

November 2, 1974

**Discussion Between the President  
and 3 Vietnam Veterans  
at the University of Utah**

**Veteran:** Are you going to sign the Veterans bill?

**The President:** I'm not in a position to say yes or no.

**Veteran:** Do you want to take a stand on it?

**The President:** The point is that there are some provisions in there that have to be analyzed. They have added beyond what Korea and World War II veterans got by 9 months in entitlement.

**Veteran:** That's not exactly true ---

**The President:** Yes, it is. It's totally true.

**Veteran:** Buy why should -- I have to ask this question.

**The President:** Now wait just a minute.

**Veteran:** Some of us served 4 years.

**The President:** The entitlement in World War II and Korea which you want equality with gives you 9 more months than the 16 million that served in the other branches.

**Veteran:** Yes, but that ---

**Tom Korologos:** There's a good reason for it.

**The President:** In addition, there's a loan program that has to be analyzed. Now the student loan program we have under the NDEA (?) has had a very bad repayment rate. I know you're familiar with that, are you not? Well, it's about 35% ---

**The President:** Well, I'm going to take a look at it and we'll do our best.

**Veteran:** Thank you.

**The President:** But there are problems that have to be analyzed. And until Congress sends it down there I don't think in good judgment that I ought to make ---

**Veteran:** That's fair enough.

# # #