

# Vietnam veterans seek universal amnesty

By BOB GALVIN  
Of the Emerald

"As long as a system which caused the war and a government that is unresponsive to the needs of the people remains in power, a cease-fire agreement in Vietnam does not mean an end to the work facing veteran groups."

That's the opinion of Allen Tlusty, new regional coordinator for the Oregon Vietnam Veterans Against the War the (VVAW).

Tlusty spoke at a VVAW press conference last Friday at the Eugene Hotel. He said he wanted to respond to the projection that "there has been some question lately as to the future of the VVAW," by saying VVAW still has a purpose, despite the war's end.

The focus of Oregon VVAW chapters' work will be to continue programs already established, such as visits to Veterans Administration hospitals, speaking to local groups as guest speakers, and working with draft and military counseling centers, he said.

Tlusty said he is also concerned about the serious problem of post-Vietnam syndrome of which many veterans have been victims. He said a proposal to the National Science Foundation to help sponsor a local study of post-Vietnam syndrome is one of the several projects that the VVAW has planned.

Tlusty said the post-Vietnam syndrome has been identified as a condition common to most veterans who return from Vietnam, and "it can range from just normal cultural shock of returning home to serious suicide attempts by the individual."

Tlusty also said, "I also support the establishment of Families of Resisters for Amnesty (FRA). The FRA's

objective, he said is to obtain a universal, unconditional amnesty for resisters to the war.

Tlusty, who enlisted in the Army for finance work, said he was stationed at Vung Tau as a finance clerk from March 1967 to March 1968 during the war.

After serving in Vietnam he was sent to Mannheim, Germany where he was assigned to a supply unit until July 1969, when his service obligation terminated, he said.

Adrian Vaaler, last year's VVAW regional coordinator for Oregon, accompanied Tlusty at the press conference.

Vaaler told newsmen the Oregon VVAW was formed in 1969 in Portland, at which time there were only 15 members. Now there are 300 members in Oregon and 30,000 nationally, he said.

Asked what areas the Oregon VVAW chapters will concentrate in, Vaaler re-emphasized the areas of universal amnesty and post-Vietnam syndrome.

Vaaler also said, "A veteran still needs tuition, books, and living money" for beginning or returning to college and that the "VVAW wants to help the veterans in this area."

## New bike routes recommended

The Westside Neighborhood Quality Project at its monthly meeting last week approved a motion recommending the establishment of a bike route "by sign only" on 12th Avenue from Chambers to Madison.

The motion also recommended the establishment of a route from Madison and 12th Avenue to 15th Avenue. The route suggested crosses Lincoln School and the Lane County Fairgrounds.

Adoption of the motion followed a furious debate on a proposal by Tom Chambliss recommending the establishment of a 12th Avenue bike route using "some kind of diverters or blockers or some other thing to stop through traffic."

Chambliss recommended the use of planters as temporary diverters. He suggested their placement on 12th Avenue between Almaden and Taylor Street, Van

Buren and Jackson Street, Washington and Jefferson Street, and Lincoln and Charnelton Street.

Neighborhood residents objected to Chambliss' proposal for various reasons.

The meeting also endorsed the Whiteaker Neighborhood group's objections to the closure of the First Avenue ramps at the Washington-Jefferson Street Bridge. Besides citing the benefits for the Whiteaker group, the motion also noted the beneficial effects of reduced traffic in the west side.

In another traffic related measure, the meeting endorsed a proposal by the Eugene Traffic Division to establish truck routes in Eugene. Eugene councilman Neil Murray said it would "get trucks off the neighborhood streets."

The proposal, if approved by the State Highway Division, would post signs for a truck route in the Eugene area.

## Compromise kills emotionalism

By DAVE WOODSON  
Of the Emerald

The smoke has settled. The emotionalism is gone.

But after more than two weeks since the Eugene Education Association (EEA) first threatened reprisals against the Eugene School Board, the question still hangs heavy in the air—will the Eugene teachers go out on strike?

Probably not.

The two-week delay since the Feb. 7 board meeting, when the salary issue was dumped back in the laps of the budget committee, has cost the teachers' association.

### Analysis

It could be seen Monday night. The impassioned pleas to the board that had highlighted the Feb. 7 meeting were missing. A representative of the EEA spoke Monday night but he spoke calmly and with little feeling.

The crowds of teachers that jammed the

auditorium and packed the nearby hallways two weeks ago were not there.

It has become clear that the teacher's association has lost the initiative.

They lost the initiative as a result of one of the oldest by-products of a democracy—the compromise.

A compromise was reached last Thursday night when the school board raised the starting base salary for Eugene teachers to \$7450. The board had originally offered \$7,350, and the teachers had demanded \$7,550. The \$7,550 figure is the recommendation of an outside fact finder.

The compromise was a traditional compromise—a dead-center fifty-fifty split.

Even the Eugene Federation of Teachers (EFT), the local branch of the American Federation of Teachers and although a minority, the more militant of the two area teachers' organizations, has apparently fallen in line.

At the Feb. 7 school board meeting, representatives of the EFT had been passing out strongly-worded strike literature. Monday night, a representative of the EFT spoke to the school board. He urged them to pass the higher salary scale but said, "I will not go on strike for \$100."

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