

Thursday, February 12, 1981 The Seattle Times A 7.

'More Vietnam veterans commit suicide than were killed in action'

PHILADELPHIA — (UPI) — More Vietnam veterans have committed suicide than died in action during the war, it was reported

at the opening of a pilot veterans' job program here.

David Christian, the most highly decorated soldier of the Vietnam war and designer of the non-Veterans Administration program, mentioned the suicide statistic at the opening ceremony.

"More than 50,000 veterans have committed suicide," he said.

"The official figure is 47,500 killed in action."

Ed Lowry, executive director of the center, said that the Multi-Service Veterans Center differs from other attempts to help Vietnam veterans in that its primary focus is jobs.