

Taxes

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the leaflet reacted favorably to most of the proposals.

"I think people are fed up with the build-up of the military expenditures at the expense of human needs," he said.

Ealy said other people told group members, "I'm with you all the way," "I sent your flyer with my return," and "It's good what you're doing, people really need to know what's going on." Only one man said he believed more defense spending was needed, Ealy said.

The concept of withholding taxes to protest the military is as old as history, Levine said, and draws its roots in this country from the peace churches of the Mennonites and Quakers during the 18th century.

"Traditionally, we bring it to people's attention on tax day because so many people going around without an awareness of where their tax money is going," she said. "It's not an attempt to get other people to (resist paying taxes). It is to inform people."

"A lot of Americans are concerned about how much being spent on defense, Republicans as well as Democrats," Levine added. "We always get someone telling us that if we don't like this country, to move somewhere else, but for every 10 people there is one against us and nine others in support."

Support for war tax resistance declined sharply following the

'Our position is that everyone has to pay their fair share — no more, no less. We'll do anything to make them pay what they owe ...'

— IRS representative Warren Schrum

Vietnam War, she said, but is on the upswing since the military buildup of the Carter and Reagan administrations.

Levine said her group estimates that roughly 40 percent of every taxpayer's dollar, or \$312 billion, is being devoted to military funding during this fiscal year.

The Manhattan-based War Resisters League, the organization that printed the leaflets distributed in State College, estimates that an additional 23 percent on every income tax dollar collected for fiscal 1987, or \$180 billion, will go to pay for past U.S. military involvement. About \$26 billion will be used to pay veterans' benefits, and \$154 million go to pay off the portion of the national debt that was created by military intervention, according to the leaflet.

Among college students, many of whom are not yet paying income taxes, refusing to pay the 3 percent excise tax on telephone use has proven to be the most popular form of war tax resistance, Levine said.

The tax has been associated with funding the military ever since it was first used for that

purpose during World War I. Subsequent collection of the tax is difficult, Levine said, and refusal to pay is relatively risk-free.

She added that individuals who refuse to pay taxes usually get a lot of contact from the IRS.

"Some who refuse are collected from, but certainly not everybody, and this is something people don't go to jail for," Levine said. Refusing to pay income tax, is nonetheless, illegal.

State College resident Linda DeCamp said that although she doesn't plan on withholding income tax from Uncle Sam, she supports bringing military spending back into control.

"Something has to be done," she said. "It will become more out of control in the future."

Although Snyder has not decided whether she will donate the money she is withholding to social service organizations, she said, "I feel that not contributing that portion of the tax is already contributing positively."

"This is the first time I've ever done this, so we'll see how it goes," she said.

Styron dwells on domination

By ANGELA BRADLEY
Collegian Staff Writer

Basing much of his work on his experiences as a serviceman and traveler, award-winning author William Styron uses images of war, slavery and imprisonment to develop the theme of humans dominating each other.

Speaking to a University audience, Styron read from his most recently published novel, *Sophie's Choice*, and a work in progress called *The Way of the Warrior*.

The "semi-autobiographical" manuscript *The Way of the Warrior* and his novel *The Long March* are based on his experiences in the service, both during and after college.

"The Suicide Run," a selection he read last night from his new work, centered on a sexual encounter between a married woman and a young serviceman in North Carolina during the Korean War.

Styron said he is preoccupied with justice and institutions such as slavery, Auschwitz and marriage — any relation that tends to allow humans to be dominated.

Styron began writing *The Way of the Warrior* in the early 1970s but stopped when he was inspired by a vision for *Sophie's Choice*.

"One morning I woke up with an inspiration in which there appeared a memory of a girl named Sophie who lived in Brooklyn," he said. Using information he received from a friend and his own intuition, Styron said he mastered the sense of what it was like to grow up in Poland enough to retell the girl's story.



William Styron

Styron said he knew how he wanted to write *Sophie's Choice*, which went on to win the National Book Award. "There was a remarkable sense of inevitability. . . . It was full-blown from the heart and from the mind."

He said he was satisfied with the film version of the book. "I knew when I read the script, in general, it was a script that I liked. It's a more than respectable film," he said.

Although Styron said he did not have problems writing the novel — never "hitting snags" — he said writing is far from easy. "I believe

writing is the most frustrating, crucifying sort of work anyone can do."

Regardless of struggles Styron admitted he had with other works, the author has been well rewarded. He received the Prix de Rome of the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1952 for his first novel, *Lie Down in Darkness*, and the Pulitzer Prize in 1967 for *The Confessions of Nat Turner*.

These books and other publications are displayed in the special collections department of Pattee's Rare Book Room.

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