

## Yankees don't know that they can go home

MONTREAL (CUP) — As many as 10,000 draft dodgers living in Canada don't know they are completely free to return to the US and are not wanted for draft evasion.

According to the War Resistor Information Program (WRIP) this is the situation facing thousands of men needlessly separated from their families. The WRIP program, designed to inform war resisters of their status and to aid them in returning home, is now desperately trying to rectify the situation by reaching as many men before they cease operations at the end of this year.

WRIP Co-ordinator Tim Maloney says the list of wanted men that Senator Kennedy provided the program has only 4,400 names on it, although 192,000 allegedly dodged the draft during the Vietnam War era. This means that thousands of men are free to enter the States without any problem.

Maloney also notes that those on the list with charges against them,

the WRIP program has a 75 percent success rate in getting the charges dismissed while the men remain safely in Canada.

WRIP helps many military deserters because the numerous procedural and legal errors made by the military open the door for several types of discharges.

WRIP's biggest problem is reaching and convincing war resisters to contact their office in Winnipeg. Tim Maloney explains that war resisters do not associate together making it difficult to contact sizable numbers. As many of them have tried to forget their bitter experience in the US they have assimilated as quickly as

possible into the Canadian way of life.

However, Maloney urges all draft dodgers who want to return to the US either to live or visit with friends and relatives to contact their office with the collect call number of (204) 774-9323. He says the service is free but funding runs out at the end of this year so those

wishing to contact WRIP should do so immediately.

Maloney also stressed that WRIP is funded by the National Council of Churches and is in no way connected with President Ford's "Clemency Program", a program which Maloney termed as fraudulent and a complete failure.

## Student housing shortage widespread

OTTAWA (CUP) — The broad approach to the housing crisis contained in the statement prepared by Executive Secretary Dan O'Connor results from a decision reached at the July Central Committee meeting of NUS.

At that time, O'Connor explained, discussion centred around short and long-term solutions to the housing crisis which would be facing students returning to school this fall.

The short-term solutions of setting up rental referral services on campuses and finding emergency accommodation could only be done on the local level, the committee decided.

On a national level it was agreed that pressure would have to be brought to bear on the federal government, but it was also recognized, O'Connor says, "that this action could only be effective if students recognized that the housing crisis is a widespread social problem."

"The Central Committee feels that any efforts on the part of students to pressure government will only be effective on the long-run if we are linked up with the efforts of other groups working for improved housing."

It was this reason, he explained, that the Central Committee, which

has representatives from each province, rejected a suggestion that a "National Day of Protest" be held over the student housing issue.

Because the linkups with other housing action groups has not yet been forged, it was feared that the reaction by a public "which is itself

feeling the housing crunch" might not be "too sympathetic".

But NUS, according to O'Connor, doesn't feel that such a tactic might be impossible for the future — once students are aware of their housing problems in the context of the overall problem, and once the necessary contacts with other groups are made.

## Alberta regulations relaxed

CALGARY (CUP) — Summer savings requirements for getting student aid in Alberta will not be rigidly enforced this year.

According to the University of Calgary Loan Officer Vivyan O'Neil, the changes in the rules governing the scheme are due to the high rate of student unemployment over the summer months.

In past years students were expected to have a minimum saving of \$600 before a loan could be assured.

"This policy still holds," O'Neil said, "but because of the unusually low employment this summer, the policy will be waived a bit and students won't be penalized if the minimum savings were not made over the summer."

In previous years the number of loan applicants have been approximately 3 thousand to 3500 at the U of C, and the Student Awards Office does not expect a substantial increase in the number of students applying for student loans this year.

The average loan last year was \$700. This figure is expected to remain the same.

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