

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1973

# VIETNAM DEBATE STIRS ASSEMBLY

## Some Object to Wording of Move to Honor Veterans

Special to The New York Times

ALBANY, Feb. 28—A confrontation between supporters and opponents of the war in Vietnam took place in the Assembly today over a resolution honoring the veterans of that war.

The resolution, which finally was adopted overwhelmingly, requested the Governor to set aside March 5 to 19 as Vietnam Veterans Week. None of the opponents of the war objected to that, but they took issue with the resolution's wording.

Sponsored by Assemblyman Louis Ingrassia, Republican of Middletown, it referred to the Vietnam conflict in terms such as "in support of liberty and freedom for all men" and "rededication to the precepts that have made America such a tower of strength among the nations of the world."

"This is a lot of bunk," declared Assemblyman Franz S. Leichter, Democrat of Manhattan, "We were fighting for Thieu and bamboo cages for his political opponents." He called the wording an attempt "to rewrite history."

Mr. Leichter's comments piqued some other lawmakers. "Your opposing this resolution is a disgrace as far as I'm concerned," said Assemblyman Vincent A. Riccio, Republican-Conservative of Brooklyn.

Assemblyman Peter G. Mirto,

Democrat of Brooklyn, said: "I have stood this nonsense long enough. For three years I've listened to him and his peace movement."

Mr. Mirto added: "I ask you in all the spirit of America and the spirit of the American flag to vote in favor, and God bless America."

Several members noted that returning prisoners of war had also said "God bless America" and had invoked the deity on behalf of President Nixon.

Assemblyman Guy R. Brewer, Queens Democrat, said: "There's a lot of difference between blessing America and blessing Richard Milhous Nixon."

Mr. Brewer caused further dispute when he said that the generally healthy appearance of the returning P.O.W.'s was "a credit to a nonwhite race who'd been invaded and pillaged that they did treat the prisoners the way they did."

Assemblyman Dominick L. Di Carlo, Republican-Conservative of Queens, implied that Mr. Brewer was praising the Viet cong. Mr. Brewer replied that "no sane person" could conclude that from his remarks.

### Offtrack Betting Vote

A bill extending the moratorium on new offtrack betting corporations in the state for three months, until June 30, was approved 79 to 39 after a procedural following an arduous roundup of absent members.

Other actions here to be included the following:

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