



Texas Tech University

Department of History

November 18, 1981

Paul F. Cecil
1207 Ashburn
College Station, Tx. 77840

Dear Dr. Cecil:

The search committee for U.S. military history has completed its preliminary screening and has determined on a short list of those whom we regard as the very best prospects. You are in that list. We therefore, very much want to interview you. We plan to conduct interviews at the AHA Convention in Los Angeles.

I have tentatively assigned to you the date and time of Monday, December 28 at 11:00. The interview will be in my room at the Bonaventure. You should inquire at the desk or locator for the room number.

Interviewing at this convention is the only convenient way we have of making further selections. Very shortly, after these interviews, by mid-January, we plan to choose from those interviewed the first-ranking candidate for further screening by the department.

We look forward to meeting you in Los Angeles.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin H. Newcomb".

Benjamin H. Newcomb
Chair, Search Committee
U.S. Military History

BHN/vp

7 November 1981

Dr. Benjamin H. Newcomb
Chair, Search Committee
Department of History
Texas Tech University
Box 4529/Lubbock, TX 79409

Dear Dr. Newcomb:

Enclosed please find copies of two unpublished articles, per your request of 11 September 1981.

By way of explanation, I would like to provide the members of your committee with the following information about these two articles:

The article on interwar naval limitation was written before publication of Robert Hoover's excellent monograph Arms Control: The Interwar Naval Limitation Agreements. I have not decided whether to revise and resubmit this work.

The article on the Waco incident was originally submitted to a legal journal, thus the extensive coverage of the witnesses' dialogue. I am currently revising this article for submission to a historical journal. The primary changes are less extended quotations, elimination of some detail, and a reduction in overall length. The events of the night in town (pp. 10-16) and the trial testimony (pp. 21-28) will be considerably shortened and clarified. The endnotes also will be pruned, and a new introduction suitable to the history journal will be prepared.

I will send you the introductory chapters to my dissertation under separate cover. Please let me know if you need any additional materials or information. I believe that you should have received the letters of recommendation and the Texas A&M transcript by this time.

Respectfully,

Paul F. Cecil

24 November 1981

Dr. Benjamin H. Newcomb
Chair, Search Committee
Department of History
Texas Tech University
Box 4529/Lubbock, TX 79409-4529

Dear Dr. Newcomb:

In reference to your letter of the 18th and our conversation yesterday, I am most gratified to be among those prospects to survive the preliminary screening for the military history position. I had not planned to attend the AHA Convention at Los Angeles, primarily for financial reasons, having paid for research trips to Alabama and Florida already this fall. I also have made a commitment for the last week in December which I feel obligated to fulfill (and the cancellation of which would cost me a significant consultant's fee). Thus, I must regretfully forgo the opportunity to interview with you on the 28th.

As I told you on the telephone, I would be more than happy to come to Lubbock anytime the first week of December or during the month of January, at your convenience. I continue to be particularly interested in the position at Texas Tech because it so nearly matches my area of academic interest and because of the comments I have heard concerning the excellent quality of your program. I hope that my inability to attend the AHA Convention will not significantly detract from my candidacy for the position in military history.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Paul F. Cecil