F1640  F.N.G. (USA, 1975)  [SHORT]

Credits: director/writer, Clayton Rye.
Cast: Henry Gayle Sanders, Thu Thuy, Lee Minh Nam.
Summary: Short student film. A black man (Sanders) starting work as a refuse collector in Mariposa, Calif. has a flashback to the time when he was an F.N.G. (fucking new guy) in Vietnam. The sight of a rat rummaging in the trash reminds him of the G.I.'s chasing and killing a rat as he arrived at his new unit. The soldiers are poorly disciplined, lax on security, and disrespectful towards their lieutenant. A Vietnamese woman with a child arrives on a motorbike and begins selling cold drinks. The child runs off to play nearby. A medic assigned to the squad, who is classified as a conscientious objector, is carrying a rifle and hand grenades in violation of regulations and is rebuked by the lieutenant. He accidentally drops a grenade. The resulting explosion causes the other soldiers in the squad to begin firing wildly. The Vietnamese child playing in the bushes is killed. The black veteran having the flashback is brought back to the present as he trips over a trash can. As he lies there, he sees the rat, which triggered his flashback, caught in a trap and killed.

No known reviews. Winner of the Expose Yourself Festival, Washington, D.C. and listed as one of “The Best of the USC Student Films.”