

# Hull covers another side of Vietnam population

by Duane Leibhart

Ron Hull believes there is more to Vietnam than body counts and My Lai's. The Nebraska educational television network program manager said U.S. television viewers have lost the concept of the

Vietnamese people as individuals in all the statistical jargon they hear about Vietnam.

Hull recently returned from Vietnam where he filmed and interviewed for a Nebraska-produced television program. "This one-hour program I'm working on isn't

about the war, but about the people," he said.

Titled "Beyond the Fury", the non-commercial film financed by a grant from the Public Broadcasting System will be shown on 212 of the system's stations after April 1.

His recent two-week stay in Vietnam was his fifth trip there for a total of 17 months he has spent in that country. During his first year in Vietnam in 1966, he helped the Vietnamese set up four television stations. Now in 1971 the stations are independent and operating beautifully, he said.

The most popular programs there are Caiuog traditional Vietnamese dramas, five or six hours long, the program manager said. According to Hull, 75 per cent of the country is within reach of the television signals now and there are 450,000 privately owned sets.

He said 3,000 public owned sets have been set up in village squares so that most Vietnamese get a chance to view television.

Hull and one of his Vietnamese friends drove a considerable distance north of Saigon, to the coast, and to the mountains. "We saw no signs of anything but a peaceful country. The area is much more secure than when I came



Hull...describes experiences in Nam.

here in 1966," he said.

The two spent two days in the Mekong Delta while harvest and rice planting were going on simultaneously. Usually after carrying the camera equipment a considerable distance to an isolated hamlet the villagers would offer them tea or wine, he said.

The program manager said he loves the Vietnamese people and next to the U.S., Vietnam is his favorite country. The film will show the altars in the Vietnamese people's houses where they honor their ancestors and the god of the hearth. Other altars outside honor gods of earth and sky.

"I didn't feel any anti-American sentiments while I was there but most are convinced it is time we left," Hull said. "They are certainly tired of the war, but they are determined to find Vietnamese

solutions to their problems," he said.

According to the program manager, many American people are more upset about Thieu's election than the Vietnamese are. The government hasn't done much for the people in the past, causing many of the Vietnamese people to take a detached, if not negative attitude toward it, he said.

Hull said the South Vietnamese government gave him excellent cooperation. Although he did not interview President Thieu himself, he talked to three of his staff.

American ambassador Ellsworth Bunker told him the Vietnamese are energetic, hard-working, ambitious and intelligent, with the courage and tenacity few peoples in history have been able to master, Hull reported.

## YAF prepares Vietnam kits

Nebraska Young American's for Freedom is assembling personal care kits to distribute to Vietnam veterans receiving treatment through the Lincoln Veterans Hospital.

The distribution of these

packets is part of a national "Project Appreciation" launched by the 70,000 member national conservative youth group to show its appreciation of the sacrifices these men have made for their country.

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