age 12 THE BATTALION THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1981 **National**

Vietnam vets protest war monument design

United Press International LOS ANGELES — They say 's what they remember when pinking of Vietnam — a rifle

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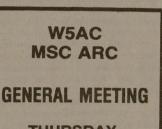
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Cemetery, three stories high, the black plastic of the M-16s they carried to a faraway war transmuted



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The Vietnam War, the most divisive modern conflict in mod-

ern American history, cannot even be memorialized without drawing a protest. A group of Vietnam veterans, outraged at plans to build what they consider an inappropriate or insulting memorial in Washington, want to replace or upstage it with one of their own design, based on the rifle-in-the-earth sign of a dead soldier. "This is what we saw with tears

in our eyes after a fight, rows of M-16s stuck in the ground by their bayonets," Steve Androff, vice "We have 3,600 members," he M-16s stuck in the ground by the bayonets," Steve Androff, vice "We have 3,600 members, the president of the United Veterans said, "and I'm sure many more veterans would join us in this.

rial to be built near the Lincoln Memorial. The group behind the drive was headed by a Vietnam combat veteran, Jann Scruggs. The design, chosen from more than 1,400, was submitted by

standing muzzle down in the mud, the generations-old symbol of a fallen infantryman. They want to see that symbol towering over Arlington National Correct we have storige kigh the bearing the names of all 57,000 servicemen killed in the war.

'We think we know better than a bunch of strangers what should stand in Washington to remember our brothers by," Androff said. "Look at who's raising funds for

this — Bob Hope, Gen. West-moreland, all those people who kept the war rolling and our blood

flowing." Androff said his group is prepar-ing to launch a national campaign to have their idea for a monument

Funds are now being raised for a \$7 million Vietnam War Memo-from Vietnam veterans in Con-

Budget revision suggested

monument.

vision, has drawn up plans for the enormous rifle monument, and would like it to be built entirely by Vietnam Veterans and placed in tests against the current design Arlington "with the Marine plans, including complaints that memorial to Iwo Jima, the tombs of the unknown soldiers — something we can look up to instead of down into the earth.

'There are great artists, architects, engineers, craftsmen, all who served in Vietnam," he said. "We'd need welders, stone-cutters, machinists, and from the reaction I've gotten from other veterans, I don't think I'll have trouble finding them.'

He estimates the monumental rifle would cost \$3 million, and concedes there is no money available to build it now.

gress, who agree with us that a "But, our lawyers are drawing black marble slab isn't much of a up papers to apply for nonprofit "But, our lawyers are drawing status so we can accept donations, Androff, a commercial artist who served in the 1st Infantry Di-will show what the memorial would look like to raise funds for

> There have been several proits shape echoes the v-fingered peace sign, symbolic of many who refused to fight in the war while others served.

Another Vietnam veteran, twice-wounded West Point grad Tom Carhart, appealed to the Capital Fine Arts Commission Tuesday to re-open the design competition, saying black was "the color of dishonor" and the monument is "a black grave in the earth

"This monument has become symbolic of the Vietnam War, and like the war it's getting people bit-

terly divided," said Forrest Li ley, a correspondent for Stars Stripes who was a captain in Green Berets. "The sad thing is that the mo

ment is becoming a symbol for frustration and bitterness and ger of Vietnam veterans.

"Everybody sees in Viet what they want to see, and the isn't going to be any one des that all Vietnam veterans agree sums up their feeling honors those who served those who died.

"The monument, any ment, is not going to solve problems of the Vietnam ver ans, no matter what the design won't touch substantive is like Agent Orange.

"If this controversy grow stead of healing the wounds Vie nam left, which was the ideab hind it, the Memorial may j make them worse.

Hance proposes defense cut

United Press International WASHINGTON — Rep. Kent Hance, a major ally of the adminis-tration in past budget and tax fights, says President Reagan should consider revising his new budget cutting package to help its chances of getting through Con-

The Texas Democrat is propos-ing a larger defense cut, a smaller

reduction in controllable domestic spending and revival of a proposal to delay cost of living increases to Social Security and other federal benefit recipients.

He also wants to defer the second and third installments of the personal tax cut which he year. sponsored in the House this summer.

Jim Rock, a Hance staff aide,

said Wednesday the congressman they're really open to other thas talked with administration tions." officials and with Republican lead ers. Rock said Hance hopes to offer his package as an amendment must be passed by Congress this

Hance, in a speech Tuesday or rected to the National Petroleu Refiners Association, said it would be "difficult for the president to the final budget resolution that

secure approval for much mo than \$10 billion of his savings n quest" of \$16 billion. "I think it's beginning to look like an option," Rock said. "I think "I believe a reduction more in the range of \$20 billion to \$25 bil

lion is necessary in order to give the president's program, still ini early stages, a chance to be effective," he said.

His proposal would cut \$5 bi-lion from the planned defense buildup instead of the \$2 billion Reagan has proposed; reduce is percent across-the-board from "discretionary" or controllable domestic spending to trim spend-ing \$4.2 billion; defer by three months the July 1982 installme of the individual tax cut to sav \$7.4 billion in 1982 and repeat the delay in 1983; and revive the cost of living deferral to cut \$5.4 billion in spending.

Reagan has proposed a 12 per-cent across-the-board cut in con-trollable domestic spending that would not affect the benefit programs

Hance said the 6 percent cut in harte said the programs "would have a much greater chance of being approved by Congress" than Reágan's 12 percent. On the defense cut, he said

'We can make modest reductions in projected defense increase over the next three years and still adequately provide for the re building of our nation's defense system

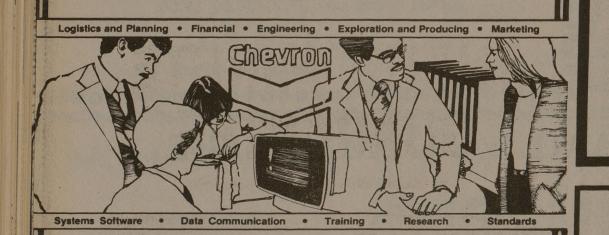
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