

October 10, 1994

Colonel Frederick M. Donchue

Re: Appearance at 1995's TET Weekend  
February 3-4-5, 1995  
Richmond, VA

Dear Marty:

I apologize for being late in writing. On Friday, 9/30, I was Senior Staff Attorney for the Department for Rights of Virginians with Disabilities: on Monday at 1700, I was out of work. Governor Allen's administration has decided many agencies, such as ours, should be out of government and privatized. My position was eliminated. I simply had to get Plan B underway and let TET slide for a week. Both are on track now.

The enclosed will be sent to over 1100 people on our mailing list - 200 Seabees and 900 who have attended at least one of the past 7 reunion weekends. I also enclose some past press coverage. The press always has its own agenda and depending on what it is, so goes the coverage. For example, when the Gulf War was going on, they asked why we didn't cancel. Our response was that the Viet Nam vet would be the best friend welcoming these vets home and going to bat for them if they came back with exposures to chemicals, stress etc. as we, as vets, knew how badly we were treated by the VA on these issues. Nothing like this made it into the paper. Be prepared to defend a position contrary to what they are interested in. Dave Gray is a master on t.v. interviews on POWs - as he told one reporter " Honey, I was questioned by the best. I didn't respond to them either."

What TET does is award scholarships to children of Viet Nam vets. We have a program of remembrance for POW/MIA on Friday evening, and a Saturday morning program at which you will headline. If Gen. Manor or Ollie North shows, I'll handle the protocol and hope no one will get upset. You, Sir, are our featured speaker. You hold the Air Force Cross; you did the job.