

GI: 'Where Should Vietnam Happen?'

EDITOR:
The letter from the lady who said "Read Deaths are not like Wars" greatly distressed me. Like so many thousands of Americans she too is misinformed and lead astray by the news media and those who get their mouths working before their brains are fully operational.

If I sound bitter, I am, but with understanding, I have seen and read for myself a lot of the garbage that is printed and put into the public eye. I am sorry to say that the majority of this literature is meant to sell the public. It is nothing more than a bill of goods.

I am 21 years old and myself have spent the last 22 months in the Republic of South Vietnam. I have been awarded the Purple Heart on two different occasions and the Bronze Star on still another. My duties ranged from the rucksack life of an infantryman to working for a general officer. I still may be young but unlike the many of you I am factual and realistic.

As far as dying on the highways is concerned it is unnecessary but never the less it does still happen with increasing regularity. Dying in a strange, far away land is necessary because we are the great strong nation we are always talking about. Since the beginning of this country we have always gone to the assistance of any country that really needed it. We will continue to do this until the world ends.

I can only ask this one question to each of you who doesn't think we should be fighting in Vietnam. Where would you like to have it all happen? Some other country, another state, your child's own school yard, where? We are so very lucky to be able to fight this "conflict" right where we are.

Here is some additional material for the City of Plymouth rat survey. It is possible to stand along the South School rear yard and see rats in the creek. I work at Lord Baltimore Cleaners on Ann Arbor Rd. where rats come up to the rear door and look in. I also have stood at the same door and watched the rats run up to

You have never lived
Til you've almost died
For those who fight for
Freedom has a flavor
The protected will never know
ROBERT R.S. ASHWORTH JR.
US Army Security Agency
Livonia

Other Countries Are Watching

EDITOR:
Let us light up the township, city and nation on Nov. 13, 14 and 15. We all know that far too much publicity has been given to violent demonstrations -- and not enough to law, order and peaceful demonstrators. Does one have to be among the violent to be heard?

The other countries are watching. We are destroying ourselves and the Communists are taking advantage of our self-destruction.

I, for one, am for peace -- but at any price -- NO. I have had brother, brothers-in-law, and nephews in service, and now grandsons are reaching that age. One nephew has a leg full of shrapnel from Vietnam, more nephews are due to go in. I don't like war; but can we afford to turn tail and run?

In my own family I have been accused of being a "peace at any price" gal, but my country was not invaded. Let's not only light our lights on porch and car, but display our flag and above all pray. None of this will be too much effort. Let our lights, flags and prayers be seen and heard around the world.

This is my first letter but isn't it time, for we who sit and "sit back," to be heard?
REDFORD RESIDENT

President Can't Please Everyone

EDITOR:
"North Vietnam cannot defeat or humiliate the U.S. Only Americans can." (A quote from Nixon's speech.) Amen.

In our country the majority has always ruled. That is why we have elections for public offices. Nixon won in an election where many people voted against him and I believe they are the strong protesters. People who put their confidence and trust in Nixon at the polls still outnumber the others. If we are not going to abide by the outcome of an election, then there isn't much reason for having one. If we do not trust Nixon to do his best with all the information he has at his disposal, things we cannot possibly know,

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words. Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause. Please type or write plainly. The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

after voting for him, then we are fools.

Our country cannot have a president who pleases everyone. He must do what he thinks is best, no matter if others think him wrong. That is a tough job. I can't help comparing the protesters with children who nag and nag to get what they want and think they need, even though the more informed parents say "no."

We all must know we can't walk out of any problem, especially a war. It is not that simple. Today it seems to be the thing to do though -- so many divorces, so many drowning their problems in liquor or drugs, if you can't solve a problem easily, to just run out on it seems to be the thing to do.

My job puts me in contact with many people in Livonia and I am led to believe many of them feel the same way I do. We want peace, but not at any price.

MILDRED WILLIAMS
Livonia

Plymouth Creek Harbors Rats

EDITOR:
Here is some additional material for the City of Plymouth rat survey. It is possible to stand along the South School rear yard and see rats in the creek.

I work at Lord Baltimore Cleaners on Ann Arbor Rd. where rats come up to the rear door and look in. I also have stood at the same door and watched the rats run up to

the garbage containers at Grandma's Take Home Chicken Kitchen and jump in and out, then run back toward the creek.

Almost any kid that walks by the creek behind the A&P Store can tell you about the rats. I have sat in my car at Dale's Drive-in and watched the rats come up from the creek and jump into the garbage bins.
KEETH V. KEETH
Plymouth

Thanks From Westland JCs

EDITOR:
As director of public relations for the Westland Jaycees, I would like to express our great appreciation for the coverage and the support that we received from The Westland Observer during the non-partisan campaign.

I am sure that the large majority victory was due in large part to your public and positive position. We of the Jaycees commend you for the active and responsible role that you play in our community.

In addition to the non-partisan issue, we are most pleased with the complete cooperation that we have received relative to all of our activities. Our success, whatever it may be, is certainly in part attributable to the generous and valuable coverage provided in The Westland Observer.

We commend you for the conscientious manner in which you serve the City of Westland.
ROBERT RADGET
Public Relations Director
Westland Jaycees

Auxiliary Says Thanks

EDITOR:
This is just to thank Leonard Poger for taking time to come to the Naekin Mills Junior High School at the time the Ladies Auxiliary to Harris Kehrer Post 3323, Veterans of Foreign Wars, presented United States flags to the school and a state flag to Mrs. Byrd for her son in Vietnam.

We were pleased to see the photos in editions of your paper of last week and the week prior. Our family is a home subscriber to your paper and always enjoys reading it.

KATHERINE MEAGHER
Americanism Chairman
Ladies Auxiliary to Harris Kehrer Post 3323, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Westland

City 'Can't Have Cake, Eat It Too'

EDITOR:
We feel it is our duty to point out to the governing officials of the City of Farmington that they now have both a moral and an ethical responsibility to withdraw their petition for election to annex parts of the southern half of Farmington Township.

The recent city response to the question of consolidation gives the Farmington city officials a clear mandate. The people of the City of Farmington wish to maintain their status quo. We respect their decision.

However, the city must not be allowed to behave like an irresponsible child by taking to itself only those parts of the township that could lessen the tax bite on city residents. The old axiom that "you can't have your cake and eat it too" prevails here.

Frankly, we hope to see the City of Farmington soon in the same position as Highland

Park and Hamtramck; i.e., completely surrounded by another city. This new city will be formed from the Township of Farmington, Wood Creek Farms and Quakertown.

Come now, city officials! The voice of your people has been heard. And since Councilman Allen was so influential in guiding city residents to oppose any consideration of consolidation, we would naturally expect him to follow the logical sequence of his position and initiate action to withdraw from the State Boundary Commission the Petition for Election to annex part of Farmington Township.

MR. AND MRS. BURKE J. MARTIN
Farmington

EDITOR'S NOTE: The annexation petitions were filed by private citizens, not the City of Farmington as a municipality. Moreover, the city has no power to "withdraw" a petition of this sort. City officials could, however, campaign as individuals on the issue once it is placed on the ballot -- exactly as they did on the consolidation issue.

"AN INVITATION" TO THE HARD OF HEARING
SEEK HELP, PLEASE

Have you ever greeted someone: "It's a lovely day, the sky's so blue." And had them reply: "How kind you are, I'm feeling fine, thank you. Too many people miss so much because they're just afraid to let on they can't hear you or to wear a hearing aid."

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Old Neighbor Looks Back

EDITOR:
I listened to Chief Justice Tom Brennan define school hours. I remember in early 1950 when Mr. Brennan was running for political office.

On Halloween night, as trick or treat, he gave candy and suckers marked with the office he was running for.


As a neighbor, he defined school hours should be from 8 a.m. to 3:30 or 4 p.m. with a half hour for lunch.

Now he is a Supreme Justice and his son and twins are not attending grade school, so why care further for the American citizen?

By the way, I lived on Cleveland between Cortland and Fullerton. The judge lived across the street from me, second house from the corner. I'm a doubting Thomas. I would like to see it defined in the books or as a law.

MRS. VIRGINIA JOHNSON
Livonia

A Good Idea



DONALD W. SMITH
District Manager
453-9901 or 437-6915
1005 W. Ann Arbor Trail
Livonia

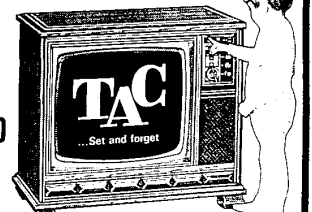
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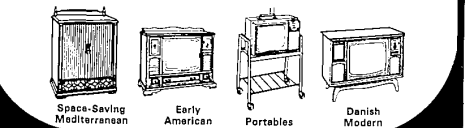
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