

Viet Vets Feel They're Short Changed

By KATHY MORAN
Observerland veterans
were among a group who met
with the joint military affairs
committee of the Michigan
Legislature last week to dis-
cuss the feasibility of passing
a state G.I. bill.

The veterans, numbering
about 150 from all over the
state, represented the Michi-
gan Association of Collegiate
Veterans which is organized
on 22 Michigan campuses.
One group is located on
Schoolcraft Community Col-
lege's campus.

A common complaint
among the veterans is that

they are treated as "second
class citizens" when they
return from service.

A WESTLAND veteran,
Jerry Smith, said, "When the
veteran today comes home,
few people other than his
family even care that he is
back."

Today's veterans return
hardly noticed and do not
receive the fanfare—and
monetary benefits—that
World War II and Korean
veterans received.

"We feel one of the reasons
for this lack of recognition
has been the enormous feel-

ings of misgiving over our
country's involvement in
Southeast Asia," said
Thomas Anderson, chairman
of the ways and means
committee of the association.

"We felt we had an obliga-
tion to fulfill when asked to
serve, and we resent being
treated as second class vet-
erans upon our return. This
treatment shows up vividly
in the extent of benefits pre-
sently available to Vietnam
veterans."

THE VETERANS are
arguing that the federal aid
for a veteran's education

fails to meet current college
costs and does not compare
with benefits given to sol-
diers returning from pre-
vious years.

"After World War II, a
veteran's tuition, books and
supplies were paid for. In
addition, he received a
monthly subsistence allow-
ance of between \$75 and
\$120," Anderson said.

"Today a veteran is re-
quired to pay for his tuition,
books, fees, supplies, food,
clothing, transportation,
medical expenses and
all other living costs from a
subsistence allowance that

hardly matches the minimum
poverty levels established by
the federal government."

"After World War II and
the Korean conflict, Michigan
gave a cash bonus to all her
veterans who had served
their country so honorably."

"We ask: What similar
rewards has Michigan given
to her veterans who have
also served so honorably in
the Vietnam war?"

THE VETERANS are con-
cerned that fewer veterans
are taking advantage of the
current education funds than

did after the Korean war and
World War II.

Anderson, a political sci-
ence major at Michigan State
University, said the reason is
"the present benefits in no
way correspond to those
previously given" and fall
too short of the actual cost of
education.

The collegiate veterans are
asking the state for up to \$500
a year for tuition and fees
and a maximum of \$100 per
year for books and materials.
This plan would require
approximately \$28 million
initially and the veterans
themselves are investigating
ways of coming up with the

funds without having to add
to the taxpayer's bills.

Special committees of the
group are investigating ways
of coming up with the reve-
nue, and they hope to have a
feasible plan to present to the
military affairs committee
by mid-April.

UNDER THE federal G.I.
Bill, a single veteran re-
ceives \$175 a month to attend
school full time. With one
dependent the veteran re-
ceives \$265 per month, and
with two dependents \$230.
For each dependent there-
after he is allocated \$10 per
month.

Some veterans with fami-
lies say they could make it if
they could find part-time
jobs. But the scarcity of jobs
currently adding to their
plight.

Giving the veterans the
added funds for education
would be an investment, they
say. Once they complete
their education the veterans
will increase their earning
power—and taxpaying power.

Meanwhile the veterans
are passing around petitions
and will be speaking to local
clubs and organizations to
increase their growing sup-
port.

Revenue Sharing Benefits Listed

Estimates on the amount
of money that would be made
available to Michigan cities,

townships and counties under
President Nixon's proposed
revenue-sharing have re-

cently been made available.

If the politically shaky
federal revenue sharing plan
is passed, the federal govern-
ment will return \$5 billion of
the money it collects through
the income taxes to the
states to be used where the
state sees the need.

In the midst of objections
to revenue sharing, an alter-
nate plan of having the fed-
eral government take over
more of the state welfare
programs has been sug-
gested.

UNDER PRESIDENT
Nixon's original revenue
sharing plan Oakland County
would receive \$1.94 million
back from the \$16.5 million it
pays in income taxes. Wayne
County would be reimbursed
\$11.7 million out of the \$99.4
million it pays.

In Oakland County, the
City of Farmington would
receive \$43,463; Farmington
Township \$138,878; the City
of Southfield \$478,594; South-
field Township \$11,303; and
Lathrup \$35,205.

Revenue collected from
Wayne County would be re-
turned in these amounts:
Garden City, \$160,482; West-
land \$190,389; Livonia
\$683,375; City of Plymouth
\$32,427; Plymouth Township
\$51,118; Redford Township
\$24,021; and Canton Town-
ship, \$36,853.

4th Party Starts Petition Drive

Human Rights Party ac-
tivist from across the state
met in Farmington Sunday to
launch a petition drive to
secure official recognition as
a new state political party.

The meeting, held at Oak-
land Community College's
Orchard Ridge branch, drew
about 75 persons.

Charging that the old parties
have failed because
"they exist for power and
privilege rather than peo-
ple," HRP attacks what it
calls the "root causes" of
war, rising prices, an unfair
tax system, hunger, poverty,
racial tension, repression and
decay with "a new and hu-
man political approach."

Within six months, they
must procure 15,000 signa-
tures of registered voters,
which will gain them a ballot
position in time for the 1972
general election.

IN OTHER actions, Mrs.
Barbara Halpert, of Bloom-
field Township, introduced a
motion that HRP "strongly
endorse the proxy statement
of Campaign GM," and urged
that anyone with shares in
GM assign their proxies to
Ralph Nader's group. It
passed unanimously.

The National Peace Action
Coalition, which is planning
mass peace demonstrations
for Washington D.C. and San
Francisco on April 24, was
also given an endorsement.
Miss Tanya Simon, of Berk-
ley, was named the official

liaison between the NPAC
and HRP.
Mrs. Sally Eckert, of Bir-
mingham, presented the con-
cept of the "People's Peace
Treaty," a pledge between
the people of the United
States, South Vietnam, and
North Vietnam, for a day-to-
day personal commitment to
force an end to the war in
Indochina.

As a way to implement the
peace treaty, Mrs. Regina
McNauly, of Oak Park,
made a motion to support the
economic boycott initiated
by the Consumer Boycott for
Peace.

The CBP, claiming it has
begun the one last legal, non-
violent means to end the In-
dochina war, calls for a
pledge to "... not purchase
any unnecessary consumer-
durables, i.e. automobiles,
appliances, clothing, etc.,
until the war is ended." It,
too, passed unanimously.

The meeting was held on
the Orchard Ridge campus of
Oakland Community College.

The Saturday bank.

Does your banker stick around on Saturday
so you can get a loan, make a payment or
cash a check?

We have a lot of customers who used to for-
get to bank on Friday. They switched to
Livonia National Bank because we stay open
all day Saturday 'til 4:30 p.m.

Customers call us "The Saturday Bank."

Many of these people are the same ones
that used to say, "It's after three and I

forgot to go to the bank ..."

That's the reason we added an extra hour
and a half of banking time to every week-
day ... including Saturday.

We believe we should be open six days a
week with "customer hours." We let the
other banks have the "banker's hours."

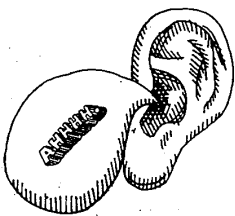
If you have trouble with a short bank day
and weekend banking, why not switch to
"The Saturday Bank" with 4:30 hours.

Open Mon. thru Sat. 'til 4:30 P.M. ... 'til 6:00 P.M. Fri.

LIVONIA NATIONAL BANK

7 Offices to Serve You Phone 421-8282 Member F.D.I.C.

STICK IT IN YOUR EAR.



WHFI RADIO STEREO 94

Flipper CKLW TV
Get Smart
Dick Van Dyke
It Takes a Thief

NOBODY'S PERFECT
Doug McClure Nancy Kwan
THURSDAY 7:00 PM

MILLION \$ MOVIE
RELUCTANT ASTRONAUT
Don Knotts Arthur O'Connell
FRIDAY 7:00 PM