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\$1.143 AWARDED TO MISSOULA ORGANIZATIONS BY MONTANA COMMITTEE FOR THE HUMANITIES

MISSOULA --

A grant totaling \$1,143 has been awarded to two local organizations by the Montana Committee for the Humanities (MCH) for an evening panel discussion and a television program entitled "Amnesty: The Politics of War Resistance and the System."

The Selective Service Information Center in the University Center at the University of Montana and the Missoula Repatriation and Amnesty Committee received the award for development and presentation of the programs.

Bruce R. Sievers, MCH director, who has offices at UM, said the panelists Monday evening (May 14) will debate "The important issue of amnesty and jurisprudence in relation to the status of draft resisters during the Vietnamese war."

The panel discussion will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the University Center Ballroom. Panelists will include Stuart Rush, Vancouver, B.C., Can., a Canadian barrister and specialist in immigration and criminal law; William Smith, an attorney from Los Angeles, Calif., who is publisher of "Counter-Draft Magazine"; Art Sakaye, Missoula, Missoula-Mineral County director of Head Start, who is a Vietnamese war veteran; Dr. Sidney Mead, visiting professor of religious studies at UM.

Also, Dr. Ron Perrin, assistant professor of philosophy at UM; Mike Meloy, Helena, counsel to the State Legislature and member of the Helena Selective Service Board, and Curtis Halvorson of the U.S. Forest Service Laboratory in Missoula, who is a member of the local Selective Service Board. Former Missoula Mayor George Turman will be panel moderator.

The television program will be recorded on videotape Tuesday morning (May 15) by Channel 9 Cable TV, Missoula, for rebroadcast at a time to be announced.

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Sievers said the TV program will feature the same panelists. They will discuss the operation of the Selective Service System during the Vietnamese war years, with particular attention to the federal-state-individual relationships in the exercise of executive authority.

Prints of the videotape will be made available on request to the MCH office, room 322, Turner Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont. 59801.

Concerning the overall aim of the amnesty programs, Sievers said: "The panel discussions exemplify the treatment of a vital public issue from humanistic perspectives. The panel debates will sharply identify the dilemmas in conscience on the questions of obligation, individual rights and state authority."

UM President Robert T. Pantzer is MCH chairman.