

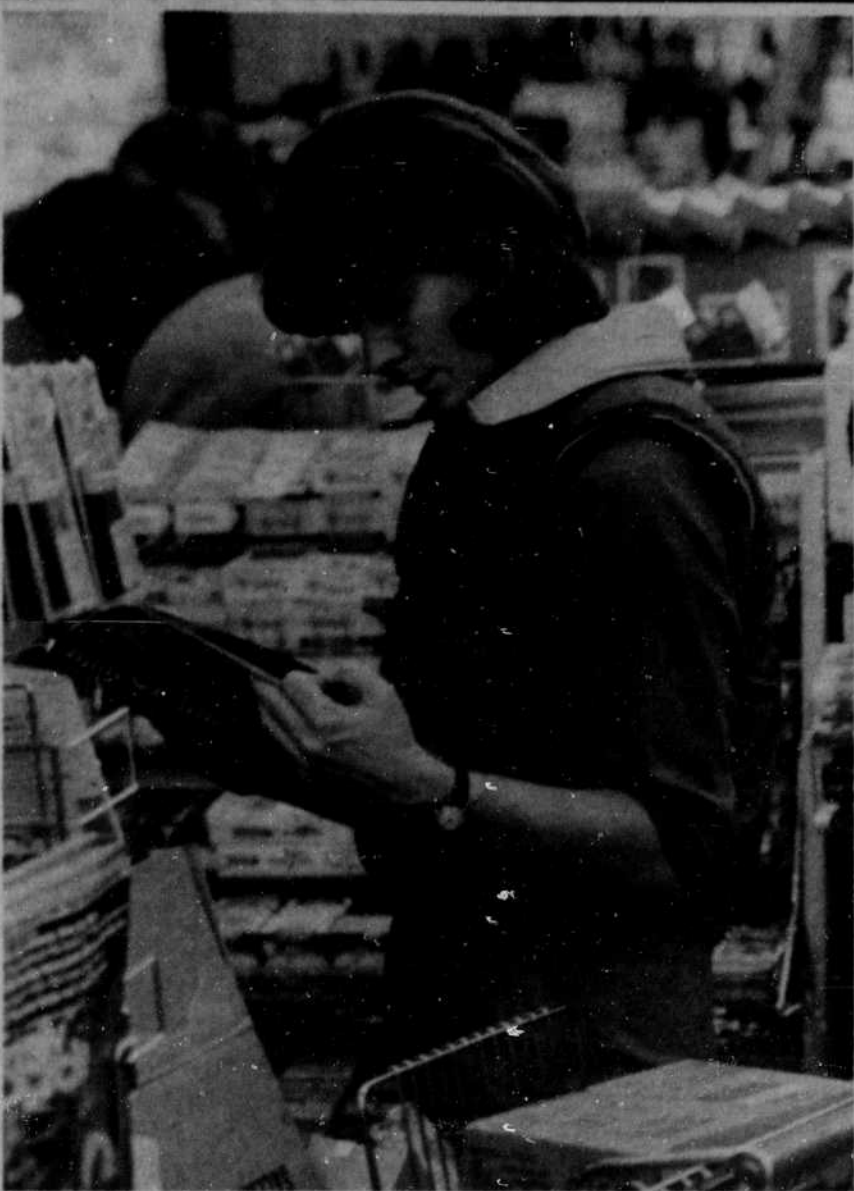


Photo by Ken Kromer

Taking five

Actress Susan St. James takes a break on the set of "How to Beat the High Cost of Living," now in its final week of production in Eugene. Crews were filming at Albertson's on 30th Avenue and Hilyard Street to finish up the final scenes this week. American International Pictures is producing the movie, which also stars Jane Curtin and Jessica Lange.

Vets relive war memories

By MICHELLE GRELL
Of the Emerald

"Vietnam is not just an isolated incident," said Julian Camp, a University Vet who was one of the chief speakers Wednesday night at a session entitled "Vietnam Vets Speak Out."

The informal, free-flowing talk was presented as a part of a week of focus on War or Peace Conversion in the Nuclear Age and held in the Forum room of the EMU.

After an ice-breaking opener consisting of a number of songs on war and peace sung by guitarist Percy Hilo, a Vietnam war veteran, five representatives from the University Vets each shared their personal and emotional experiences in war to a group whose ages ranged from 8 to 60.

When Camp went into the army after enlisting himself, he held the attitude that he owed his country something. "I knew I would have my moment in history," he explained, adding it was a tradition in his family to fight. He now sees his experience as hateful and abhorrent.

"I saw a lot of people taking advantage of the war," commented Mark Danis, another speaker and Vietnam Vet. "I also saw a lot of bombing, dead bodies and I was scared most of the time — I didn't want to wake up dead." Danis added that he would "like to see the whole

country stand up and say no to atrocities" like war.

Another speaker, Russell Linebarger felt that "a lot of things we were doing there didn't have a lot to do with democracy." He referred to an incident during which excess bombs being carried by American bombers were dropped just for the sake of getting rid of them and "wiped out a primitive civilization of 50,000 people." Linebarger said he personally feels responsible for that. He also talked of seeing a friend, with whom he had eaten, slept and showered for the last seven months shot dead with 13 bullet holes in his body. "I couldn't justify seeing that."

The main concern expressed

by the war veterans was the side effects of their devastating experience. "The nightmares, flashbacks, taking pills to get to sleep and more to get back up..." recalled Linebarger. What really shocked Linebarger was thinking that he had just had the power of deciding whether another person would live or die, yet the only job he could get when he came back was cleaning toilets for \$2.90 an hour. "It was an absurd thing."

"People keep telling you, forget the war, it's over...get over your depression," remarked Ron Phillips, the last of the veterans to speak. "Someday I hope to get over my depression but it won't be until this country wakes up."

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El Salvador offices held

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Leftists, many armed with machetes and handguns, seized the buildings of the labor and economy ministries Wednesday, taking four cabinet officials and about 130 other hostages, witnesses and police said.

More than 1,000 anti-government protesters, most of whom identified themselves as members of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc, took the two buildings and demanded the release of alleged political prisoners.

A police representative said Labor Minister Gabriel Gallegos Valdes, Labor Undersecretary Maria Teresa de Avila, Economy Minister Manuel Heints and Oscar Menjivar, his undersecretary, were among the hostages. The ministry offices are about 300 yards apart.

There were no reports of violence and police did not intervene.

About 100 people armed with pistols and machetes took over the Labor Ministry shortly before noon and seized 30 captives while some 1,000 demonstrators milled outside the building, witnesses said.

An hour later, about 900 of the street demonstrators marched into the Economy Ministry and seized some 100 hostages, a police source reported.

The ministers took their jobs Tuesday, sworn in by the new junta of two colonels and three civilians that replaced Gen. Carlos Humberto Romero's right-wing regime after an Oct. 15 coup.

Col. Arnaldo Majano, one of the two junta officers, personally released 74 political prisoners from a San Salvador jail.

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