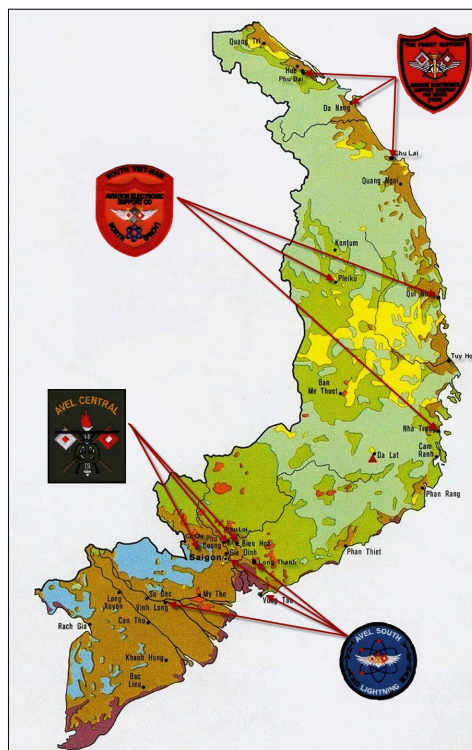
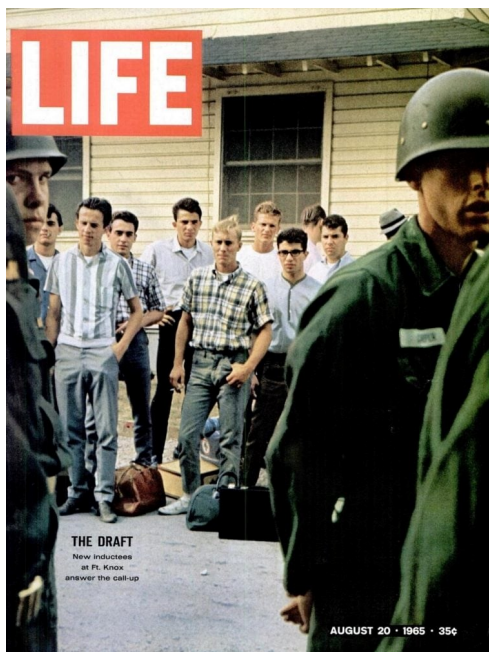


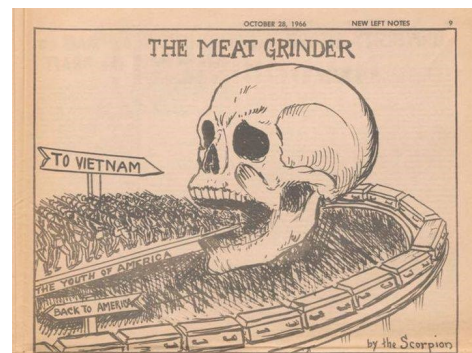
The Draft



In the 1960's and early 1970's the draft was on the mind of every male in their teens and 20's. Married or single it didn't matter. A major topic of conversation in my high school was how to avoid it. Most tried to enroll at Triton Jr College, our local school. The most popular phrase was "Tritons better than fighter!"

Antiwar groups sprung up across the country and cartoons like the one at right made their debut in protest papers on many college campuses.

Things in Australia were similar. They also drafted personnel for Vietnam and protest groups soon formed there also.



In total, 41,954 Australian servicemen served in Vietnam. 18,784 of those were drafted. This is a much higher percentage than that of the United States. I have seen figures saying that approximately 70% of Vietnam veterans enlisted, 11% of those enlisted to avoid the draft and pick an MOS that may keep them out of harms way.

The various draft classifications are below.

- 1A:** Available for military service.
- 1AO:** Conscientious Objector available for noncombat military service only.
- 1C:** Member of the armed forces, the Coast & Geodetic Survey or the Public Health Service.
- 1D:** Member of reserve component or student taking military training.
- 1H:** Not currently subject to processing for induction.

- 1O:** Conscientious Objector available for civilian work contributing to the maintenance of the national, safety or interest.
- 1S:** Student deferred by statute (High School).
- 1Y:** Available for service, but qualified for military service only in the event of war.
- 1W:** Conscientious Objector performing civilian work contributing to the national interest.

Continued on Page 2



2A: Deferred because of civilian occupation except agriculture or activity of study.
2C: Deferred because of agricultural occupation.
2D: Deferred because of study preparing for the ministry.
2S: Deferred because of activity of study.
3A: Registrant with a child deferred by reason of Hardship.
4A: Registrant who has completed service or sole surviving son.

4B: Official deferred by law.
4C: Alien
4D: Minister of religion
4F: Not qualified for military service.
4G: Exempt from service during peace if sole surviving son or brother.
4W: Conscientious Objector who has completed alternate service.
5A: Over the age of military service.

Top 40 Vietnam Songs

Throughout history, music has covered an array of subjects, such as war and peace. There are songs that are more broadly patriotic and songs that highlight critical problems in our country. During the Vietnam War, we saw music mimic the public's support, disillusionment and then rising disapproval. The Vietnam era set a precedent for music as a public space to reflect perspectives on war, with critical perspectives being acceptable and even popular. Here we take a look at 40 songs about the Vietnam era.

1. "We Gotta Get Outta This Place" – The Animals (1965) – while not explicitly about Vietnam, the song's themes became a popular anthem with the troops.
2. "Feel Like I'm Fixin To Die Rag" – Country Joe McDonald & The Fish (1965) – Written by a former Navy man, this satirical song became an iconic protest song of the Vietnam era.
3. "Leavin' on a Jet Plane" – Peter, Paul, & Mary (1967) – Not written about the war directly, but it again became a song associated with departure for Vietnam.
4. "War" – Edwin Starr (1970) – A clear anti-war song which rose in popularity at the height of the Vietnam War.
5. "Give Me Love (Peace on Earth)" – George Harrison (1973) – While written about the war in Bangladesh, the song became an anthem of peace at the end of the Vietnam War.
6. "Susan On the West Coast Waiting" – Donovan (1969) – About a young man who is drafted into Vietnam.
7. "Going Home" – Normie Rowe (1967) – From an Australian pop star, a song associated with coming home from service in Vietnam.
8. "Chicago" – Graham Nash (1971) – A song about the 1968 protests at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.
9. "Nineteen" – Paul Hardcastle (1985) – An anti-war song, the title refers to the average age of a soldier in Vietnam.
10. "Vietnam" – The Minutemen (1984) – A strong statement against the political motivations for the Vietnam War.
12. "Run Through the Jungle" – Creedence Clearwater Revival (1970) – Though written about the prevalence of guns, the song's lyrics lead many to associate it with Vietnam.
13. "Ballad of the Green Berets" – Barry Sadler (1966) – A steady ballad about the heroism of the Green Berets.
14. "Still in Saigon" – Charlie Daniels Band (1982) – Song tells the story of a man who was drafted into Vietnam, returned to a divided nation, and is plagued by memories of his time in the war.



15. "7 O'clock News /Silent Night" – Simon and Garfunkel (1966) – Covering the current events at the time, including Nixon's urge to escalate the war effort in Vietnam.
16. "All Along the Watchtower" – Bob Dylan (1967) – Many have interpreted the song's lyrics as a reflection of the desire to end American fighting in Vietnam.
17. "Billy Don't Be a Hero" – Paper Lace (1974) – Though released after the war's end, the song tells the story of a woman learning how her love has died in war.
18. "Bungle in the Jungle" – Jethro Tull (1974) – Because of the song's lyrics about spending time in a jungle, many interpret the song to be about Vietnam.
19. "Draft Morning" – The Byrds (1968) – A song that refers to the absurdity of the draft.
20. "Give Peace a Chance" – John Lennon (1969) – An anthem for peace at the height of the Vietnam era.
21. "Gimme Shelter" – The Rolling Stones (1969) – About the unique circumstances of the Vietnam war and the scramble to survive.
22. "I Ain't Marching Anymore" – Phil Ochs (1965) – A strong anti-war song released as American involvement in Vietnam began to escalate.
23. "I Want To Come Home For Christmas" – Marvin Gaye (1972) – A song in tribute to the troops in Vietnam for the holidays.
24. "Masters of War" – Bob Dylan (1963) – A song condemning the rapidly growing military-industrial complex.
25. "Ohio" – Neil Young (1970) – A song about the killing of 4 students in an anti-war protest at Kent State University in 1970.
26. "Peace Train" – Cat Stevens (1971) – A message of peace as the war in Vietnam continued.
27. "Search and Destroy" – The Stooges (1973) – Song's title and lyrics refer to a military strategy common in the Vietnam War.
28. "Sky Pilot" – Eric Burdon and The Animals (1968) – A song about a chaplain who blesses troops before going out on a mission.
29. "Straight To Hell" – The Clash (1982) – References to the fate of children fathered by American soldiers in Vietnam.
30. "What's Going On" – Marvin Gaye (1971) – A song lamenting the fate of Vietnam era youth and the great divisions the war sparked in society.
31. "Waist Deep in the Big Muddy" – Pete Seeger (1967) – A song interpreted to refer to the escalation of the war in Vietnam.
32. "The Unknown Soldier" – The Doors (1968) – A song that tells the story of news reports on Vietnam.
33. "Question" – The Moody Blues (1970) – A peace song about the futility of the Vietnam War and war in general.
34. "Okie from Muskogee" – Merle Haggard (1969) – A song to support the sacrifices of the troops fighting in Vietnam.
35. "Happy Christmas (War Is Over)" – John Lennon (1972) – A popular anti-war song, preceded by an anti-war campaign led by Lennon and his wife Yoko Ono.
36. "For What It's Worth" - Buffalo Springfield (1967) - A song that is often thought to be an anti-war protest anthem, is actually a reflection of a rioting event that happened in California.
37. "The Unknown Soldier" - The Doors (1968) - A song that talks about the death of a soldier in war while life continues to move on at home.
38. "Blacklash Blues" - Nina Simone (1965) - Based on a poem, this song is a sign of hope for colored people during a time of segregation.

39. "Where Have All The Flowers Gone?" - Pete Seeger (1955) - An anti-war song that was actually written based on a book Pete Seeger was reading, "And Quiet Flows the Don." A few lines of the lyrics are taken from the book.

40. "Silent Night" - Jan Daly on Bob Hope's Christmas Tour (1971) - Silent Night was made iconic during the Vietnam War when Bob Hope would end his Christmas Tour performances with it.

In 2014, Bruce Springsteen released a song titled "The Wall" which tells the story of visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to reconnect with a friend. The song was written after Springsteen visited the Memorial and decided to write a song in honor of his friends and fellow musicians Walter Cichon and Bart Haynes who died in the war.

Phu Loi Prison Massacre

The Phu Loi Airfield was built by the Japanese in the Second World War. During the First Indochina War the base was used by the French as a prisoner of war camp for captured Viet Minh. Following the end of the war it was used to imprison opponents of the Ngo Dinh Diem government.

Phu Loi prison was one of the major prisons of the Diem regime set up in 1957 to imprison enemies of the regime. It lasted for eight years (1957-1964).

The former prison is now a museum.

Phu Loi Prison is currently located on Mot Thang 12 Street, Phu Loi Ward, Thu Dau Mot Town. The total current area is 77,082m², recognized by the State and ranked as a national historic site on July 10, 1980.



Phu Loi Prison Museum

Dubbed "Hell on earth." From mid-1957, Phu Loi prison was built right next to the military base with a total area of about 12 hectares. The number of prisoners brought to Phu Loi first had 4 women and about 100 men. By the end of 1957, it had increased to 3,000 prisoners.

By the end of 1958, the number of prisoners reached nearly 6,000 people, of which 1,000 were female prisoners.

The harsh regime of Phu Loi prison was not different from many other prisons at that time, eating rotten rice with rotten fish, salt, fish sauce with maggots. Living in a dirty manner, lacking water, lying in cells, tiger cages, tuberculosis, untreated disease and brutal beatings.

An event took place in the last days of November and early December 1958 called the Phu Loi Massacre. Over 1,000 political prisoners died in the prison of food poisoning. Clearly the North Vietnamese regime felt strongly that the food poisoning was an intentional act by the Diem regime to rid itself of unwanted societal elements.

A postage stamp was created for the event and now a museum stands where the prison was. A hut like the prisoners lived in was built there.

During the Vietnam War, the airfield was used by U.S. Army aviation units and was named Phu Loi Base



The Duckworth Chant



You all know it. You probably never knew what it was called but you all knew it. You knew it so well you could chat it in your sleep.

On a cold spring evening in May 1944, the divisional training center was returning from a long tedious march through swamps and rough country, a chant broke the stillness of the night. Upon investigation, it was found that a negro soldier by the name of Willie Duckworth, on detached service with the Provisional Training Center Fort Slocum, was chanting to build up the spirits of his weary comrades.

It was not long before the infectious rhythm was spreading through the ranks. Foot-weary soldiers started to pack up their steps in cadence with a growing chorus of hearty male voices. Instead of a down-trodden, fatigued company, here marched 200 soldiers, with heads up, a spring to their step, and happy smiles on their faces. This transformation occurred with the beginning of the Duckworth Chant. Upon returning to Fort Slocum, Private Duckworth, with the aid of the Provisional Training Center instructors, composed a series of verses and choruses to be used with the marching cadence. Since that eventful evening, the Duckworth Chant has been made a part of the drill at Fort Slocum, as it has proved to be not only a tremendous morale factor, while marching, but also coordinated a movement of close-order drill with true precision.

It is still being sung today by every basic training company in every base.

You had a good home but you left (you're right!)
You had a good home but you left (you're right!)
Jody was there when you left (you're right!)
Jody was there when you left (you're right!)
Sound off (one, two!)
Sound off (three, four!)
Cadence count (one, two, three, four, one, two – three four!)

ALL AVEL REUNION 2022

Join us at the Wall!

The dates have not been decided yet. Early registration will be appreciated.
It will be in the middle to end of October.

Information to follow



NEW AVEL, AVIONICS AND VIETNAM VETERANS REGISTERED

None Submitted

TAPS

None Submitted

PHOTOS

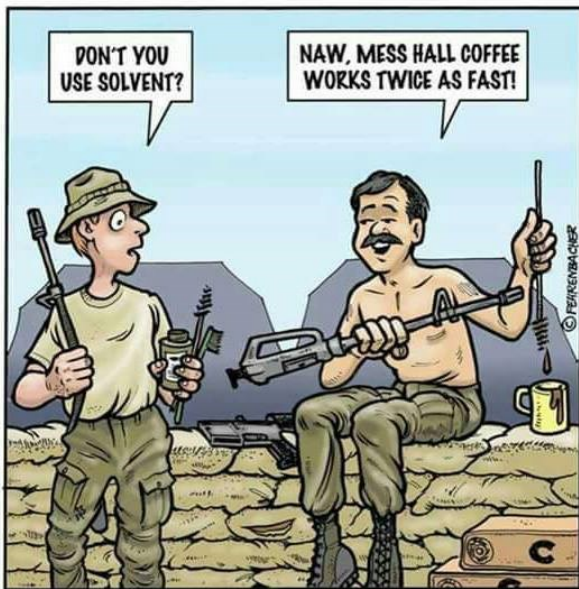
None Submitted

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/EMAIL/PHONE

Dennis Kanetake has retired (finally!) Please do not use his work phone or email address.

In the past when a registered member changed his email address and didn't inform me I would write a note asking for the correct email address. I will no longer do that. If you change your email address and don't let me know I will remove you from the list and you will no longer receive newsletters or reunion updates.

IN-COUNTRY



IN-COUNTRY VET



THE REUNION

TOGETHER AGAIN, IN THE LAND OF THE BIG PX!



AVEL VIETNAM



January/February 2022 Newsletter