

MILITARY UPGRADES DISCHARGES

The deadline is January 1, 1980, for persons with less than honorable discharges from the military for being gay to have their discharges confidentially and automatically upgraded to honorable.

According to Gay Community News, a little publicized law (PL 9526) waives until January 1, 1980, the usual 15-year limit on the time a veteran has to appeal a less than honorable discharge.

Under new regulations adopted since 1978, persons separated from the military for being gay now typically receive honorable discharges.

A brochure entitled "Upgrading Gay and Lesbian Veteran Discharges" can be obtained by writing:

Gay Civil Rights Chapter
American Civil Liberties Union
633 S. Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90005

CHICAGO HOSTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dignity/Chicago and the Oasis Center for Human Potential are co-sponsoring a national conference on gay and lesbian issues on October 26-28.

Speakers include Robert D'Appley, Barbara Gittings, Rene Hanover, John J. McNeil, Charles Silverstein, and Allan H. Spear. The conference will address gay and straight cultural

values, the need for recognizing gay and lesbian history, relationships between gay men and lesbian women, building intimacy, impacting policy makers, and other topics.

The conference will be held in the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago and will run from 5:30 p.m. October 26 until 5:30 p.m. October 28. Registration fee is \$50.00 until September 1, \$65.00 until October 1, \$80.00 until October 26, and \$95.00 at the door. Names will be confidential.

For more information contact:

Dignity/Chicago
P.O. Box 112-61
Chicago, Illinois 60611
312-549-2633

CHIPS FIRES OFFICER

SACRAMENTO, CA--The firing of a California Highway Patrol officer (CHIP), who attended a transvestite party in 1976, has been upheld by the Third District Court of Appeals in Sacramento.

Ernest L. Warren, Jr. was dismissed after having been found in a bedroom with a cross-dressed man during a police raid on a party in San Jose.

March Gears Up

respective Congressional representatives to express their views on the anti-gay McDonald bill and the amendment to the Civil Rights Bill. The amendment has 50 co-sponsors.

NGTF has voted unanimously to endorse the march and to launch a national "Petition to the President" in connection with the weekend's events.

The petition asks Pres. Carter to: 1) issue an executive order barring discrimination against gay women and men; 2) endorse the Congressional bill HR 2074, which extends the 1964 and 1968 Civil Rights Acts to include protection on the basis of sexual orientation.

NGTF observers said they have been impressed by the speedy establishment of a national network. "Coalitions have sprung up across the country and new gay groups are forming."

The delegates said "We must recognize that our strength lies in our diversity." Delegates in Houston were 50 percent men and 50 percent women, with third world representation.

The demands of the march are:

- a repeal of all anti-lesbian and gay laws,

- the passage of a comprehensive lesbian and gay bill in Congress,
- the issuing of a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the federal government, the military, and federally-contracted private employment,
- the end of discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father custody cases,
- the protection of lesbian and gay youth from any laws which are used to discriminate against, oppress, and/or harass them in their homes, schools, jobs, and social environments.

ECGC has prepared an informative manual for the march. It includes maps of Washington, D.C. and the march route; activities and locations; park and ride locations in the Washington D.C. suburban area; information on buses and the subway; and information on the two bills before Congress. For the manual, send \$2.50 to:

ECGC
N.C. March Committee
118 Rotary Ave.
Greenville, NC 27834