# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION-PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

| SUBJECT:VVAW          |
|-----------------------|
| FILE NO:HQ 100-448092 |
| SECTION:              |
| Gerial 3732           |
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| PAGES REVIEWED: 25    |
| PAGES RELEASED:       |
| REFERRALS: NONE       |
| EXEMPTIONS: 570       |

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION P. O. BOX 11212 TAMPA 33610 626-7320

Minutes from the moeting in Fallahassee

for more answers to questions about the pending bills and other questions pertaining V.i. benefits

Roger Rosmoy - Veterans Coordinator.

- 1) emphosize needs & support of veterans
- 2) Organize statewide veterans
- 3) nursing home
- b) twition
- 5) establishment of M.V.A. office

these bills are pending and are supposed to be put forward to the committee to be passed

Mayor Rorer Bevis: "Praise to the veterans the most patriotic men that this country has seen" owes this group of veterans more than anyone else. there's a critical reduction in Veterans.

There was a man who commented on what said about Army R.O.T.C. and said that the group that he was in was not as "radical" as we the members of V.V.A.W. are

Supposedly the person personsible for the bills that haven't been passed 2/3 votes are needed to put a bill on the floor by the House and the Senate.

there were about 20 different groups and schools at this meeting and someone mentioned that since there were so many of us there that it shouldn't be all that hard to retisome of bills passed and also to be able to present some bills to Legislature about V.A. benefits

60 day deferment to be brought up at the meeting in this afternoon (3-29-74)

actual debate over this particular natter of V.A. benefits should go to the House of Rep. 2 Senate.

Representative Hay Mattor Polk county - this nation has long recognized that when it calls on its citizens to serve, it impairs on the personal lives of the veterans.

Congress has not seen fit to fully fund the veterans.

#1 PURIC SUPFERT: most important factor confronted with a degree of public apathy he says the cause of some of the apathy is from those that seek the support. In Florida the legislature has been negligent -- Florida has not been doing as much as other states. (double-talk etc., etc.)

Froblem is compounded by the fact that all activities in daily life has become increasingly

complex (non-notion is action)
Numbers of Legislature are confronted with so many problems that many of them don't
be to even read the bills and proposals that come in. (violins come in now)

We are 34th in comparison to other states in the nation.

Several proposals:
\*\*Ajority of veterans are supporting the tuition water bill, this bill could cost the
state of Florida nearly 60 million dollars less than h billion dollars a year.

"this has not been an active involvement of veterans collectively" only colution:
Veterans became more actively involved in the logislative process — more veterans should
contact and telk with members of the legislature.

"the best legislation in the world is not your to get anythere without support!"

("a little carnival backing!) he is just contradicting himself all over the place-one numbers of the sudience sold about the speaker.

There was alot of live being sold about busiceracy "more carnival backing to confuse the issue at hand"

recissed for lanch

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED



VIETHAM VITE SOLD TO THE MAN WINTER SOLD OF MILAMON P. O. BOX 11212 TAMPA 33510 626-7320

Page 2 -con-

head speaker

- for Rep. P. Thomas

- for Sen. E. Horne

for Rep. R. Mattex

for Sen. R. Pettigrew

for Rep. J. Miller

Pep. Mattox)

Staff Firector - select committee on military & Veterans Affairs

2233 waver tuition

223h same as 2233 but private college

2235 pay tuition of veterons kids if the veteran is killed (no way affect G.I. benefits)

yes there is a great deal of apathy in the legislation toward the veterans.

(Sen. E. Horne)

when a bill is prefiled it is left to the committee -- (your dirty love) ?

What we could give you to give us (do realize that legislature in Florida does have an impact on Congressmen and Senators.) implementation day July 21, Eddy Cooper Tribune 1945.

recycling of money if legislatures help us we help them(naturally)

what the impact would be on Florida if the people came from out of state and paid instale tuition we have a large number of Veterans that do not get their benefit for 3 or 4 months -- due to this inconvience his registration is cancelled.

Petition-Penescola Jr. College 29 jan. 1974 that 60 days be allowed to veterans in delaying tuition payment

1) ioin forces

done in one week write your representatives
U.S.F.
SENTINCIE
S.P.J.C.
EDISCN
JACKSCNVILLE UNIV.

FLA. JR. COLLEGE UNIV. OF N. FLA.

THILL OF M. PLA.

Mag

We should keep a file on everything that everyone is doing all around the state - a list of legislators

South Florida could take all the counties around there and get in touch with Vets to write letters or call---perhaps get some kind of body count up here send form letters and send them to the people

(idea) April 28 & 30 march on capital

tommerrow they will give us the names of the legislators to we can contact them and find out what's going on.

tı

VIETIAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR WINTER SULDIER ESCAPEZATION P. O. BOX 11212
TAMPA 33610
626-7320

page 3 -con-

minutes of the Saturday meeting in Tallahasneo

1) believes pre-payment more easily accomplished than advanced payment no more than 1,999 cords

Ques. aid for disadvantaged (junkle, i.e. less than honorable investigated not legitmatey, but the says that drug treatment (greas) problems will not be filed away, it the need is there for immediate treatment

11) V.A.cannot radiew (prohibited by law) cases of less than honorable discharges of a G.C.M. however independent cases may be reviewed

How many decisions are reversed? 10 % and another person said 11%

HILITARY REVIEW BOARD MASHINGTON D.C.

changes of reversal are greater if the vet goes in person - can appear with counsel or through an agency

Hardehip payments are available - the treasury dept. which can be colled/teletyped from Birmingham, Ala. Once a check is mailed, then the treasury dept. is to be seen not the V.A. as it is then out of their hands. 75% of hardship cases are paid early. Often it may come through Congressional Intervention 2500 calls daily in St. Pete office phone tank.

Trainees train 1 hr.daily for a period of 6 months.

Trainees train 1 hr.daily for a period of 6 months.

the hope what and where the problet were. Said that if we all unet back to our home universitys and j.c.'s and other veterans administrations and tell other people "about that has happened here, and maybe on some back page corner of some newspaper; we'd be in the news and then maybe the public will know what is soing on V.A. information center

Tallahassee, Florida

N.A.C.V. 1900 "L" st NH Washington, D.C. 20036

A few words from our brothers --

How can a vet sit down and write a letter to his legislature when he has to work, go to school full-time?

-we did their trip and we worked for the fat-cats and when they had us by the balls and when they needed us we were there, and now when we need then and now that we are free they tell us to go to hell. We can't get our benefits that we were supposed to get. Under the state legislator we are not Victness Vets. but under all the bullshit that has to come down around as now we are what the hell is going on?

The state legislation states this fact: 22.5 billion dellers goes for defence funds for other countries. This country has enough military arms to blow up this world 10 times over!

**67C** 

L INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED 45 BY 50 6

To whom it should concern:

On Monday night, 8 April, we were informed by were not welcome at the national that the members of meeting. Among the charges that were made were that "immature" letters had been sent by our chapter members and that told the members what to write. These charges are obviously surely is not immature, and even those contradictory, for who might have a personal vendetta against him would not make such a ridiculous charge. Furthermore, I resent the implication that I am incapable of thinking or writing for myself. writing memos and letters to stupid people who are unable to see the egg on their faces, I definitely am able to compose my own thoughts into a letter. Perhaps you found the language used by some of our sisters and brothers insulting -- I am surprised to learn that there are still some words that can shock the virgin ears of Viet Nam veterans -for if words can shock you, why not the acts which were described by the words?

The problems still exist; not hearing them will not make them disappear. Florida region is falling apart, due primarily to the ego-tripping Miami chapter. Members from that chapter insult their comrades, they remove articles that do not belong to them from offices not their own; and they will not work together with others. chapter works hard on all sorts of projects, from prison reform to fund-raising concerts, from demonstrations to lobbying for passage of legislative bills for veterans benefits; yet no other chapters are informed about our efforts, although we always send you a newsletter describing what we are doing. Apparently the national VVAW does not have any representatives to whom it is a concern-but it still should concern you. Rather than paying attention to the facts and charges in the letters which you received from # rather than facing these charges on the floor of the national meeting, you prefer to hide behind a false façade of shock at some words and refuse to allow us to be heard.

I assure you, that as dynamic and competent a leader ( is, he cannot make me write anything I do not want to, he cannot make me write anything I do not believe--indeed, he cannot make me write anything--and he wouldn't try! I don't know how my brothers and sisters in Tampa feel about what you have said, but for myself, I know you owe both me and an apology. If you really do give a damn. I expect to get one from you.

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### PEPORT for MARCH, 1974, FROM the TAMPA CHAPTER, VVAW

### SPECIAL ACTIONS

1.. Demonstration against Vice-President Ford at Plant Park, Tampa, on 3/8/74.

About 200 people, including representatives from the United Farmworkers, Red Star, BACON, Tampa Women's Center, and his group, TSG, and VVAW marched from 7PM to 10PM. All demonstrators were thrown out of Plant Park, and had to take to the sidewalks, where the signs we carried urging "Bonk, if you want to impeach Nixon" got a good response from the spectators. At least 40% of the demonstrators were members of Tampa Chapter of VVAW.

ivews coverage was favorable, as the sample article enclosed

with this report indicates.

Vererans' Rally in Tallahassee

Representatives from 22 Veterans' organisations in Flooida gathered in Tallahassee on March 29 and 30, and were disappointed that the delegations of State Representatives who promised to meet with them failed to show.

The Veterans' representatives voted that if our letters and petitions alone are not effective in causing our bills to be passed, then a Mass Demonstration will occur in the latter part of April, whenfrom 500 to 10000people will take over the steps of the State Capitol, stage a sit-down, and remain there until we get favorable action.

### 6 8 8 8 \* \* \* \*

We had a talk with Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and demand the right to be beard at the Mational Assembly of VVAd in order to discuss the Mation problem. At Mational's request, a copy of this report will to sunt to Misconsin. We are also enclosing handwritten letters from a semi-conders of the Lamps Chapter who want to emphase their opinions in the team of the Items Chapter who want to emphase their opinions are the lambage with the first W.A. Pictures taken at our demanstrations

## CION TO L'INTERNATION.

1. We are still working, on the Prises Project, corresponding with, and wisiting immates.

As for the bills en Prison Reform in Tallahassee, part of our proposed bill has been approved, and we are now working for passage of the other portions. Continued pressure on the legislators must be kept up, because if the bills aren't passed this session, they may be thrown out. Therefore we are calling for massive demonstrations to improve the probability of passing the Prison Reform Bills during this session.

Copies of the proposed bills are also enclosed.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/21 BY 56 65 100

2. We received your newsletter, and once again we found no word at all about Tampa Chapter in the letter. This blackout of news about our events is unfair to the members of Tampa Chapter who consider it an indication that the National Organisation doesn't want to work with Tampa VVAW. If their impression is correct, don't be a "two-faced politician"--Tell us so, and we'll take it from there.

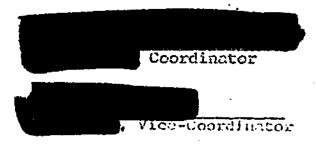
Taking and printing the photos we send you are expensive. Making reports take time, and we believe it is unfair that our activities are not publicized among other regions. Our members are still loyal to National, but they're growing tired of being ignored and treated like unwelcome relatives.

That's laying it on the line like it is. It's not only unfair to Tampa members, but it's unfair to other regions and chapters who might support our efforts if they were aware of what we're doing here.

No matter what you decide about working with us, Tampa Chapter is alive and well, and growing--and won't play dead if you don't support us.

Since we opened our new headquarters, at each of the four monthly meetings we sign up at least 1 or 2 new members. We have more than 70 active members in the Tampa Chapter now.

Yours in the struggle,



Latin Balance

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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S fice of the Student ( 7 Vice-President

North 29, 1974

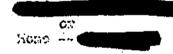


As you know the 1974 Florida Legislative Session is upon us. During the past wook (March 18-22) of logislative committee mestings at the cepital. lead I were in attendence and testified for esveral etudent-related bills. After the many meetings and convergntions, it is quite apparent than the people at the capital are receptive towards our ideas, problems, and plans.

If we let our voices be heard on "Capital Hill" and develop the right strategy, we will definitely affect the direction of various student-related legislation. I mention "student-related", because this will be the key to effective lobbying. It will be this focus of autention and devotion to detail that will win as the respect of the legislators. It is this typo of lobbying clout that enabled the University of California Student Lobby to have influenced the appropriation of over \$8,000,000 for students, i.e. obtaining a \$1,000,000 time to avaluate and up-grade undergraduate courses and tauchers, and securing \$1.6 million in additional student dimensial ald for the 1972-73 year and \$2.5 million for 1973-74.

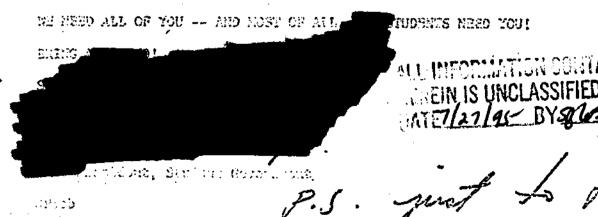
Therefore, in order to move efficiently carry-out our goals of loobying, there will be a FEU Lobbying Workshop held April 4, Thursday, at 10:10 e.m., and the Graz pure of the oran day. It was doubled to have two workshops, so horomally overyone could accend. If anyone has any problems please call me.

ee:



Scheduled for the egende is:

- (A) A for professional Lobbylats, L.e. League of Nemer Vessys, ERA, FRA, ACTU.
- (2) Distribution of loobying meaual and preket.
- (3) Discussion of present and futime student-related bills.



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Vat Application

## NOTIFICATION OF GROUP REFING AND ASSEMBLY University of South Florida

(Nust be filed 24 hours prior to event)

| TO: VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS   |
|--|
| FROM: Vietnas Veterans Arainst the War   |
| 305 W. Waters Ave. ADDRESS OF SPONSOR  |
| We are requesting calendar clearance for our outdoor (X) indoor () meeting or assembly on May 5, 1974 at 1:00 to 8:00 P.M.  Date (s) |
| The event will be (description) Bluegrass Concert and Fair   |
|  |
| *** ***  |
| Cost: \$ 1,000 . Financial Arrangements: Sale of tickets   |
| This program will be open to:    Yeblic     University Community   Organization Members Only   |
| Space Society Field.  Space Society Field.  Building Room  |
| Compus Security: YesNo_X Number  |
| Type of Amplification, if needed: None (will provide own)  |
| OTHER INFORMATION: No Amplified Instruments  |
| econding to Signature of Officer   |
| Student Number:  |
| Signature of Advisor   |
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| Reviewed by:  Date   |
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VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION P.O.Box 11212 Tampa, Florida 33610 813-626-7320

April 17, 1974

#### Dear Brothers:

It had been our intention and desire for a delegation of members from Tampa Chapter of VVAW to attend the NSCM at Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Aprill1-15, 1974, in order to bring to the floor the problems existing between the chapters and regions in the State of Florida, and to explain to the entire membership of VVAW why Tampa Chapter will not work with the regions of Florida.

The right to bring this question into the open before all the members was denied to us because we are not a part of the regional. I feel certain that our problems are not restricted to Florida alone. The same problems exist throughout the United States.

These problems, I am certain, are hurting VVAW on a national as well as chapter level. These problems will have to be resolved if we intend to continue as a vi able and growing organization. The only way to resolve them is to bring them before the entire membership for open discussion and resolution in a democratic way.

Even in the crooked society in which we live, and even in our crooked courts, a person is permitted to present his side of the story and to defend himself in an open forum before he is found guilty. If VVAW doesn't allow us to do this, they are no better thanthe government which serves and benefits not the majority of the people, but rather a handful of chosen individuals.

We, as brothers and sisters, must always keep our minds open for mutual understanding. That IS what makes us brothers and sisters!

We are, therefore, sending you a copy of the packet we mailed to MI lwaukee and to National. We intended to present this information at the meeting, but since we were not permitted to attend as a delegation, we are mailing the material to you, instead.

If any further information is desired, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by mail, and we'll answer all your questions. We are guilty of nothing.

We have nothing to hide. Only one who has something to hide refuses to hear both sides of the story lest his own guilt be uncovered. We're ready to tell our side as soon as we are given the chance. Therefore, from now on, we shall send our monthly Newsletter not only to National, but to you as well.

Yours in solidarity in the struggle,



ROUND ROBIN REPORT TAMPA CHAPTER VVAW
In January 1974, we had the official opening of the VVAW headquarters.

Bluegrass Festival at USF 2/22/74, about 1800 attended. sold tickets at \$1 and \$1.50 to pay expenses. Put together so well, and went off so smoothly, that school requested another, which will be held 5/12/74.

In Feb. began working with several other groups to help organize BACON, a group to impeach Nixon.

3/8/74, VP Ford spoke at University of Tampa. We had about 200 people picketing his appearence--40% of those were VVAW members. Others demonstrating included United Farmworkers, BACON, and the Socialist African party, and Red Star.

Mid-March we distributed leaflets on all Tampa campuses to bring Veterans to a gripe session at USF. Hearing complaints were representatives from Congressman Sam Gibbons,

Senator Lawton Chiles asked Congressman Gibbons to send him a report about the outcome of the meeting. As a resultof the meeting, we were able to prevent USF from cancelling registration of 7 Veterans who hadn't received checks from the government. Now, if a Veteran's check is delayed, we have the means to get him the check in from 5 to 7 days. San Gibbons' office will receive and investigate all complaints, and solve them problems. This session was in preparation for the big meeting in Tallahassee with State Representatives.

3/29 and 3/30/74 a group of VVAN joined with 22 other Florida delegations. We had a meeting scheduled with State representatives who didn't entitle a Vietnam veteran to four years free schooling in the state of

We are now gathering signatures on a petition which we'll present to the House of Representatives in Tallahassee on 4/26/74. On that day, we'll march from FSU to the Capitol steps. This demonstration will be put on by Tampa Chapter VVAW supported by other groups. Committee for Veterane' Renefitate working on this project now.

We've been writing on a prison reform project for 8 or 9 months. We have been visiting impates, putting out press releases to newspapers out other modis, describing bad conditions din prisons. We had a Bill on the floor of the House of Representatives, supported by Don Tucker. FOI of the Bill was passed. We are continuing to work for prison reform.

On 5/12/74 there will be another Bluegrass concert. We expect about 4000 people to attend.

On 5/4/74 we're scheduled to go to Washington, DC for May Day. On July 1 or 4 we'll go to Washington again with VVAW.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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