720th Military Police Battalion Reunion Association History Project Battalion Time Line Supporting Documentation Page

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The VVAW's Executive Committee stated in their meeting that the terms "Vietcong" and "North Vietnamese" were not to be used in VVAW press releases and communications. Instead, "PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Government)" and "DRV (Democratic Republic of Vietnam)," "are to be used by us to reflect our acceptance of their designations." And the VVAW's unremitting insistence that American forces were mass-murdering Vietnamese civilians perfectly echoed the primary propaganda theme put forth by the Vietnamese communists, their international communist allies, and their Soviet sponsors.

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Present: Danny, Mike, Pam, Nina, Bob, Joe U., Margaret, Jim, Al, Joe T., Arthur, Charles, Larry, Tom, Cruz

Response to Boston VVAW Letter Re Cairo

Focus of Boston VVAW letter seemed to be their feeling that Cairo project was not something that should be handled on a national level, but should be dealt with by individual chapters at their own discretion. It was felt that our (national) position is that this is a national issue precisely because what is being done in Cairo is the same as that which is being done in Vietnem and we are against that kind of thing happening. A meeting will be held in Boston with one of the exec. comm. members present in order to clarify national policy.

Washington Office

There has been some bad feeling re an american flag being over the door to the Washington VVAW office. Decision was that no flag will be over any VVAW office anywhere.

Press Releases

VVAW's policy re content of press releases in particular, and our overall approach in general, is that we will not use terms such as "Vietcong, North Vietnamese" because to do so would indicate an unconscious acceptance of the liberal, establishment idea that there are two Vietnams. Instead the words PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Govt) and DRV (Democratic Republic of Vietnam) will be used by us to reflect our acceptance of their designations. Also, the phrase "Mainland China" is inappropriate since the name they chose for themselves is Peoples Republic of China. This organization does not function in a political vacuum and we do not want to accept the liberal structure of this country.

Calls for press conferences will come from the exec. comm. and all releases will have to be cleared by the exec. comm. before being put out. Anything that deals with policy must be cleared through exec. comm. members.

Al and Hanoi

Question is up as to whether Al is to go as a representative of VVAW or as a private individual. This is important for several reasons, one of them being how his return from Hanoi will be handled. A letter is being sent out to all coordinators to find out what the organization wants to do re this question. Should it be decided that the trip will be a VVAW function, a specific coordinator may be selected to handle the whole coverage of the Hanoi trip.

Planning of Offices

Executive committee members and Nina will move into the "lounge" area. Ed will move into "Nina's" office. Joe T. and Bob D. will move into "Al & Scott's) office. Joe U. and Danny will be in the current "membership" office. The long room currently being used by NY state staff will become the lounge.

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