Once again, are we letting prime time

the grip for war preparations, the daily needs of the people are forgotten.

Now in the case of the Vietnam War, it actually stimulated the economy, which war usually does, at first. (World War II ended unemployment after the Great Depression, not FDR's job corps, although they really helped.)

### The 60's Vs. The 80's

Due to the high rolling economy in the 60's, we were not tied down by fear of job loss, of putting the bread on the table, and so



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