

Workshop urges evasion to cut back military funds

By STEVEN KNIGHT
Of the Emerald

Eugene residents concerned about the nuclear weapons buildup should withhold the portion of their income tax that goes to the military budget.

That was the message delivered at a University tax-resistance workshop Thursday night.

Charles Gray, representative of First Step, an organization opposed to nuclear armament, said approximately 56 percent of federal income tax goes to the military.

And most of that money funds the production of first-strike nuclear weapons, he said.

The Pentagon's rush to develop first-strike weapons such as the MX missile, Trident submarine and cruise missile, is thrusting the world into an incredibly dangerous era, Gray said.

First-strike weapons systems will undermine the mutual-deterrent concept that has governed military relations between the superpowers for the past two decades, he said.

"There is no security in the deterrent concept anymore," Gray said.

So taxpayers should protest the threat of a nuclear war by refusing to voluntarily pay for nuclear weapons, Gray said.

For most of the workshop, Gray explained how to avoid paying either income taxes and minimizing the risk of being prosecuted by the Internal Revenue Service.

Gray said he resisted taxes first 14 years ago when he refused to pay a telephone excise tax. This tax was implemented in the late 1960s to finance the Vietnam war effort, he said.

The IRS has never attempted to collect his phone tax bill, Gray said. He said he believes the IRS doesn't try to collect unpaid phone tax bills because only a small amount of money is involved.

Workshop guest speaker James Campbell said in 1977 he filed for war-crime deductions and took his case to tax court. He said the 1926 Pact of Paris stated that "war will never be an instrument of national policy" and used that as a defense in court.

Although Campbell said the defense was ruled invalid, the IRS has not yet attempted to collect from him.

Other tax resistance strategies discussed at the workshop included:

- Filing for a refund. When your taxes have been paid, file IRS form 843 claiming a refund "for taxes illegally collected." You must include your reasons for wanting a refund.
- Paying under protest. With your tax return send a letter stating you are paying under protest. Publicize your position as much as possible.
- Filing a blank return. Submit a 1040 with name, address and your signature. The IRS can try and set a figure and collect.
- Changing the spelling of your name or adding a middle initial. This action, according to Gray, helps foul up the IRS's computer.
- Living below a taxable income level.

Campbell said a taxpayer who tries to conceal information about his income might join the 2,781 people who have been jailed since 1977 for tax fraud.

Fraudulent intent can be avoided by always stating fully on the tax form why you are not paying a portion of your taxes, he said.

While Campbell concedes there is no absolutely legal way to avoid paying taxes to the Pentagon, he has confidence that Sen. Mark Hatfield's "perennially pending" World Peace Tax Fund will be enacted soon. This legislation would give people opposed to military funding an option to put their taxes directly into domestic, non-military programs.

LSD scientist in Eugene

Physician John Lilly, a pioneer in research on the mind of the dolphin and the human mind, will speak today at 7:30 p.m. in the South Eugene High School auditorium.

Lilly and his wife, Toni Lilly, a

psychotherapist and president of Human Software, Inc., will discuss a spectrum of beliefs about origins, limitations and generation of human and non-human consciousness.

Lilly, author of The Center of

the Cyclone, and co-author with his wife of Dyadic Cyclone, has worked with the National Institute of Mental Health and was one of the few scientists authorized to conduct research with LSD.

Admission to the presentation sponsored by Eugenesis is \$4.

Frat holds law seminar

A career seminar for law students with an eye on less traditional law practices is scheduled for April 15 at the University Law School.

The seminar, sponsored by the law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta, will offer a variety of workshops on alternative law careers as well as traditional careers.

Speakers will include a representative from the Oregon State

Attorney general's office, the U.S. Attorney's office, the Lane County Public Defender's office, a specialist in handicapped law and a specialist in native American law.

The workshops will begin at 3:30 p.m. The schedule of rooms will be posted.

Wine and cheese will be served after the seminar at 5:30 p.m. in the law school lounge.

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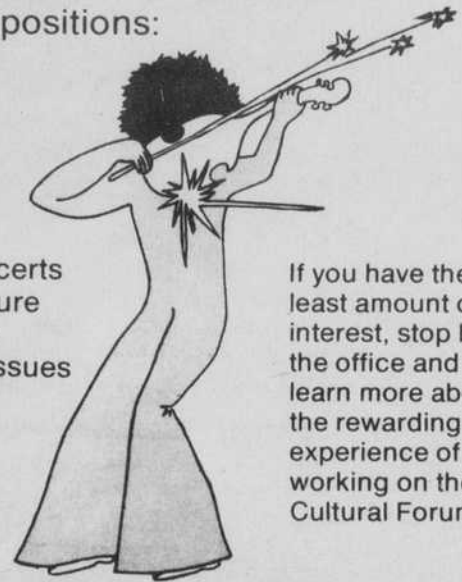
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