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VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR - JOHN KERRY  
FBI FILES

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VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR



# OPERATION RAW



**CONFIDENTIAL**

A contingent of Vietnam Veterans, active duty GI's, and other war veterans shall form an infantry unit of company strength or greater which will participate in a four day march on Sept. 4 from Morristown, N. J. to Valley Forge, Penna. culminating in a MASS RALLY on MONDAY, SEPT. 7th at VALLEY FORGE STATE PARK, Penna.

HONORARY COMMANDER

Gen. Hugh B. Hester  
U. S. Army (Ret.)

For Transportation &  
Further Info, Contact:

N.Y.C.-N.J. AREA

Vietnam Peace Parade Comm.  
17 East 17 Street  
New York, New York 10003  
255-1075, 255-0062

SPONSORS (Partial Listing)

Senator George McGovern  
Senator Edmund Muskie  
Rep. John Conyers, Jr.  
Paul O'Dwyer  
Jane Fonda  
Mark Lane  
Don Sutherland

ARLINGTON, VA. AREA

Don Keeffe or Mike Phalon  
3514 North 8 Street  
(Arlington, Va.)

PHILADELPHIA, PA. AREA

Talents Peace Committee  
1520 Race Street  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
561-4640

WASHINGTON, D. C. AREA

District of Columbia Veterans  
Association  
1009 New Jersey Avenue  
Washington, D. C.  
628-4648

ENTERTAINMENT

N. Y. Rock Ensemble  
Dick Davey, Comedian  
Philly Guerilla Theater

BUFFALO, N. Y. AREA

Steve Hassett  
716-855-2232

SPEAKERS (Partial Listing)

John Kerry  
Joe Kennedy  
Rev. James Bevel  
Mark Lane  
Jane Fonda  
Don Sutherland

SYRACUSE, N. Y. AREA

American Vets for Peace  
803 Comstock Avenue  
Syracuse, New York

OHIO AREA

Bill Crandell  
4375 Le Marie  
Columbus, Ohio  
614-262-5168

*This encl  
contains an  
Army orgz  
document, th  
information is  
which is  
classified by  
they etc etc  
4/1/87  
SP6 BJA/GCL  
#258,436  
6/2/87*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MASS RALLY

100 - 448092 - 16X

Monday, September 7th, 10:30 a.m., Grand ~~stands~~  
Valley Forge State Park: 100

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Miller	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Fonder	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR1 BY CODE

NOV 11 1971

URGENT 11-12-71

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

DIRECTOR

NY 818

CLASSIFICATION  
b7c

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM NEW YORK (100-160644)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-2TAP/  
REASON CONFIDENTIALITY 4.e.f.  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-11-91  
5-14-80

DECLASSIFY ON: 90

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR, INC. (VVAV) IS-NEW LEFT ONLY

RETEL TO BU, OKLAHOMA CITY, NEW YORK AND BOSTON NOV. TEN LAST.

FOR INFO BU, RETEL DISCLOSED THAT IT WAS LEARNED AT REGIONAL VVAV CONVENTION, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, NOV. FIVE-SEVEN LAST THAT JOHN KERRY AND AL HUBBARD, MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, VVAV, WERE PLANNING TO TRAVEL TO PARIS, FRANCE, WEEK OF NOV 19 1971

ONE FIVE-TWENTY NEXT FOR TALKS WITH NORTH VIETNAMESE PEACE DELEGATION.

[REDACTED] TO PAY HUBBARD'S EXPENSES FOR HIS TRIP TO PARIS.

[REDACTED]

END PG ONE 6 NOV 26 1971

1-708

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP ON 5/29/80

b7c

b7c

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

b7D

NY 818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Miller	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Fonder	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR1 BY CODE

NOV 11 1971

DIRECTOR

NY 818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
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TELETYPE

FROM NEW YORK (100-160644)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-2TAP/  
REASON CONFIDENTIALITY 4.e.f.  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-11-91  
5-14-80

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR, INC. (VVAW) IS-NEW LEFT ONLY

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

RETEL TO BU, OKLAHOMA CITY, NEW YORK AND BOSTON NOV. TEN LAST.

FOR INFO NO, RETEL DISCLOSED THAT IT WAS LEARNED AT REGIONAL VVAW CONVENTION, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, NOV. FIVE-SEVEN LAST THAT JOHN KERRY AND AL HUBBARD, MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, VVAW, WERE PLANNING TO TRAVEL TO PARIS, FRANCE, WEEK OF NOV 19 1971

ONE FIVE-TWENTY NEXT FOR TALKS WITH NORTH VIETNAMESE PEACE DELEGATION.

[REDACTED] TO PAY HUBBARD'S EXPENSES FOR HIS TRIP TO PARIS.

[REDACTED]

END PG ONE 60 NOV 26 1971

1-708

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP ON 5/29/80

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
P. O. Box 2532  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125  
November 12, 1971

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/14/93 BY 9103

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]

REGIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS  
AGAINST THE WAR (VVAW)  
CONVENTION SPONSORED BY  
OKLAHOMA VVAW, UNIVERSITY  
OF OKLAHOMA, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA  
NOVEMBER 5, 6, & 7, 1971  
INTERNAL SECURITY - NEW LEFT  
VIDEM

DATE 11/17/71 [redacted]

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised the Regional Convention of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) Convention was held at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, November 5, 6, & 7, 1971.

The entire conference lacked coordination and appeared to be a platform for JOHN KERRY, National Leader of VVAW, rather than for VVAW and Winter Soldier Investigation (WSI).

WSI was attended by many persons and approximately 20 persons testified. The testimony was taped but was not filmed.

The entire convention was attended by no more than 120 persons, approximately 50-75 of which attended the WSI Hearing. Approximately 50 of those at the WSI Hearing were VVAW members from the States surrounding Oklahoma.

The audience for a speech by JOHN KERRY was quite large. A workshop held after KERRY's speech was attended by quite a few people including one student from Iran, who spoke to the crowd as well as the parents of a Marine who died in combat in Vietnam.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

DECLASSIFIED BY 1259 [redacted]  
ON 3/29/78

DECLASSIFIED 12040 11/30/77

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ENCLOSURE

100-44802-178



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20535

November 16, 1971

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No.

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST  
THE WAR, INCORPORATED (VVAW)

Reference is made to a memorandum at Washington, D.C. (WDC), dated September 15, 1971, concerning the VVAW.

On October 10, 1971, a confidential source, who has provided reliable information in the past, advised that at WDC the VVAW, an anti-war veterans organization incorporated in New York, lacks cohesiveness and direction. The source advised this condition has resulted from the disenchantment of local VVAW supporters, mainly [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and John Kerry, a leading VVAW spokesman.

The source advised that local supporters became dissatisfied with the VVAW following a speech by John Kerry on September 27, 1971, at George Washington University (GWU), WDC.

A second confidential source, who has provided reliable information in the past, advised that on September 27, 1971, John Kerry addressed a capacity crowd at Gaston Hall, GWU. Kerry related his impression of national frustration resulting from an apparent powerlessness to bring about a change of United States policy toward Vietnam. Kerry stated that America's socio-economic condition has been adversely affected by this sense of frustration. The source advised that Kerry emphasized the need to utilize the political process to bring an end to the war in Vietnam.

On October 10, 1971, the first source advised that Kerry's speech was received by local VVAW supporters as a clear indication that Kerry is an opportunist with personal political aspirations. Therefore, the source advised, support has been withdrawn from the New York office in general and from John Kerry in particular.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/14/93 BY 9109 [REDACTED]

b7c

100-442072-483

NOTIFICATION OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

7c

PAGE TWO

67D [REDACTED]

FRIDAY MEETING DID NOT START UNTIL FOUR THIRTY P. M. AND NO BUSINESS OF CONSEQUENCE WAS CONDUCTED. JOHN KERRY MENTIONED ON FRIDAY THAT HE WAS GOING TO RESIGN HIS POSITION ON THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF POLITICS AND KERRY ATTEMPTED TO GET AL HUBBARD VOTED OUT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING. FRIDAY'S SESSION ENDED AT NINE P.M.

THE MEETING CONTINUED ON SATURDAY AT APPROXIMATELY NINE A. M. AT NUMBER TWO WEST FORTIETH STREET, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, WITH THE SAME PEOPLE PRESENT AND WAS ANOTHER CLOSED SESSION. JOHN KERRY AGAIN ATTEMPTED TO HAVE AL HUBBARD VOTED OFF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS KERRY STATED HE DID NOT THINK HUBBARD EVER SERVED IN VIETNAM OR WAS EVER IN SERVICE. DURING THE SATURDAY SESSION, HUBBARD GAVE A SUMMARY OF HIS TALKS IN PARIS WITH OFFICIALS OF DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV) AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT (PHONETIC) (PRG). HUBBARD ADVISED HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A MEETING IN PARIS AFTER THE ABOVE ORGANIZATIONS HAD INVITED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS: VVAW, COMMUNIST PARTY (CP) USA, AND LEFT WING GROUP IN PARIS, NAME UNRECALLED.

END PAGE TWO

67D

PAGE SEVEN

THE BUCKS COUNTY PROPOSAL WOULD CALL FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL TO EXTEND THE NORMAL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY TRUCE IN VIETNAM BY REFUSING TO TAKE UP ARMS AFTER THE TRUCE ENDED. THIS PROPOSAL WAS REJECTED SINCE IT WAS CONSIDERED "TOO HEAVY" FOR VVAW AND SINCE VVAW COULD NOT GET THE MILITARY PERSONNEL TO DO IT.

A SECOND PROPOSAL, "PHOENIX OPERATION," NAMED AFTER AN ALLEGED CIA OPERATION TO ELIMINATE HEADS OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN GOVERNMENTS UNFRIENDLY TO SOUTH VIETNAM AND AMERICAN OPERATIONS THERE, WAS PROPOSED BY A NATIONAL LEADER, POSSIBLY HUBBARD. THIS PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE CALLED FOR A WELL DASH TRAINED VVAW GROUP IN WASHINGTON, D. C. TO KIDNAP A UNITED STATES SENATOR, REPRESENTATIVE, OR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TO HOLD FOR RANSOM TO PRESSURE FOR ENDING OF THE WAR. NO OTHER DETAILS WERE GIVEN SINCE THIS SEEMED TO BE ONLY AN IDEA FOR DISCUSSION. THIS WAS

END PAGE SEVEN



b7c

RE: VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST  
THE WAR (VVAW)

The telegram said that HUBBARD was in contact with the North Vietnamese Peace Delegation and he had been confidentially told that the next prisoner of war (POW) released would be effected to VVAW delegates. The telegram further said the North Vietnamese had promised to not take any major offensive against U. S. troops during the Christmas period up until December 31, 1971; however, they would defend themselves. In the telegram HUBBARD said he was currently negotiating with the North Vietnamese delegation to extend the Christmas cease-fire, which had already been agreed upon, for an indefinite period beyond the December 31, 1971, deadline. HUBBARD said the North Vietnamese are upset over President NIXON's use of POW issue as a reason to keep U. S. troops in Vietnam.

MIKE OLIVER explained to those present that VVAW National Office had decided to send a five-man delegation to Hanoi, North Vietnam, early in December, 1971. They hoped to effect the POW release during that time so that the delegates could return to the U. S. to participate in the national actions at Christmastime. This would demonstrate to the people at the national actions that VVAW has real power. When asked how many POWs would be released, OLIVER said no specific number had been mentioned but that at least one POW would have to be released in order to give the VVAW claim validity. They planned to present this to the people of the United States and if they were successful in gaining public sympathy and support, they would enter further negotiations for POW release.

The Wisconsin delegation proposed a plan to contact 2,000 active-duty GI's in South Vietnam and in effect ask them for a mutinous action by refusing to take up arms when ordered to do so. This proposal was favorably accepted by the committee.

b7c  
The topic of the funding of expenses for HUBBARD's trip to Paris was laid aside. OLIVER told the conference that [redacted] had paid for HUBBARD's trip from her own personal account. There was talk among many of the regional

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 1/27/72

Attached reports a potential security informant of our Pittsburgh Office advised he learned from an individual [redacted]

[redacted] Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) [redacted]

b7D

that there is complete dissatisfaction with the VVAW national office at New York City. There was even discussion regarding the possibility of killing Al Hubbard and Jon Birch of the national office. The Pittsburgh Office suggests the New York Office, with Bureau authority, consider advising these two persons that there may be an attempt on their lives.

Domestic Intelligence Division recommends no approach by Bureau Agents to Hubbard and Birch in view of their militant attitudes. It is felt they could use such an approach to the embarrassment of the Bureau. If you agree, however, we will call this matter to the attention of local authorities in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and New York City, only on a confidential basis. Hubbard and Birch can then be notified by these agencies. This procedure will give us better protection for the source.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-15-83 BY 9803

[redacted] *7/3* *cut* *rw* *EM/s* *P* *7* *OK* *AS* *WBS*

ENCLOSURE

687

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*WST/B*

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-448092)

DATE: 11/14/73

FROM :

SAC, PHILADELPHIA (100-51647)

*(EX) REC 1088 345*

SUBJECT:

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR/  
WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION  
IS - VVAW/WSO

*b7c*  
*b7c*  
*(GWS)*

*3*  
*4*  
*5*

Reference Bureau letters dated 10/4 and 10/15/73, captioned as above.

### Predication for Investigation

This investigation is based on information which indicates that captioned organization is engaged in activities which could involve violations of Title 18, USC, 2383 (Rebellion or Insurrection), 2384 (Seditious Conspiracy), 2385 (Advocating Overthrow of the Government), 2387 (Sedition), 793 (Espionage), 844 (Explosives and Incendiary Devices), 2155-56 (Sabotage), and 2101 (Anti-riot Laws).

*8 CARDS*

VVAW/WSO was organized in New York City in 1967 as an organization of Vietnam Veterans to protest the American involvement in the war in the Southeast Asia. VVAW/WSO engaged in various protest activities, but during late 1971, demonstrated increasing militancy culminating 12/71, with VVAW/WSO takeover of various American landmarks and public buildings. Information was also developed indicating that some VVAW/WSO Chapters were cooperating with or infiltrated by Communist-dominated groups, including the CPUSA and the Socialist Worker's Party. Certain VVAW/WSO leaders were quoted as telling members VVAW/WSO is a revolutionary organization and not "just another group of war veterans". VVAW/WSO leaders have traveled to North Vietnam and have

*100-448092-3295*

- ② - Bureau (100-448092) (RM)
- 1 - Chicago (100-50772) (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Philadelphia (100-51647)

16 NOV 19 1973

RTK:rls



5010-108-02

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/4/95 BY *[redacted]* *b7c*

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

reportedly established liaison with revolutionary or terrorist groups internationally. During July, 1972, VVAW/WSO leaders and members were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury, Tallahassee, for violation of Federal statutes, including Conspiracy to Riot during Republican National Convention August, 1972. One of these individuals was also indicted for Possession of an Unregistered Explosive and Incendiary Device. In January, 1973, at a National Steering Committee meeting, VVAW/WSO leaders discussed programs aimed at obtaining support from or influencing active duty military personnel. They also discussed obtaining access to classified government information to be used against United States interest, and one leader subsequently actively engaged in such activity. There were also indications at this meeting that VVAW/WSO activists possessed the technical knowledge and training to carry out any revolutionary program proposed. In addition, information has been reported from a source who has furnished reliable information in the past that a VVAW/WSO member previously discussed engaging in sabotage and was possibly involved in the destruction of a munitions train in Arizona. VVAW/WSO is currently headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

Referenced Bureau letter of 10/15/73, indicated a list of seven addresses of offices and persons in the Philadelphia Division whose addresses appeared on lists of VVAW/WSO regions, chapters, and individuals connected therewith dated 9/8/73 and 4/5/73.

Philadelphia files reveal the following information concerning each of these individuals:

1. VVAW/WSO, 2440 Kensington Avenue,  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19125  
Telephone Number 215-GA3-3161

b7c

Philadelphia report of SA [redacted] dated 10/10/73, captioned, "REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES; IS-RA", indicates that the Philadelphia Chapter, VVAW, is located at 2440 Kensington Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., and that at a regional meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region, VVAW, held 9/22/73, at St. Mary's Church, 3916 Locust Street, it was decided to move the VVAW Regional Office from Philadelphia, Pa., to Reading, Pa., and that a chapter of the VVAW would remain in the Philadelphia area located at the above address. The meeting which decided this move, while a regional meeting, [redacted]

b7c

- 2. VVAW/WSO,  
P.O. Box 4114  
Mount Penn, Pa. 19606

On 6/20/73, review of postal records indicated that P.O. Box 4114, Reading, Pa., (Mount Penn, Pa., Post Office), was opened 12/4/72, in the name of the VVAW Defense fund.

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A11  
1

The box was subscribed to by [redacted] Street, Reading, Pa., telephone number [redacted]. Post Office records show purpose of the VVAW Defense Fund is "raising funds". The Mount Penn Post Office advised that P.O. Box 4114 gets very little mail. Investigation is currently being conducted concerning [redacted] under Philadelphia file 100-55249 to determine the extent of his involvement with VVAW. Original information concerning the fact that Reading Chapter of VVAW had been soliciting defense funds by mail from other anti-war groups from P.O. Box 4114, Mount Penn, Pa., was furnished by [redacted] (UD).

b2 b7c

- 3. [redacted] Street  
Carlisle, Pa. 17013

b7c

[redacted] is subject of Philadelphia file 100-55081, which is opened to determine his relationship with VVAW and develop background data.

b7c

- 4. [redacted] Pa. 18045

b7c

PH 100-51647

b7c  
[redacted] was subject of Philadelphia file 100-54293. Subject interviewed 2/16/73. It was determined that he did not meet ADEX criteria, and case closed 8/28/73. It is noted that Philadelphia informants in Reading area provided coverage of subject's limited activities.

5. VVAW/WSO,  
14 West Broad Street  
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

This address is a mailing address for VVAW in the Bethlehem-Reading-Allentown, Pa., area.

- b7c 6. [redacted] Street  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17102  
Telephone Number 717-232 [redacted]

b7c [redacted] is subject of Philadelphia file 100-55079. He is a staff member of the Harrisburg Independent Press. Investigation concerning this individual is continuing; however, at this time it appears that he merely writes articles in relation to VVAW as one of his assignments, and appears not to participate in VVAW activities other than on a reporting basis.

b7c [redacted] Pa. 19401  
b7c  
This individual is identical with [redacted] subject of Philadelphia file 100-54012. Philadelphia letter and LHM captioned, "[redacted]; SM-VVAW; OO: PHILADELPHIA", dated 4/5/73, details subject's activities and background. Subject was not recommended for inclusion on the ADEX.

As indicated above, on 9/22/73, at a regional meeting of Eastern Pennsylvania Region, VVAW, [redacted] b7c it was decided to move the VVAW Regional Office from Philadelphia, Pa., to the Reading, Pa., area. It was also decided that a chapter of VVAW would remain in the Philadelphia area located in the Office of the Philadelphia Free Press (FREEP), 2440

Kensington Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. It is noted that in the past the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of VVAW never actually performed any of the functions of a regional chapter, in that the individuals who frequented this office and the activities planned by this office were all localized in Philadelphia, Pa.

b7c As of 10/3/73, [redacted] also known as [redacted] was Acting Coordinator of the Philadelphia VVAW. There is no regional coordinator of the VVAW at the present. Subsequent to 10/3/73, Philadelphia informants have advised that the Philadelphia Chapter of VVAW is now defunct and totally inactive. While mail is still received at the FREEP Office, only [redacted] who is a non-veteran, is interested in maintaining an office in Philadelphia, Pa. Old time VVAW members have indicated to [redacted] that they regard the organization as inactive and would be very much opposed to any attempt on his part and on the part of FREEP staff members to usurp the name of the organization or to utilize its banner in activities inconsistent with the original anti-war goal of the VVAW. [redacted] has advised that regional records of the VVAW would be sent to the Reading, Pa., area in the near future. PA.

Referenced Revolutionary Activities report indicates that Philadelphia Chapter of the VVAW has been virtually inactive and that no one from the Philadelphia Region attended the August, 1973, National Steering Committee meeting in St. Louis, Mo.

b7c On 10/3/73, [redacted] advised there are [redacted] in the Eastern Pennsylvania Region of VVAW/WSO, and that this region was soon to be relocated in the Reading, Pa., area. Source noted that this figure includes Southern New Jersey, Delaware, and all of Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh Chapter is inactive and there are a few members each in Allentown, Bethlehem, York, Harrisburg, Reading, and Philadelphia, Pa. Total membership, including those currently inactive, is 35 members at the most.

b7c On 9/25/73, [redacted] advised there had been no political activities on the part of VVAW/WSO in the Philadelphia area in recent months.

PH 100-51647

b2b7D

On 10/3/73, [REDACTED] furnished the same information as furnished by [REDACTED] on 9/25/73.

b2b7D On 10/3/73, [REDACTED] advised that the Philadelphia VVAW had \$65.00 to \$75.00 in its bank account with no dues money coming in.

Referenced Bureau letter instructed Philadelphia to review the above references to furnish current status of VVAW/WSO within the Philadelphia Division and advise of informant coverage including member informants specifically identified and steps taken to develop member informants.

It is noted that the focus of activity of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region of VVAW has been Philadelphia, and that this regional office is in the process of moving to the Reading-Mount Penn, Pa., area.

b2  
b7D [REDACTED]

These sources under development should insure that the Bureau is apprised on a timely basis of pertinent VVAW activity. Within Philadelphia, there are also non-member informants who are able to provide timely information concerning VVAW activity; however, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] VVAW. Within the Reading-Mount Penn-Allentown, Pa., area, it is felt that the [REDACTED] under development will be able to provide effective coverage if VVAW continues its planned activity to move the regional office to that location. There is also available in the Reading area [REDACTED] informant whose background and affiliation with anti-war activities place the source in an excellent position to furnish details of VVAW plans and activities. [REDACTED] b2b7D

Philadelphia is aware of the need for good intelligence information of the type which member informants can provide, and will in the future continue to be alert for opportunities



# PAPERLESS ARCHIVES

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## VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR - JOHN KERRY FBI FILES

TO OBTAIN COMPLETE SET VISIT [HTTP://WWW.PAPERLESSARCHIVES.COM](http://www.paperlessarchives.com)

Vietnam Veterans Against The War FBI Files.

19,978 pages of FBI files covering the activities of the anti-Vietnam War group, Vietnam Veterans Against the War..

Most of this material was originally released in 1999 to author and historian Gerald Nicosia, after seeking their release under the Freedom of Information Act in 1988. This set released in June 2004, contains pages of documents not released to Nicosia in 1999.

The documents date from 1967 to 1976. They are composed of memos, reports, investigation summaries, confidential informant accounts, newspaper and wire service articles, and Vietnam Veterans Against the War bulletins and flyers. The files give broad coverage to activities of VVAW members such as Scott Camil, Al Hubbard, Joseph Urgo, Michael Oliver, Edward Damato, Larry Rottman, George Roberts, Craig Scott Moore and the person who has become its most well known member, John Kerry.

After six Vietnam Veterans walked together in an anti-Vietnam War march, Vietnam Veterans Against the War was founded in New York City, in 1967. The investigation of the VVAW gained steam after Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara saw an advertisement from the group in the November 11, 1967 edition of the New York Times. In 1970 the group had 600 members. By the 1971 it had 6,000 members. The bulk of the monitoring of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War took place between 1972 and 1975. During that time the FBI increased efforts to recruit VVAW members as informants.

Although there were many anti-war groups at the time, The Vietnam Veterans Against the War seems to have gathered more attention from the FBI than most others. The sight of uniforms, medals, and missing limbs caused a greater stir along all sectors of the ideological spectrum of opinion about the Vietnam War. There also may have been a feeling in the FBI that members of the VVAW were more dangerous than hippies, because VVAW members had military training and had seen combat. The files show the United States domestic intelligence infrastructure's level of concern about the possibility of subversion and sedition, among those who were strongly critical of American Vietnam policy.

John Kerry first became familiar with the VVAW through his sister Peggy, in 1969. After deciding not to run for Congress in 1970, Kerry went to Paris, site of the Vietnam War peace

negotiations, and met with Viet Cong representatives. After his return, he began speaking at VVAW events. John Kerry became one of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War's most publicly recognizable figures. Especially after his appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in April 1971. As a veteran who was decorated with a Silver Star, Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts, Kerry garnered attention and consideration that other anti-Vietnam War protestors could not achieve. Kerry went on to become one of the members of VVAW's national steering committee.

In January of 1971, The Vietnam Veterans Against the War began its "Winter Soldier" investigation. The investigation consisted of the reciting of claims by people purporting to be Vietnam War veterans, about alleged atrocities committed in Vietnam. The investigation received very little attention at the time. The VVAW filmed the presentations, and put into circulation a film of the investigation titled "Winter Soldier."

The coverage of Kerry is mostly intermittently spread across memos dating from 1971. Much of the clandestine surveillance is composed of reporting made by unnamed confidential informants. The files chronicle: John Kerry's rise in status as a member of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, A growing ideological conflict with the more militant direction the VVAW was heading in, Travel to Paris for talks with North Vietnamese peace talk delegation, the "Kansas City" meeting, Kerry's pitched battle with VVAW leader Al Hubbard, and Kerry's dissolution as a leader of the VVAW in 1971.

The files document FBI accusations of a conspiracy to riot during the 1972 Republican National Convention, the passing of classified information to a Japanese communist leader. A member of the Connecticut chapter of the VVAW was arrested with an explosive device en route to a speech given by Vice President Spiro Agnew.

After the United States withdrew from Vietnam, the focus of the VVAW moved towards seeking amnesty for those who were jailed for resisting the draft and other anti-war crimes.

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