

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

4/21/81

(11)

FURTHER:

Date: May 16, 1981

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on FINANCE has had HB 130

"An Act making special appropriations to establish programs to deal with post-traumatic stress disorder; and providing for an effective date."

under consideration and reports it back as follows:

- do pass do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HB 130 (FIN) same title
 new title
- and recommends do pass
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Freeman

MM

W. R. ...

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Montgomery

...

...

Freeman

CHAIRMAN

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. House Bill No. 130

Title "An Act making special appropriations to establish programs...post-traumatic stress dis-
Requested by Commissioner's Office Date 2/18/81 order

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected Dept. of Health & Social Services

Program Category Affected Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected _____

(Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						
	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

IV. DATE Feb. 19, 1981

PREPARED BY *Thomas R. Bean*

AGENCY Division of Mental Health & Dev. Disabilities

PHONE 465-3370

Original: Legislative Finance

cc: Budget and Management

Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named) *M. A. ...* M&B Approval *N. ...* Date *2/19/81*

Original sponsor: Moss

<u>Funding Information</u>	
General Fund	\$315,000
Other Funds	-0-
	<u>\$315,000</u>

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 130 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations to establish
7 programs to deal with post-traumatic stress disorder;
8 and providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. The sum of \$165,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health
12 and developmental disabilities, to establish a training and technical assis-
13 tance account in the division to assist mental health, crisis, drug and
14 alcohol programs to identify post-traumatic stress disorder in Vietnam
15 veterans, and to identify and treat veterans and their families affected by
16 the disorder.

17 * Sec. 2. The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
18 the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health and
19 developmental disabilities, for payment as a grant to the Vietnam Veterans/
20 Alaska, Inc. for a Vietnam veterans post-traumatic stress disorder outreach
21 program based on the United States Veterans Administration outreach program.

22 * Sec. 3. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
23 the Department of Health and Social Services to work in cooperation with the
24 Department of Labor, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the
25 Alaska Court System, and the Department of Education, division of vocational
26 rehabilitation, to gather data to identify Vietnam veterans receiving state
27 services which may relate to post-traumatic stress disorder originating in
28 military service in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

29 * Sec. 4. The unexpended and unobligated portions of the appropriations

1 made by secs. 1 and 3 of this Act lapse into the general fund on June 30,
2 1982.

3 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.-
4 070(c).

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Original sponsor: Moss

Funding Information

General Fund	\$315,000
Other Funds	-0-
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BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Funding Information
General Fund \$315,000
Other Funds -0-
\$315,000

Introduced: 2/6/81
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MOSS

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 130

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations to establish
7 programs to deal with post-traumatic stress disorder;
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11 to the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health
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14 alcohol programs to identify post-traumatic stress disorder in Vietnam
15 veterans, and to identify and treat veterans and their families affected by
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19 developmental disabilities, for payment as a grant to the Vietnam Veterans/
20 Alaska, Inc. for a Vietnam veterans post-traumatic stress disorder outreach
21 program based on the United States Veterans Administration outreach program.

22 * Sec. 3. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
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24 Department of Labor, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the
25 Alaska Court System, and the Department of Education, division of vocational
26 rehabilitation, to gather data to identify Vietnam veterans receiving state
27 services which may relate to post-traumatic stress disorder originating in
28 military service in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

29 * Sec. 4. The unexpended and unobligated portions of the appropriations

1 made by secs. 1 and 3 of this Act lapse into the general fund on June 30,
2 1982.

3 * Sec. 5. This Act ~~takes effect~~ May 1, 1981.
4 immediately in
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Original sponsor: Moss

Offered: 4/21/81
Referred: Finance

Funding Information
General Fund \$915,000
Other Funds -0-
\$915,000

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 130 (HESS)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations to establish and
7 continue programs for Vietnam veterans; and providing
8 for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. The sum of \$165,000 is appropriated from the general fund
11 to the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health
12 and developmental disabilities, to establish a training and technical assis-
13 tance account in the division to assist mental health, crisis, drug and
14 alcohol programs to identify post-traumatic stress disorder in Vietnam
15 veterans, and to identify and treat veterans and their families affected by
16 the disorder.

17 * Sec. 2. The sum of \$100,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
18 the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health and
19 developmental disabilities, for payment as a grant to the Vietnam Veterans/
20 Alaska, Inc. for a Vietnam veterans post-traumatic stress disorder outreach
21 program based on the United States Veterans Administration outreach program.

22 * Sec. 3. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
23 the Department of Health and Social Services, office of the commissioner,
24 office of information systems, to develop, in conjunction with other state
25 agencies, a needs assessment of Alaska Vietnam veterans, and to gather data
26 on the capability of state information systems to identify and monitor these
27 veterans.

28 * Sec. 4. The sum of \$600,000 is appropriated from the general fund to
29 the Department of Health and Social Services, division of mental health and

1 developmental disabilities, for operation of the United States Veterans
2 Administration outreach centers in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai and Wasilla.

3 * Sec. 5. If federal money is restored to operate United States Veterans
4 Administration outreach centers in the state, the unexpended and unobligated
5 portion of the appropriation made in sec. 4 of this Act lapses into the
6 general fund at the time the federal money is restored.

7 * Sec. 6. The unexpended and unobligated portions of the appropriations
8 made by secs. 1 and 3 of this Act lapse into the general fund June 30, 1982.

9 * Sec. 7. Sections 1 - 3 and 6 of this Act take effect immediately in
10 accordance with AS 01.10.070(c).

11 * Sec. 8. Sections 4 and 5 of this Act take effect October 1, 1981.

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POSITION PAPER

HOUSE BILL NO. 130

"An act making special appropriations to establish programs to deal with post-traumatic stress disorder; and providing for an effective data".

House Bill 130 appropriates from the general fund 165.0 to the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities for training and technical assistance to mental health, crises, drug and alcohol programs to Vietnam era veterans and families experiencing post-traumatic stress disorders. The sum of 100.0 is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities for payment as a grant to Vietnam Veterans/Alaska Inc., for a Vietnam Veteran post-traumatic stress disorder out-reach program based on the United States Veterans Administration model. The sum of 50.0 is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Health and Social Services for work in cooperation with the Department of Labor, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, the Alaska Court System, and the Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to gather data for the identification of Vietnam era veterans receiving state services relating to post-traumatic stress disorder.

It is estimated that Alaska has over 20,000 Vietnam era veterans. During the month of January 1980, approximately 56 Vietnam veterans were served in Alaska community mental health clinic. Research studies conducted on Vietnam era veterans find that 40-60% of these veterans experience some form of acute, chronic, or cyclical form of POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD). The 1980 Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders includes for the first time the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is defined as a group of symptoms following a psychological traumatic event that is generally outside of the range of usual human experience (military combat, rape or assault, floods and earthquakes). Characteristic symptoms involve re-experiencing the traumatic event (dreams, recollections), numbing of responsiveness, reduced involvement with the external world, sleep disturbances, guilt about survival, and memory impairment.

One of the current successful recovery process methods for the PTSD is the veteran and a mental health professional preferably with Vietnam war experience. The methods employed in these rap groups vary from the traditional individual and group psychotherapy since the focus is not on individual pathology but on a process of recovery of shared meaning.

The recent acknowledgement of the existence of the PTSD and the young age of the Vietnam veteran make this group excellent candidates for preventive interventions. However, before such interventions take place mental health, drug abuse, and alcohol programs have to be aware of this new syndrome. The identification and proper management of crisis and preventive interventions require training and technical assistance to the existing mental health and alcohol/drug treatment delivery system.

The Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities endorses the provisions of HB 130 that attempt to provide training and technical assistance, data collection, and support programs based on the United States Veterans Administration outreach programs to Alaska's Vietnam era veterans.

Recommended by:

Verner Stillner, MD

Verner Stillner, M.D./M.P.H.
Director, Division of Mental
Health and Developmental
Disabilities

Date:

2/17/81

Approved by:

Allen D. Beirne

Allen D. Beirne, Commissioner
Department of Health & Social
Services

Date:

2/24/81

M.H.
(P+F)

Funding Information
General Fund \$315,000
Other Funds -0-
\$315,000

Introduced: 2/6/81
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE BY MOSS

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 130

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making special appropriations to establish
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2 1982.

3 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect May 1, 1981.
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TESTIMONY: REP. H. PAPPY MOSS - HB 130

APRIL 13, 1981

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE COMMITTEE FOR CALANDERING HB 130. I SPONSORED THIS BILL FOR MANY REASONS, BUT PRIMARILY BECAUSE I'VE BECOME AWARE OF AN INCREASINGLY EVIDENT PROBLEM THAT EFFECTS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, A SIZABLE PERCENTAGE OF ALASKANS - THE VIETNAM SYNDROME OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS.

THERE IS AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 15,000 TO 20,000 VIETNAM VETERANS IN ALASKA. NOT ALL OF THESE HAVE READJUSTMENT PROBLEMS, BUT MANY DO, AND IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY EVIDENT THAT THIS IS A DELAYED STRESS - WHICH THE NUMBER OF CASES IS INCREASING. THE STATISTICS ARE ALREADY IN THAT VIETNAM ERA VETERANS EXPERIENCE A THIRTY PERCENT GREATER SUICIDE RATE, A TWENTY PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, A DIVORCE RATE TWICE THAT OF NON-VETERANS, AND MAKE UP FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE PRISON POPULATION.

A RECENT REPORT BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HAS URGED PROGRAMS ADDRESSED IN THIS BILL - "WELL TRAINED VETERANS PEER COUNSELING".

I HOPE YOU AGREE, AS I DO, WITH THE AUTHOR OF THIS REPORT, THAT, VIETNAM VETERANS ARE BEING USED POLITICALLY WITHOUT ANY SERIOUS EFFORT TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS THEY HAVE AND THAT WE HAVE WITH THEM. . . . IT IS TIME TO ATTEND TO THEIR NEEDS.

The Troubled Vietnam Vet

and spilled over into the media. Last week, under thinly veiled pressure, it scrubbed its TV show, released its donors from their pledges and went out of business. "I hope they'll stay involved," a relieved Reagan man said—but not too closely or aggressively next time.

Reagan and his recovery program, as it happens, have found allies aplenty in corporate America prepared to help without being prompted or pushed. John Swearingen, chairman of Standard Oil of Indiana, sent a letter to his stockholders endorsing the package in passionate tones—"The future of the nation is at stake"—and urging them to write their congressmen in its support. Boston's First National Bank dropped a plug into its newsletter, between some tips on spring house painting and a promo for the New England Aquarium, and will mail it to 300,000 depositors with their next statements. Dow Chemical urged its 22,000 employees in a mailer to "make your views known" to the Hill. W.R. Grace & Co. bought full-page ads in three newspapers defending Reagan's tax proposals. Eddie Chiles, a septuagenarian Ft. Worth oil millionaire who has done more than 200 "I'm mad" radio commercials attacking Washington liberals, changed his run for Reagan and Reaganomics. "I'm not mad," his latest spots proclaim. "I'm glad."

More Than Sizzle: But the most imposing lobby of all may be the Budget Coalition, a germinating ad hoc alliance of hundreds of businesses and business associations including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Federation of Independent Business and the blue-chip Business Roundtable. They tested power together shellacking Big Labor in a series of lobbying wars three years ago and are regrouping now in Reagan's service, with high-tech computer and telecommunications capabilities that make his now defunct coalition of friends look like a cottage industry by comparison. "They were the sizzle," said an operative in the new group. "We are the steak."

There was a measure of political risk for Reagan in the enthusiasm of Big Business for a program he has doggedly advertised as equitable to everybody. The embattled Democratic left has already seized on it as an attack issue and fired some opening rounds against what Edward Kennedy called an effort by the privileged to "sell the Reagan plan like soap." But the President showed little inclination to turn away support, from the boardrooms or anywhere else. He is fighting to keep his honeymoon alive at least long enough to see his programs safely through to passage—a struggle in which he will need all the help he can get.

PETER GOLDMAN with ELEANOR CLIFT, THOMAS M. DeFRANK, JAMES DOYLE and RICH THOMAS in Washington and bureau reports

There are nights even now when Dan Spranger dreams of Vietnam. It is 1969 again: he is back with his buddies at Tiger Lair, a Ninth Infantry Division firebase in the Mekong Delta. They are laughing as they load the mortars, fire and load again. Spranger watches the mortar rounds arc upward, sees them fall and explode in a nearby hamlet. The villagers run screaming from their hootches, but they are not Viet Cong: they are women and children, *Americans*—and there, trapped in the barrage, are his wife and baby daughter. Like many dreams, it is a mixture of fantasy and reality, a metaphor for Spranger's fear that his family is among the casualties of the war. They

Its symptoms, ten and even fifteen years after the vet's return, are rage, guilt, flashbacks, nightmares, panic, depression and emotional numbing. Although it is more prevalent among black combat veterans, the researchers showed that Vietnam syndrome can afflict all races, all income groups and all personality types—even those who, because of their stable family backgrounds, were once thought unlikely to develop chronic stress.

Prodded by veterans' complaints and mounting evidence that such delayed reactions to the war were indeed common, Congress two years ago appropriated \$20 million to finance 91 storefront counseling centers nationwide. This year, funding for the centers is on the hit list proposed by budget director David Stockman. The cutback, and Stockman's deferment from the draft in 1968-69, provoke many veterans to fury. "This is the one meaningful program for Vietnam veterans," says John Terzano of the Vietnam Veterans of America. "We're being slapped in the face by a guy who was hiding out in divinity school" during the war. The vets' allies in Congress are fighting to preserve the funds—and last week, the veterans' affairs committees in both houses agreed to restore funds for the centers.

Cook. The Vietnam veterans' special burden, as angry returnees have insisted for years, was the nation's wholesale refusal to welcome—much less honor—those who served in the only war America has lost. Veterans were treated as "baby killers or drug freaks," says Dr. Jack Ewalt, a psychiatrist who is assistant chief of



James D. Wilson—Newswatch

Storefront help in San Francisco: 'I wake up screaming'

are: Spranger, 32, has lost his job, he and his wife are divorcing, and his daughter has congenital deformities he thinks may be the result of his battlefield exposure to Agent Orange.

Spranger is one of thousands of Vietnam veterans still haunted by the nation's longest and least-wanted war—and his dark dreams, like the slow disintegration of his life, bespeak his continuing inability to make a separate peace. According to a disturbing new study* by the Center for Policy Research in New York City, more than a third of those who saw heavy combat in Vietnam suffer from what is now recognized as "post-traumatic stress disorder," a slow-fuse emotional reaction that is often known as the "Vietnam syndrome."

*Legacies of Vietnam: Comparative Adjustment of Veterans and Their Peers

mental-health services for the Veterans Administration, and the public's hostile indifference gave the vets little support for purging especially brutal memories. Spranger, proudly returning to his home in Detroit in the months before Kent State, was stunned by the hostility he encountered. He clamored up, telling acquaintances he had served his hitch as a cook. "At least," he says, "no one could ask me if I had killed any kids or women." Others complained of being rushed home without any time to decompress. "On Thursday I was in Vietnam," says Angel Almedina, a vet who runs a counseling center in New York City. "On Friday I was drinking beer on 109th Street."

The VA, backed by studies showing that 80 per cent of the war's veterans had made successful transitions to civilian life, was

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

slow to provide special programs for the troubled minority, and some of its officials still question the need. "There is a great deal of feeling that this program has performed its function," says a VA spokesman in New York, referring to the imperiled counseling centers. And some VA doctors, convinced that most vets traumatized in the war were predisposed to stress reactions by unstable family life during childhood, refused to concede the very existence of a Vietnam syndrome. "You'd be amazed at the number of guys who have been counseling at the VA and the subject of combat was never brought up," says Reggie McCarty, a former 101st Airborne medic who works in a San Francisco counseling center. "When a vet brings it up, the psychiatrist says, 'That's all very interesting—now let's get back to your childhood.'"

Stable: The notion of a lasting stress reaction is now accepted by leading psychiatrists—and the new five-volume study, based on 1,380 interviews across the nation shows the Vietnam syndrome is more prevalent than previously believed. A crucial finding: the persistence of stress depends much more on the veteran's exposure to combat than on the emotional stability of his childhood. In light combat, soldiers from disadvantaged backgrounds did develop more psychological problems than their buddies who had more stable upbringings. But in heavy combat all such differences disappeared: soldiers from stable backgrounds were just as likely to report delayed stress symptoms as veterans from the least

stable homes. The study also found that combat-related stress is largely concentrated among veterans who served after 1968, when American involvement intensified and dissent became a powerful force at home.

To the VA's Ewalt, the Vietnam syndrome is much the same as "shell shock" among World War I doughboys or "combat fatigue" among veterans of World War II. But this time, he says, "it has a tendency to come on later, and as far as we can tell, there have never been so many cases"—up to 700,000 of the nation's nearly 3 million Vietnam veterans, by his estimate. Still, Ewalt says, "the idea that every Vietnam vet is a ticking time bomb or a druggie is simply not true."

But for those vets still suffering from the trauma of Vietnam combat, the problems are often acute. Arlen Tibbetts, an ex-marine who counsels vets in San Francisco, recently found one vet, an alcoholic, living in the weeds below San Francisco's Bay Bridge. "He said he felt more comfortable in the bush," Tibbetts said. "In his mind, he never left Vietnam." Brooklyn vet Steven Cytryszewski, 32, is also still fighting the war. He has flashbacks, nightmares and bouts of panic. "I smell the sulfur from the ammunition and I feel the heat from the sun," he says. "Sometimes I wake up screaming 'Incoming rounds!' When I drive along a road with trees on both sides, I don't look at the road, I look at the trees. I'm looking for snipers."

Like many veterans, Cytryszewski is critical of the VA's regular programs and enthusiastic about the counseling centers the vets run themselves. "Nobody laughs

at me," he says. "If I tell them I hit the ground when I hear sudden noises, they say they do, too." The centers' simple premise is that talk is the first step to exorcising the past. One anguished vet told Dr. John Caknipe, chief counselor at Detroit's Flight of the Phoenix center, about a hand-to-hand night battle that wiped out his unit. When dawn came, he found himself surrounded by the grotesquely mutilated bodies of his men and 36 wounded Vietnamese, all without hope of medical aid. In despair, he shot and killed all 36; his superiors ordered him never to tell what he had done. "When he finally broke," Caknipe says, "he cried for three hours. Then he stood up and said, 'I feel light . . . I feel light.' And he left."

Betrayal: Despite their support in Congress, the veterans have little assurance that their funding will survive the labyrinthine budget process—and the prospect of closing the storefront centers has already revived their sense of betrayal by an uncaring nation. The study's authors, who found the vets' approach can help, urge continued support for "well-trained veteran peer counseling." Vietnam veterans are "used politically without any serious effort to address the problems they have and that we have with them," says sociologist Robert Laufer, who directed the study. "Our report suggests that it is time to attend to their needs." By doing so, the corollary seems to be, America can at last begin its own long-deferred reckoning with Vietnam.

TOM MORGANTHAU with STEVEN SHABAD in New York, MARY LORD in Washington, JACOB YOUNG in Detroit and GERALD C. LUBENOW in San Francisco



Diane Walker



John Ficarra—Newsweek



Wally McNamee—Newsweek

Nancy's Ups and Downs

It was an up-and-down week for Nancy Reagan, but if anyone had to take a spill, better the First Lady than the Reagans' 22-year-old son, Ron, who danced for the first time at New York's Metropolitan Opera House in a performance to benefit the Joffrey Ballet. Ron, a member of the Joffrey training company, kept his balance in "Unfolding," an "abstract neoclassical" ballet, and was rewarded with a bravura hug from his mother at intermission. Three days later, at

a visit to St. Ann's Infant Home in Hyattsville, Md., the First Lady was bowled over by the greeting of a 5-year-old named Brian, who rushed to hug her when she crouched for a greeting. "That's all right," she reassured the youngster. "I thought you were being affectionate." She was inspecting one of her favorite projects, the federally funded Foster Grandparent Program. All was dignity, however, at the glittering Kennedy Center premiere of "The Little Foxes," where Nancy had a warm chat with the wife of Sen. John Warner of Virginia—the star of the show, Elizabeth Taylor.

Dramatic Surge in U Viet Force Is Unlik

By FRED S. HOFFMAN
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Although another large increase is considered probable, U.S. officials discount the likelihood of any dramatic immediate reinforcement of U.S. troops in South Viet Nam to counter the mounting infiltration of North Vietnamese soldiers.

The key to the pace of the buildup, which some say may see an eventual doubling of the present 165,000 U.S. fighting men in South Viet Nam, is the progress made in developing the port depot and other facilities to receive the additional troops and to support them once they are in the country.

Work on the pivotal Cam Ranh base on the Vietnamese coast is moving ahead on a two-shift-a-day footing but even at that tempo, engineer officials say it will be quite a while before this and other new ports are in high gear.

Airfields Pushed
Priority construction also is being pushed on new airfields to handle heavier Air Force operations in prospect.

No responsible official at the point will stand behind any

specific figure as the target for Viet Nam. Secretary of Defense S. McNamara, who Tuesday from a short Viet Nam, hasn't yet said his latest findings in depth. President Johnson—and McNamara—has the final say. The ultimate extent of reinforcement will depend on the actions of the enemy—especially the intensity of this past year shown that manpower have had to be lifted again.

May Go to 200,000
Some speculation is that forces in Viet Nam will increase from the present 165,000 to 200,000 or 250,000 men. Not counted in the present 165,000 are some 60,000 Navy men aboard Fleet vessels in Southeast Asian waters.

Gradually, the Army assumed a greater share of the ground effort in Viet Nam. Three months ago there were 39,000 soldiers in the country. Now there are 101,000 troops, representing about 60 per cent of total Army and Marine manpower in Viet Nam. The Army has remained constant over the past months. But the 39,000 on the ground account for nearly 20 per cent of the corps.

Training Accelerated
Both ground fighting and training have accelerated as part of a national military buildup in motion last summer.

Nine Army training are turning out nearly 100,000 basic trainees a month. Marine centers are producing nearly 7,000 from boot camp.

Enlistments are up sharply all the services, and the Army is taking in about 40,000 recruits this month.

Draft calls are certain to go higher if the needs growing out of the Viet Nam war become acute.

Manpower plans are to beef up the forces worldwide by 340,000 to a total just below the 1,000,000, and by the need to replace the sick, the wounded, the active duty expire.

Military authorities say the pipeline of replacements to Viet Nam is in good shape.

23-Month Tour
At present, the Department is holding a month tour for service in Viet Nam. By spring, the problems even at the present projected buildup—it may be that top officials may face the question of Viet Nam duty beyond 23 months to avoid losing seasoned men from the force.

When the buildup starts next summer, it will be weighed whether to add to acquire more services through a draft and intensified recruitment.

In all probability to hold off on any reserve as long as they can.

The strategic reserve troops and Marines of the United States has been the Viet Nam War.

One Division Lost
A total of two full divisions and a brigade, plus support units, has been drawn into the Southeast Asian conflict.

The Marines have a division left in the state of a division normally based in California has been moved and is largely in Vietnam and Okinawa.

Still, the strategic reserve held in readiness for combat—about the division level considered minimum.

A new Army Infantry will be formed at Fort Benning, Ga., early next year. It will be a new unit, also are being trained. But 11 months before they are in combat condition.

Many of the new units of the Army now in training will be sent to restore the strength of units which have been



Vietnam Veterans/Alaska, Inc.

Working Budget: FY 82

Personnel:

1 Executive Director/Counsellor:	\$25,000/yr
2 Paraprofessional co-therapists:	17,000/yr. each
1 Secretary/Researcher:	12,500
Personnel benefits:	<u>17,875</u>
TOTAL	\$89,375

Equipment:

1500 sq. ft. (store front) office x \$1.25/sq. ft.	18,000
Office operations/equipment:	<u>2,500</u>
TOTAL	\$20,500

Travel:

Haines, Skagway, Sitka, Wrangell, Petersburg, Ketchikan	<u>\$10,000</u>
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Operations Total: \$129,875