

26 October 1977

Chairman, Department of History
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Sir,

I have requested ^{that} the Admissions Office send me ~~the necessary forms~~ and a graduate school catalog and the forms necessary to apply for admission into the Doctoral program in History at Texas A&M. However, I would like to visit the campus and discuss the program with you or one of the departmental advisors. I am currently employed as an instructor in the History Department at Southwest Texas State University, but could arrange to come to College Station on either a Tuesday or Thursday, whichever would be most convenient.

I am also interested in any program you have for part-time teaching while in the doctoral program. I have a B.S. in Occupational Education and an M.A. in History from Southwest Texas State. For the past three years I have taught freshman level U.S. History at Southwest Texas on a part-time basis and can provide references concerning my performance if you so desire.

Thank you for your assistance.

26 October 1977

Dean of Admissions and Records
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Sir,

Please send me a current Graduate School Catalog and the necessary forms to apply for admission to the doctoral program in History. In addition, please inform me of any special qualifications or requirements for admission to the Graduate School.

I have a B.S. in Occupational Education and an M.A. in History from Southwest Texas State University. I have a GRE verbal score of 680 and a quantitative score of 760. I will request that these scores be forwarded to you.

I am currently employed for the 1977-78 year as an instructor in the History Department of Southwest Texas State University, but will be available for entry into the program in the Fall 1978 semester. Please inform me of application deadlines and the approximate date by which I should know if my application has been favorably considered.

Thank you for your assistance,

Paul F Cecil

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Telephone (713) 845-7151

October 31, 1977

Mr. Paul F. Cecil
Department of History
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, TX 78666

Dear Mr. Cecil:

Thank you for your inquiry about our graduate program in history. We are sending you a departmental brochure briefly describing our program and an application for a graduate assistantship.

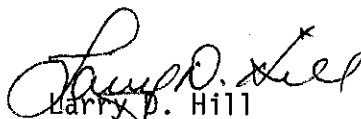
Texas A&M University offers the Ph.D. degree in American History, with areas of concentration in the South, West, Diplomatic, Military, U.S. to 1876, U.S. since 1876, and Social and Cultural history. Admission to the program normally requires a GRE score of 1100 or better, but allowances are made when other considerations and qualifications merit.

The Department of History offers graduate assistantships beginning at \$401 per month for qualified doctoral students. Such assistantships usually extend for two academic years. Part-time assistance is often available in the summer session.

Since a Tuesday-Thursday visit is most convenient for you, I shall schedule a conference tentatively for Tuesday, November 8, at 2:00 p.m. I shall also arrange a meeting with Prof. Roger Beaumont, our specialist in modern military history. My office is located in Room 302B of the Academic Building.

If this schedule does not meet with your approval or if you need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Larry D. Hill
Associate Professor and
Graduate Advisor

LDH/rbr

Encls.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

2 December 1977

Professor Brian P. Levaak
Graduate Advisor, History Department
University of Texas at Austin
Austin, Texas 78712

Sir:

I am sorry I did not get an opportunity to meet with you last Tuesday to discuss the doctoral program in your department. Unfortunately, because I am teaching history at Southwest Texas State University this year, some problems with my students made me a little late for the appointment time I had been given over the telephone. As a result, I just missed you. Your secretary was very helpful, however, there are several questions which I need clarified before submitting my application for admission. I would appreciate your response to the following:

1. In reference to the transcripts for departmental use: are zerox copies of transcripts in my possession adequate, or do you require official copies direct from the various universities?
2. I am interested in United States Military History as a primary field, but understand that Professor Belknap is leaving the university. Will specialisation in this area be possible? In addition, would work in Latin American military history be a permissible minor?
3. In reference to the foreign language requirement: is there a time limit within which competency must be demonstrated?
4. Under general requirements, non-UT MAs are required to take an additional research seminar course. Is there any provision for waiving this requirement by submission of copies of past research papers or a copy of the non-UT MA thesis?
5. In reference to the departmental information sheet: because I was in an undergraduate program which gave considerable credit for my military work in Aerospace Engineering and teaching, I have only a few hours of formal, graded upper-division work (30 hours of A and 6 hours of B). Should I attach a letter of explanation to the information sheet?

I believe that the answers to these questions will assist me in properly submitting the graduate application forms. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Telephone (713) 845-7151

December 9, 1977

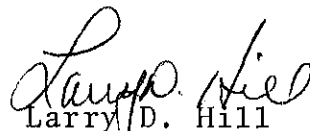
Mr. Paul F. Cecil
101 Furlong
Universal City, TX 78148

Dear Mr. Cecil:

Normally the Department of History at Texas A&M University awards graduate assistantships beginning in the fall semester of each academic year. At present we are in the position of offering a limited number of assistantships to qualified students beginning in the summer term of 1978. Such awards will extend for both summer semesters and for the following fall and spring semesters.

Should you wish to be considered for one of these assistantships, complete the normal application process as quickly as possible and notify me of your interest. Please remember that you must submit GRE scores in order to qualify.

Sincerely,

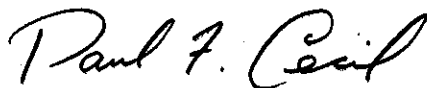

Larry D. Hill
Graduate Advisor

LDH/rbr

I do not know if it will be of any use to you, but I have enclosed a zerox copy of my latest transcript (official copies will be sent to the Admissions Office). As a further addition to the information I gave you about myself during our visit, I since have been selected to present a paper in one of the sessions of the Southwestern Social Science meeting in Houston next April. I also have accepted an invitation to write four biographical sketches for inclusion in a military biographical encyclopedia to be published by the Greenwood Press. These are two extra reasons why I feel it would be impossible for me to began work at Texas A&M any earlier than the Fall term.

Again, thank you for your time and your consideration. If you will be at either the AHA convention in Dallas or the Houston meeting, I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul F. Cecil". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Paul F. Cecil
Instructor, History Department

PFC:dc
Encl.

December 13, 1977

Professor Larry D. Hill
Graduate Advisor, History Department
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Professor Hill:

Thank you for your letter informing me of the opportunity to apply for a possible assistantship in the History Department. More importantly, thank you for taking the time to remember a brief conversation with only one of what I am sure is scores of individuals you interview every semester.

As I told you, I have been "shopping around" for a program and a school which would fit my particular needs. For personal reasons, I have limited my choice to schools in the south-central section of the country. While I am afraid that I did not particularly impress Professor Beaumont during our brief meeting, I believe that I would like to study under his guidance and my favorable impression of him has been subsequently reinforced by reading two of his books. The fact that several other faculty members have scholarly works on military-related topics is another "plus" factor. Most important, however, is the helpful atmosphere and cordial reception that I found both in the department and throughout the campus; your letter being an example of this spirit. For these reasons, I believe that I could best achieve my academic goals at Texas A&M, and already have started the application process, including arranging for submission of GRE scores and applicable university transcripts.

Although very interested in the graduate assistantships, I am afraid that I could not apply for one involving work this next summer. If accepted at A&M, I plan to use the summer months to relocate my family to College Station and to make research trips to California, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C. These trips involve continuing research into a topic which I hope to use for my dissertation. Earlier trips would not be possible because I am under a teaching contract through May 1978. However, I will submit the application forms and letters for possible consideration for any other assistantships, fellowships, etc., that I may qualify for.

I do not know if it will be of any use to you, but I have enclosed a zerox copy of my latest transcript (I have requested official copies which will be sent to the Admissions Office). As an addition to the information I gave you about myself during our visit, I since have been selected to present a paper in one of the sessions of the Southwestern Social Science meeting in Houston next April. I also have accepted an invitation to write four biographical sketches for inclusion in a military biographical encyclopedia to be published by the Greenwood Press. These are two extra reasons why I feel it would be impossible for me to began work at Texas A&M any earlier than the Fall term.

Again, thank you for your time and your consideration. If you will be at either the AHA convention in Dallas or the Houston meeting, I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again.

Best Regards,

Paul F. Cecil
Instructor, History Department



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

Department of History

December 13, 1977

Mr. Paul F. Cecil
Department of History
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Dear Mr. Cecil:

Thank you for your letter of December 2. Let me answer your questions in the order presented.

1. Xerox copies of transcripts for departmental use will be acceptable. Official copies must be presented to the Graduate School.
2. I cannot tell you at this time whether specialization in American Military history will be possible. It is not certain what the interests of Professor Belknap's replacement will be, although I suspect that he or she will specialize mainly in constitutional history, which is Belknap's main interest. Professor McGann has taught courses in Latin American military history. Whether or not you could offer a minor in that field would depend upon the recommendation of Professor McGann and the approval of the Graduate Adviser.
3. All language requirements must be satisfied before admission to doctoral candidacy, i.e., after passing the major-field examination.
4. There is no provision for waiving the requirement regarding research seminars.
5. There is no need to explain the limited number of upper-division, undergraduate hours.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to call or write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian P. Levack".

Brian P. Levack
Graduate Adviser

BPL:pw

21 December 1977

Office of Admissions and Registrar
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74074

Sir:

On 13 December 1977 I sent you a request to have transcripts sent to Texas A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin, enclosing a check for \$4.00 to cover transcript fees.

On 21 December 1977 I received a letter from you returning my check, with a note saying that my transcript had been sent at "no charge." However, the letter also contained a slip requesting information to facilitate locating the correct records. This leaves me confused as to whether the transcripts were sent, and if they were sent to both schools.

The following is the requested information (please disregard if it is not needed):

Full Name: Paul Frederick Cecil
Dates of Attendance: Spring-Fall 1968 and Spring 1969
at the Enid Branch
Birthdate: July 3, 1934
Social Security #: 509-28-2177

Please let me know if transcripts were sent to both the requested institutions.

Thank You,

Paul F. Cecil



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY • STILLWATER

Office of Admissions and Registrar
(405) 372-6211, Ext. 7722

74074

December 29, 1977

Mr. Paul F. Cecil
101 Furlong
Universal City, Texas 78148

Dear Mr. Cecil:

Upon receiving your letter of December 21, I checked our files and found that your transcripts were mailed on December 19 to both the University of Texas at Austin and to Texas A&M University. The information form was sent back to you so you could send us the necessary information should you again need copies of your transcript. As I recall, we had some difficulty locating your transcript with the information you provided in your first letter. I am sorry this has caused you concern.

Darcy Waldrup
Transcript Office

Conflict and War

Chairman: James W. Pohl, Southwest Texas State University

Paul F. Cecil, "Some Aspects of the Study of Military Law for the Practicing Historian," Southwest Texas State University

E. R. Milner, "Called to Glory: The 36th Division in World War I,"
North Texas State University

Diana Knox, "Seeds of Conflict: Arab Nationalism, Zionist Ideology, and
British Imperialism in Palestine, 1915 - 1948," Southern Methodist University

Commentator: Barry D. Powers, Midwestern State University

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Telephone (713) 845-7151

January 3, 1978

Mr. Paul F. Cecil
Department of History
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Dear Mr. Cecil:

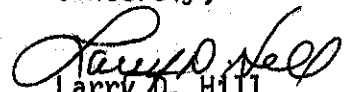
Please excuse my delay in responding to your letter of December 13, 1977. I was away from the campus much of the holiday season.

We are pleased that you are attracted to our Ph.D. program. And contrary to your impression, Professor Beaumont thinks that as a military historian you have real promise. His only reservation is that he doubts if he has the background and expertise to direct a dissertation in military law. He would be most enthusiastic about directing your work in numerous other topics, including military police work.

In answer to your question regarding the language requirement, the Graduate Faculty of this department would not be willing to waive the second language. But please be aware that if your committee (Prof. Beaumont and others) agrees, six semester hours of graduate work outside the major and minor fields of study may be substituted for one language. In most cases the committee will require that the six hours of course work be taken in a field that will give you a research tool -- ie., statistics, computer science, etc.

Your decision to pursue your research in the summer months is an admirable one. Early in the Spring semester our department will make decisions on graduate assistantships for the Fall semester, 1978. I shall be in touch with you as soon as we make a decision.

Sincerely,


Larry D. Hill
Graduate Advisor

January 5, 1978

Professor James W. Pohl
Department of History
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Dear Professor Pohl:

In response to your letter of December 5, I have enclosed a copy of my current vita. The amount of material on my military career may be more than you need, but under the circumstances, I decided to give you too much rather than too little.

I noted at the American Historical Association convention in Dallas that the chairman and commentator had both apparently been furnished copies in advance of the papers being presented. If this is customary, or you so desire, please inform me and I will prepare a copy for you.

Respectfully,

Paul F. Cecil

Vita

Paul Frederick Cecil was born and raised in the central Kansas town of Hutchinson. Following high school graduation in 1952, he was awarded a full academic scholarship to study Aerospace Engineering at the University of Kansas.

Cecil left the university after the 1953 fall term to enlist in the United States Air Force. Selected for pilot training under the Aviation Cadet Program, he received his wings and a second lieutenant's commission in 1955. For the next four years, Cecil served as a basic jet flight instructor, aircraft maintenance test pilot, and classroom lecturer, instructing in aircraft system engineering and safety. In 1958, he was awarded a Master's Degree of Instruction in Flying Training by the Air Training Command.

From 1959 to 1965, Cecil was assigned as aircraft commander of a nuclear bomber in the Strategic Air Command. During this time he served tours of duty in Spain, England, and Alaska. He also took part in the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962.

After a brief tour flying C-124 transports throughout the Pacific and Asiatic areas, Cecil was transferred to Viet Nam as a pilot and instructor with the 12th and 19th Air Commando Squadrons. During the Viet Nam tours, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and six Air Medals. The Vietnamese Air Force also decorated him with their Air Force Senior Pilot's Wings.

Returning to the United States in 1967, Cecil was once more assigned to the Air Training Command, where he served as instructor test pilot and aircraft maintenance officer in several assignments. In 1971, he was selected to join the staff of the Inspector General at San Antonio, Texas. As senior officer of the Maintenance Section, Logistics Division, Cecil's duties included inspection and evaluation of both course

content and classroom instruction at eleven bases and four technical training centers throughout the United States.

Throughout his service career, Cecil continued his formal education through correspondence and evening courses from the University of Kansas, Oklahoma State University, Mississippi State University, and the Armed Forces Institute. Following his retirement from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1974 he returned to college on a full-time basis. In 1975 Cecil graduated from Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education. Remaining in graduate school at Southwest Texas State, Cecil received a Master of Arts Degree in History in 1977. His master's thesis was a two hundred page study of the application of military law to the United States Army from 1776 to 1920.

While studying for his graduate degree, Cecil taught one-half time as an assistant instructor in the history department. He is currently employed as an instructor in the history department at Southwest Texas State University.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

ZIP CODE 77843

Office of

ADMISSIONS

Telephone (713) 845-1036

January 31, 1978

Mr. Paul Frederick Cecil
101 Furlong
Universal City, Texas 78148

Dear Mr. Cecil:

We are pleased to inform you that you have been granted admission to the Graduate College of Texas A&M University.

Registration for the Fall Semester 1978 will be conducted August 21-25, 1978.
Please report to the Exhibit Hall of the Rudder Tower on one of these days for
your registration packet. For fee purposes you have
been classified as a X Resident of Texas; Nonresident student; International
student.

As a prospective candidate for the Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in
History, it will be necessary for you to satisfy the
following conditions:

- ☐ Complete your present degree program.
- ☐ Submit to this office a final transcript indicating your degree when it has been conferred. If your degree is not conferred at the time of its completion, please request the Registrar or Graduate Dean to provide us with a letter certifying the completion of your degree. When your degree has been conferred, you must provide us with an official transcript.
- ☐ Other _____

Questions concerning your course of study or conditions of admission, if any, should be addressed to the head of your major department.

Yours very truly,

Loyd Taylor

Loyd Taylor
Associate Director of Admissions

cc: Department Head
Graduate Dean

8 February 1978

Lawrence J. Passek
Sr. Editor
Office of Air Force History (AFCHO)
Washington, D.C. 20314

Dear Larry:

Just a quick note to let you know that I received the publications and to tell you how grateful I am for them. Osur's work will be of great help to me and the Southeast Asia volume really bring back memories. As an ex-Ranch Hand I especially appreciated the pictures of the spray birds in operation, however, I've got some better slides of a couple of the wilder operations. One of these days, if someone else doesn't do a good job of it first, I plan to write a piece on the spray games over there. The "trash-hauling" operations of the C-123 transports is another idea waiting to ripen in the back of my head. For all I know, they may have been done already....I've been too busy working on military law and WWI to pay much attention to modern wars!

I will not be able to make the next AAF meeting. It will be too far and I am changing schools. I just got word that my application at Texas A&M has been accepted. This will give me a chance to work with Roger Beaumont, which I am looking forward to. You may be familiar with his work on elite forces and on the future of war.

Again, thanks for the publications and your note. I hope that I can return the favor sometime and that I can see you again at another meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

PFC:do

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		ACTION
1 TO Paul F. Cecil	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	DATE	COORDINATION
2	INITIALS	FILE
	DATE	INFORMATION
3	INITIALS	NOTE AND RETURN
	DATE	PER CON - VERSATION
4	INITIALS	SEE ME
	DATE	SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Enclosed are the publications I promised to send during our conversation following the session on blacks: *(AAA meeting in Dallas)*

1. Chronology, WWII
2. Illustrated History
3. Blacks in the Air Force During WW II

Good luck in your endeavors.

Larry

NOTE: Under separate cover...

Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM Lawrence J. Paszek, Sr. Editor Office of Air Force History (AFCHO) Washington DC 20314	DATE 18 Jan 1977
	PHONE 693-7428

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Department of HISTORY

Telephone (713) 845-7151

February 8, 1978

Mr. Paul Frederick Cecil
101 Furlong
Universal City, TX 78148

Dear Mr. Cecil:

This is to inform you that you have been awarded a Graduate Assistantship/~~Fellowship~~ through the Department of History for a period of nine months at the rate of \$401.00 per month.

The course load for a full-time graduate student is twelve (12) to sixteen (16) hours per semester or six (6) hours per six-week summer term. The maximum load for Graduate Assistants on one-half time employment is nine (9) to twelve (12) hours per semester or four (4) hours per six-week summer term. Recipients of fellowships and assistantships are normally required to register for the course loads specified above and are expected to devote about 20 hours per week to the work of the Department.

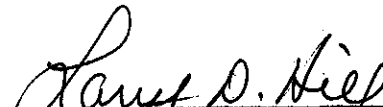
Normally, the Department of History will provide financial assistance to those graduate students granted an assistantship, either GAT (Graduate Assistant Teaching) or GANT (Graduate Assistant Non-Teaching), whose performance in their course work is satisfactory (no grade less than a "B") for one calendar year for the Master of Arts degree, and for two calendar years for those accepted into the Ph.D. program.

For those doctoral students whose course work is delayed by the teaching of at least six hours of the international students or regular sections of History 105 and 106, financial assistance will be undertaken for an additional semester.


Employment for one summer session at one-half the rate granted for the regular academic year is provided when need is demonstrated and funds are available, but the Department does not guarantee financial assistance for the summer.

Graduate assistants pursuing a Master of Arts degree must file an approved degree program with the Graduate College before the beginning of the second semester of course work, if courses are begun during the summer terms, then before more than twelve hours have been completed, or the assistantship may be terminated. Graduate assistants enrolled as doctoral students must file an approved degree program before the end of the second semester of course work, or the assistantship may be terminated.

This appointment is subject to periodic review and in no way commits the department to continue support beyond the terms indicated. If there are any questions concerning these arrangements, contact the Head, Department of History, or the Graduate Advisor. Please indicate your acceptance of this offer by signing one copy of this agreement and returning it to our office within ten days of its receipt by you.



Graduate Advisor, Dept. of History



Head, Department of History

Student's Signature