



VARIABLE ENTERPRISES

DEVELOPMENT & EXPLORATION, INC. (VEDEX)
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August 26, 1997

Honorable David L. Boren
President
University of Oklahoma

Dear President Boren:

There are some important activities underway that I think the University of Oklahoma should be a ~~national~~ and important participant in and I am hopeful that you will agree.

Before I expand on that statement and add some clarity to the number of attached papers, let me first introduce my wife Ha and I. The introduction can begin with a copy of a letter from your Senate office to us thirteen years ago acknowledging the arrival of your blue jean mug. We have met briefly several times over the years at civic events in Norman. Our acquaintance with Mrs. Boren goes back to New Years 1973-74 when we came to Norman to participate in an OCCE seminar of which she was a university staff participant. Both Dr. Gertsch and Rep. Laura Boyd may have mentioned us for our involvement with the care of the twenty two students from Vietnam (Ha is "mom" and I am "uncle"). Ha was also a member of the delegation to Vietnam with Dr. Gertsch, Dr. Little, Dr. Eddie Smith and Sen. Billie Mickle. We have been working closely with the University Energy center and the Oklahoma State Department of Commerce Trade Office in their activities in Vietnam.

A little historical background that you might be aware of but I will still refresh your memory, During the Vietnam Conflict, the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center was involved with training many Vietnamese doctors. Following that conflict, several of those and other refugee Vietnamese doctors came to Oklahoma to participate in a special program to qualify them to practice in the United States. Some may still be on the staff at the Health Sciences Center and the Veterans Affairs Hospital. It's with the knowledge of that past involvement and knowing the many

ways you are endeavoring to expand the reach of the university, both in the United States and internationally that send you this material.

This began when three businessmen (all Vietnam veterans) participated in a Heart-to-Heart medical mission to Vietnam. They were so touched by the great need they saw and by the warm reception they experienced that they decided to expand their efforts but since they wanted to focus on Vietnam and Heart to Heart operates on a global scale, the decision was made to form a new organization and Uplift International ~~was~~ was born.

The move involved Uplift because in organizing their capability for future missions they discovered there were many other medical and pharmaceutical groups that shared their interest but each found their effectiveness limited for several reasons. It has become apparent that there is a broad interest in these missions but also a great need for a central coordinating organization to expand the participation and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the great potential of this effort to take much needed medical care to Vietnam.

As you can see from the attached papers there are several groups already involved. I could go on about all this but I feel the best approach is to suggest a personal conversation with Mr. Michael Meyer as soon as possible and even a visit with you here at the University.

A group of us are meeting in Los Angeles this Saturday then we will proceed to Vietnam for two weeks of meetings in Saigon, Danang and Hanoi with a number of Vietnamese officials including the Deputy Prime Minister. My wife Ha has been in Hanoi for the past five weeks and will join us in Saigon.

One of our tasks in Vietnam this trip is to coordinate the preparations for a University of Kansas Medical School mission for November.

I realize the time is short before our departure on the thirtieth but if you could possibly find the time for a visit with Mr. Meyer or at least a telephone conversation I think you will be impressed with what is happening and the great opportunities that wait and that the University of

Page 3

Oklahoma should be a part of it.

Sincerely,



Lawrence M. Flanagan

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P.S. I've enclosed a folder on the Westmoreland Foundation.
They are in need of advice and support. I have sent
a copy of this to Ron Burton and I have attached a copy
of my letter to Ron.