

Viet Vet Draws Fire from Readers

'Superb Parody'
Emerald Editor:

Until last Friday there couldn't be any doubt that Don Fitz was the master put-on artist of those who write to the Emerald. Who could have thought that his missives on the "deadly killer drug" marijuana and on the democratic political philosophy of Adolf Hitler as defended by the leader of Free Vietnam, Marshal Ky, would soon be surpassed?

But Fitz must take second place now to Chaplain George Peirsall Murray, author of "Veteran Weary of War Critics." What superb parody he offers, for example, of the paranoid "domino theory" in the statement: "It's an old truism that if we sit here smugly in our freedom, and not help others preserve theirs, we won't have ours very long!"

Or take the reference to Red Chinese soldiers fighting in South Vietnam which ridicules so well the American mania about "Red Chinese aggression."

Unfortunately many humorless University students will undoubtedly take the article seriously and thereby make the extraordinary assumption that the Chaplain and his Viet-Vets sponsors could really believe such stuff and regard themselves as the only ones qualified to discuss Vietnam.

B. H. Barlow
Graduate,
Political Science

'Hysterical' Vet
Emerald Editor:

Navy Chaplain George Peirsall Murray has announced he has had it with people like me; well I would like to announce that I have had it with people like him! Out of deference to those servicemen who have been physically and emotionally involved in the war in Vietnam, I have never replied to any of the many letters from Vietnam servicemen and returned veterans that appear regularly in our papers, rife with accusations and slanderous implications as to the character and morality of those of us who have been vocally opposed to our involvement in Vietnam.

That venomous, hysterical missive of distorted garbage that appeared in your pages by a self-styled purveyor of Christian morality was too much for even the strongest stomach to take. I have no intention of even bothering to reply to any of the wild accusations and distortions so incredible as to render the use of the word "fact" as meaningless and empty, except to sympathize with future congregations that will be burdened with Chaplain Peirsall's ultra-right wing ranting about the White Man's Burden against

the Yellow-Devil-Incarnate of Communism.

There is something that bothers me more. Many of us looked forward to the return of Vietnam veterans to this campus, and to their taking a position of leadership in exploring the issues of the relation of our country to the desperate plight of the underdeveloped countries of the world, the growing militarism both in our country and as our response to countries attempting to throw off the yoke of centuries of exploitation by exclusive minorities, the terrifying influence of the military to the point of threatening our most sacrosanct institutions, etc. It appears that with a few heartening exceptions, we were wrong in these expectations.

Once again with a few exceptions, the veterans from Vietnam that I have met and talked to seem the least informed as to the background of our involvement there and our foreign policy in general of almost any group of students on campus. More than that, their whole attitude toward the major social issues of the day, both foreign and domestic, seems to be one of disinterest or, if anything, hostility and conservatism.

I am aware that Chaplain Peirsall's letter was not written by one of the University Viet Vets, but if that sick-minded diatribe of a 19th century colonial mentality in any way reflects the views of the local chapter, it appears that the University doesn't need to expect much in the way of reason and leadership from the Viet Vets.

Buzz Willits
Graduate Student
Public Affairs

Gospel vs. Guns
Emerald Editor:

Chaplain George Peirsall Murray, in his Vietnam article which appeared in last Friday's Emerald, left the impression that all the real Christians are in favor of war. He cited many pragmatic arguments to support this viewpoint. He implied that if the Christians who oppose war could only see the good that our soldiers are doing and the terrible atrocities perpetrated by the Vietcong, that we would leap at the chance to spread Christ's Gospel with a gun. I don't think I would; the teachings of Christ have as much validity in Vietnam as they do here.

Chaplain Murray's Lord (and mine) said, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." He also said, "Resist not evil, but overcome evil with good." And again, He said, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you . . ."

I could mention verses throughout the Bible which express the same ideas. I don't think any of them are qualified with respect to which enemies we forgive, or when. I can't find any endorsement of Rev. Murray's concept of war in the Bible. Rather, it seems to me, when we see the Vietcong murdering and torturing fellow human beings, we must . . . go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come." This does not mean I condone communist atrocities at all. But I realize that a man who cuts off heads needs Christ in the worst way.

I have no doubt that Rev. Murray's beliefs are sincere. But so are mine, and I am also a Christian; therefore, I cannot accept that Rev. Murray is a spokesman for all Christians.

Raymond C. Kelly
Graduate, Chemistry

War and Policy
Emerald Editor:

Let those critical of Senators McCarthy, Fulbright or others who dissent from present war policy, read the following significant statement about war and policy from a government official not so long ago:

"Why of course the people don't want war. Why should some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best that he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece? Naturally the common people don't want war . . . but after all, it is the leaders of a country who determine the policy, and it is always simple to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy, a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is to tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same in every country." — Hermann Goering

German war criminal tried after World War II.

Robert J. Schaaf,
Graduate Student,
Remedial Education

'Compulsion-Revulsion'
Emerald Editor:

In the April 17 issue of your paper, Mr. Larry Williamson has a poem published in the "Letters to the Editor" column. This poem is symptomatic of what we in the medical profession jokingly refer to as the "compulsion - revulsion" syndrome. It is characterized by unreasoning fear of the unknown and by blindly lashing

out at the existing institutions of society.

My son Harry, who is an alumnus of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity on your campus, sent me a copy of the Emerald containing Mr. Williamson's "letter." I must say I was profoundly shocked and saddened to learn that the young men and women of our society can be so callous and unfeeling. It is irrational to lose the power of discrimination. Without the ability to discriminate good from bad and useful from useless, all things may begin to seem equal, and society will disintegrate. As Harry likes to put it, it is "almost weird."

I hope that this short note will suggest the concern and disappointment felt by many of the citizens of the state in the abraded condition of the intellect which is aptly demonstrated by Mr. Williamson. We trust that he, and others like him, will not hesitate to seek professional guidance and counseling when afflicted by trauma of the sort he has indicated.

Preston P. Fleer,
M.D. (ret.)

Hear! Hear!
Emerald Editor:

Fashion issue timely, necessary. Hear! Hear! Bravo!

Fantastically well said. Let whoever wrote this article say more and be specific about involvement.

Tennis courts desperately need repair to facilitate the middle classes from USC? Blah. (I love tennis).

What happened to books for the prison? Big Brother Program?

Robert Longanecker
CASEA
Librarian

Brown's Puppet
Emerald Editor:

Miss Brown (Ivory Tower Politics 4/30) doesn't really want a responsive or responsible leader. She wants a puppet who will jump and jerk (i.e. "respond") whenever she sticks him with the pin of her own narrow personal political convictions.

Russell Sadler
Chairman, ISCOHE

Implemented Demands
Emerald Editor:

In light of the current trend toward incorporation of student opinion within every level of academic community, I feel that student demands concerning curriculum revision should be implemented immediately. Articles, editorials, and letters appearing in the Emerald indicate that the primary educational demands among students is that their courses be made relevant. The question is, relevant to what?

After listening to approximately 720 speeches in which the student was required to select and discuss a significant issue relevant to him and to his classmates, I have concluded that they are three and only three issues about which University of Oregon students feel any real concern — abortion, sex, and marijuana. (The concern may arise in reverse order.)

Therefore, I believe that all courses offered by the University should directly relate to one of these topics. The following suggested course titles may provide useful guidelines.

(1) Marijuana as Military Power: The Joint Chiefs of Staff. (2) Sex and German Verb Conjugations (or, alternately, Teutonic Conjugal Relationships). (3) The Effects of Marijuana: Modern American Fiction. (4) The Sexual History of Modern Europe (Seminar). (5) Methods of 17th-Century Chinese Abortion (Lab). Innumerable combinations are possible — for example, (6) The Psychology of Post-Marijuana Abortion, and (7) The Economics of Homosexual Dope-Pushers.

Under this system the instructor might even be allowed to wander onto topics of such questionable relevance as civil rights (the Kerner Commission: An Abortive Report?) and Vietnam (the Real Dope on Da Nang).

Immediate incorporation of these suggestions should satisfy student expectations and prevent any further sleep-ins outside of class.

Carol Taylor
Instructor, Speech

Around...

(Continued from page 6)

(9) We are glad, Mr. Scranton, that you brought up the subject of thievery. Now who are the "damn thieves?" "Out of a substandard income the Black man pays exorbitant prices for cheap goods; he must then pay more for his housing than Whites." (Black Power Carmichael, Hamilton). Using such means as raising the prices on goods 200 to 300 per cent for poor quality merchandise, charging a high rate of interest and raising the prices of food items on days welfare checks are issued the White merchant drains the ghetto of economic resources. Mr. Scranton, who are the "damn thieves?"

(10) You ask why all people including Blacks "move from the proximity of Black people." My dear sir, who wants to live in a ghetto?

Mr. Scranton, we would like to suggest that you come down from your dusty library shelf and TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU.

Jules Feiffer

I HAVE FIVE
DIFFERENT
PERSONALITIES.



I ACT CHILD-
ISH WITH MY
MOTHER -



MOTHERLY
WITH MY
FATHER -



DOMINEERING
WITH MY
HUSBAND -



SISTERLY
WITH MY
DAUGHTER -



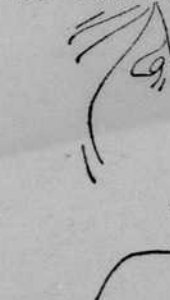
FLIRTATIOUS
WITH MY
SON -



AND YET NONE
OF THESE PER-
SONALITIES IS
REALLY ME.



BECAUSE THE REAL ME
WOULD BE DOMINEER-
ING WITH MY MOTHER -



FLIRTATIOUS
WITH MY
FATHER -



SISTERLY WITH
MY HUSBAND -



CHILDISH WITH
MY SON -



AND WOULDN'T
EVER SEE MY
DAUGHTER -



SHE'S TOO
MUCH LIKE ME.

