

## **Burning Seeds**

(1966/2005)

Major Schmidt said “Now step forward,”  
but I didn’t, and I was no longer  
a potential part of the jingo machine  
hoisting GI hegemony across the world.  
That little “no” was a seed of anger  
not yet planted on the village green.  
Now the burning seeds are widely sown  
and all the flagged bodies are coming home.  
It takes a lot of bunkum to raise an army  
and deploy the boys. Takes even more  
to wage a war. Give them blood money  
and they’ll spin up some preemptive gore.  
Oil hawks and faith-hucksters are having their day.  
A lot of little “no’s” could blow them away.

