

Vietnam veterans

New study links military service with higher suicide rates

Associated Press

BOSTON — Vietnam veterans are nearly twice as likely to commit suicide as men in the same age group who avoided the war, a new study concludes.

Researchers say they believe their work is the first to show a cause-and-effect relationship between military service in Vietnam and an unusually high suicide rate.

Dr. Norman Hearst of the University of California in San Francisco, said, "I think it demonstrates the experience of being drafted during the Vietnam era had profound, long-term psychological effects on people."

The study indicated that Vietnam veterans were 86 percent more likely

to commit suicide in the years after the war than non-veterans.

The research was based on a survey of death records of men who were involved in the draft lottery from 1970 through 1972. Researchers concluded that an estimated 1,250 deaths throughout the nation in the years that followed the war were directly linked to military service during that three-year period.

"If the draft affected men in the same way through the whole Vietnam era as it appeared to affect them for these three years, then the number might be in the tens of thousands," Hearst said.

The study, directed by Hearst, was published in the New England Journal of Medicine Feb. 27.

Four million Americans served in

Indo-China during the Vietnam War and 800,000 were assigned to combat.

The study was based on a review of death records of 14,145 men in Pennsylvania and California who were born between 1950 and 1952 and died between 1974 and 1983.

Between 1970 and 1972, the military lottery randomly assigned men to one of two groups on the basis of their birth dates.

One group consisted of those with low lottery numbers who were eligible for the draft and the other consisted of those with high numbers who were exempt.

The researchers noted that because of the random lottery the two groups were identical except for their draft status.

So any differences between them in later years must be caused by the draft.

The suicide rate was 13 percent higher among those with low lottery numbers than those with high numbers.

This figure was diluted, however, because a low lottery number didn't necessarily mean military service.

In fact, only 26 percent of the draft-eligible men entered the military during the three years while 9 percent of draft-exempt men served as volunteers.

When the researchers took into account the percentages in each group who actually served, they projected that the suicide rate was 86 percent higher among the veterans.

Avalanche

kills seven, injures nine

Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — An avalanche of snow Wednesday hit Norwegian soldiers engaged in a NATO winter exercise, leaving at least seven soldiers dead, nine injured and another 11 missing, military and police officials said.

Hundreds of soldiers, six helicopters and civilian rescue teams with dogs searched into the evening for the missing soldiers, but rescue efforts were hampered by wind and snowfall, NRK radio said.

Lt. Col. Gunnar Mjell of the maneuver's information office said all the soldiers involved were Norwegian. The NTB news agency quoted him as saying the dead men were brought to hospitals in Harstad and Narvik, 900 miles northeast of Oslo.

About 20,000 soldiers from all 10 member countries of NATO were involved in the exercise, called Anchor Express, being held throughout northern Norway until March 13.

South Africans protest at funeral

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — At least 30,000 black mourners, joined by hundreds of whites, turned a mass funeral for 17 black riot victims Wednesday into a vast demonstration of opposition to apartheid.

The throng packed a soccer stadium in Alexandra, a squalid black township wedged among the richest white suburbs of Johannesburg. In the crowd were black activist Winnie Mandela and diplomats from seven Western nations, including the United States.

Among clergymen of all races was the Rev. Beyers Naude, 70, an Afrikaner whose spiritual journey from faith in apartheid to the struggle for black rights has made him a symbol of white liberalism.

Mike Beea, president of the Alexandra Civic Association,

told the mourners, "No one is free in this country as long as the black man is not free. We are simply saying, dismantle apartheid."

"When is this brutality going to stop?" he asked. "When is this barbarism going to end?"

Police with rifles manned all entrances to Alexandra and searched incoming cars, including that of Betsy Spiro, political counselor of the U.S. Embassy. They stayed well away from the stadium, but a helicopter circled overhead.

With most other forms of protest banned, the crowd — which some estimates put at 50,000 or more — transformed the service into a huge rally against the official apartheid race policy that reserves privilege for South Africa's 5 million whites and denies rights to the 24 million blacks.

Contractors vie for new Air Force fighter

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Seven major defense contractors filed first-round bids Wednesday to build a new radar-evading Stealth fighter the Air Force hopes will rule the skies by the mid-1990s.

The Air Force wants the plane, dubbed the Advanced Tactical Fighter, to replace the F-15, a medium-range dogfighter that first flew in 1972. A later version of the plane may ultimately take the place of the F-16 for striking ground tar-

gets, and the Navy is watching to see whether the new fighter can take the place of the F-14s that protect U.S. ships at sea.

General Dynamics Corp. and the other six contractors submitted 3,000-page technical documents two weeks ago, backed by financial proposals Wednesday, trying to show the Air Force they can build 750 new fighters for \$35 million apiece.

Col. Albert C. Piccirillo, director of the Air Force program to develop the new fighter, said the purpose of

the ATF is to knock out enemy fighters and airborne warning and control systems planes, clearing the air for other U.S. aircraft and reconnaissance craft, and protecting ground forces.

The plane, still on the drawing board, will be made largely of composite materials and will use an array of new technology, ranging from so-called Stealth devices to hide it from enemy radar, to engines that can fly efficiently at nearly twice the speed of sound at 50,000 feet above sea level.

Defensive Driving Course

March 10 & 11, 25 & 26

College Station Hilton

Pre-register by phone: 693-8178

Ticket deferral and 10% insurance discount

Announcing Ladies' Night



Thursdays

\$1.00 Well

Drinks for

ladies All

Night Long

No Cover Charge

COLLEGE STATION HILTON
and Conference Center
801 University Drive East • 6937500

Congratulations to RHA for winning the Texas Residence Hall Association School of the Year!

Also for winning "Best Delegation"
and Best of luck to the following 86-87
TRHA officers:

Allison Kruest-President
Debbie Caldorola-Secretary
Carla Carey-Gulf Coast Regional Director

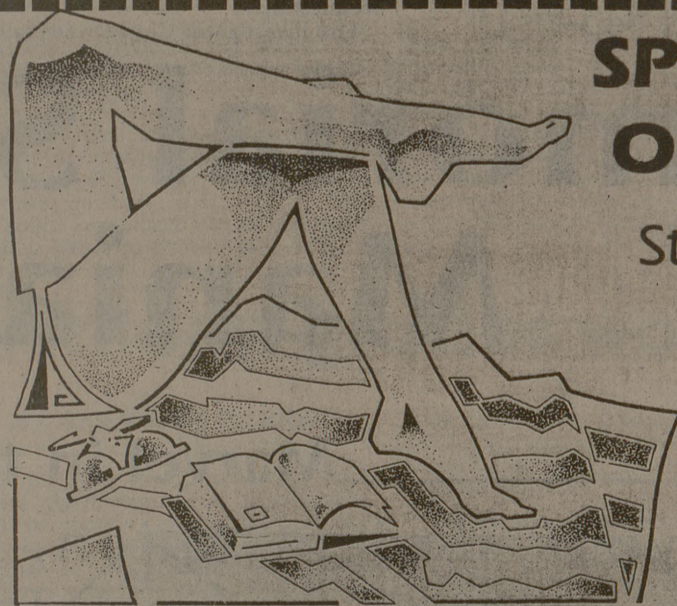
Filing for Spring Election

Wednesday, March 5
thru
Friday, March 7

Student Government,
OCA,
RHA, Yell Leaders,
CLASS COUNCIL,
Graduate Council

214 Pavilion 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Battalion Classified 845-2611



Hours: M-Th 9-11 p.m. Sun 12:30-11 p.m.
Fri.-Sat 9-6 p.m.

SPRING BREAK ONLY 9 days away.

Start your TAN-U
tan TODAY.

TAN U

104 Old College Main at Northgate
Walk-ins are welcome.
Call 846-9779 for an appointment.

James & Carol Barrett '85-owners

6 hours
only

SALE

Keyboard Centers buyers
have purchased large quantities
of all products for this
special sales event. It's the
Biggest ever!

Martin Guitars from	\$695
Ovation Guitars from	\$199
Yamaha Guitars from	\$139
Yamaha Keyboards from	\$195
Casio Synthesizers from	\$495
Alvarez Guitars from	\$139
Singerland Drums from	\$495
Synthesized Drums from	\$795

Guitars - Amps
Keyboards - Effects

Sale hours
Sunday March 9
1 p.m. - 7 p.m. only
College Station Hilton

Martin, Alvarez, Yamaha, Guild, Takamine, Ovation, Casio, Westone and Roland, plus much more
Amps, PAs, Mikes Effect pedals & more
All Price to Sell!

KEYBOARD
CENTER
INC.
POST OAK MALL
College Station TX 77840

Don't Miss it
Sun. 1 - 7 p.m.
College Station
Hilton