

FROM THE DESK OF
J. E. VOLONTE

June 30, 1974

Admiral E. R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Navy Department
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Bud:

Eleanore and I saw the news of your retirement. We send congratulations on a job well done and on completion of a career distinguished by outstanding accomplishments. We wish you the very best in whatever "second career" you choose.

We have somewhat lost touch with the Navy since our move to New Jersey, which intellectually is pretty far inland. However, we have closely followed your stewardship of the Navy and want to be counted among those who are aware that you gave the pendulum a good shove in the right direction at the right time. I am convinced there is no effective way to creep off dead center.

Our very best to you and Mouza. We hope that, if you are ever in a mood for a few days in an area where oars draw questioning looks, you will come visit us.

Best regards,



11 July 1974

Dear Joe,

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter. I am already experiencing the withdrawal symptoms of not working, but that will pass. The most difficult part of retirement for me will be the absence of those wonderful people who have made Navy life the most exciting thing in the world for me.

Mouza is still busy with the myriad details of moving out and moving in. We will be settled at our new address within a few days, but it will take a bit of time before she has things just so.

Our plans are flexible. We'll headquarter here in the Washington area for a while and see what develops. I'll go through a four years accumulation of papers, take on some speaking engagements if anybody is interested in hearing me, and just "free lance" in general. After all these years of navigating charted waters, the prospect of setting my own course is exciting.

Mouza and I send our very best to you and Eleanore. Please keep in touch.

Warm regards,

E. R. ZUMWALT, JR.

Mr. J. E. Volonte

Volonte, J.E.