

FAX From: Arnold Schecter, MD, MPH
SUNY Health Science Center, Clinical Campus at Binghamton
88 Aldrich Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903

Phone: (607)770-8521

To: Admiral E. Zumwalt

FAX: (607)770-8623

Date: June 17, 1994

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

Dr. Schecter asked me to send you any correspondence that deals with your upcoming trip to Vietnam. The following appears to be the most important. If you have any questions, I will be in the office today until 5 and Tuesday, June 21, from 10-5.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
Ruth Stento
Administrative Assistant

*P
for your info*

FAX From: Arnold Schecter, MD, MPH

SUNY Health Science Center, Clinical Campus at Binghamton

PHONE: (607)770-8521

FAX: (607)770-8623

88 Aldrich Avenue

Binghamton, NY 13903

DATE: June 16, 1994

TO: Virginia B. Foote, President

US-Vietnam Trade Council

FAX 202-546-4784

Dear Virginia:

I am trying to work with Admiral Zumwalt and his business colleagues who will accompany him (and me) on his first trip back to Vietnam since he commanded US Naval Forces during the Vietnam war.

I would like, if possible, to try to arrange, hopefully with your assistance, a reception and or dinner Saturday night, Sept 10, 1994 in Hanoi for Admiral Zumwalt sponsored by US business interests in Vietnam. Can you help with this. He would like to meet with business people, diplomats, NGOs and key Vietnamese government officials, presumably Foreign Ministry and Agent Orange health persons.

This will be the first trip back to Vietnam since the war, on this unofficial visit, of the highest ranking member of the US military. Admiral Zumwalt, a retired 4 star admiral, headed naval forces in Vietnam and then all naval forces from the Pentagon during the war.

The purpose of the trip is for the Admiral and I to explore Agent Orange research opportunities in the future, to be funded by the US government in Vietnam and by American scientists to help US Vietnam veterans and their families. In addition, the Admiral has personal interests and business interests in Vietnam.

We have already scheduled a press conference in Bangkok upon our departure and "60 Minutes" will accompany us on this trip. We are also encouraging other print coverage in Vietnam. It might be a good opportunity of the business community in Vietnam to show the world they exist, and interest others in future business. I understand there is a US Chamber of Commerce in Hanoi and in Ho Chi Minh City. I know nothing about them, but might they help arrange and sponsor such a meeting?

I will be in my office most afternoons next week. If you cannot reach me there, I might be working at home (607-772-6067). FAX is always good. Thanks for your anticipated help. Maybe we can help one another now and in the future.

Sincerely yours,



Arnold Schecter

FAX From: Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH

SUNY Health Science Center, Clinical Campus at Binghamton

PHONE: (607)770-8521

FAX: (607)770-8623

88 Aldrich Avenue

Binghamton, NY 13903

DATE: June 15, 1994

TO: Karen Kasmanski

Dear Ms. Kasmanski:

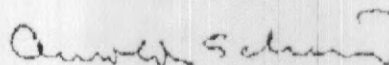
Good luck on your Vietnam adventure. I hope all goes as well as possible.

If you can check the availability of rooms for Admiral Zumwalt and party, including me, for the Rex Hotel (and prices and availability at the Continental) for a party of maybe up to 10 persons (if you wish to be kind to your lesser colleagues), but at least 5 persons, probably all singles, although maybe one double might be OK, for Sept 12 or 13 arrival until departure Sept 16, I would appreciate it. I generally try to book the least expensive single room at the Rex. I do not know if they remember but I have stayed there since 1984 on an almost yearly basis and Admiral Zumwalt will be the senior US military officer to visit Vietnam since the war ended in 1975 and the embargo ended in 1994.

Again, for your information, the hospitals and persons of interest with whom I have worked in HCMC are Dr. Nguyen Ngoc thi Phuong of Tu Du Ob-GYN Hospital, Dr. Phlet, Vice Director and laboratory director, Cho Ray Hospital, Dr. Hoa of Children's hospital 1 or 2, I forget which, Madame Dal of the Bibliothique (sp?) restaurant, the Oncology Hospital, Binh Dan ? Hospital and the HCMC Ministry of Health. Dr. Le Cao Dai in Hanoi is the senior Agent Orange researcher and Dr. Phuong is No 2 for the country, in my ranking.

If I can help you from the states or in Vietnam, please do not hesitate to fax. Usually there is someone here and unless I am in a place like Vietnam, faxes are communicated.

Again, good luck with your trip and best wishes.



Arnold Schechter

FAX From: Arnold Schecter, MD, MPH

SUNY Health Science Center, Clinical Campus at Binghamton

PHONE: (607)770-8521

FAX: (607)770-8623

88 Aldrich Avenue

Binghamton, NY 13903

DATE: June 15, 1994

TO: General Manager
Metropole Hotel
Hanoi, Viet Nam
011-84-4-266919

Dear Sir:

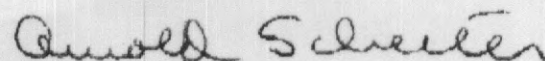
I will have the pleasure of returning to Hanoi again this Sept 9 and departing Sept 12 or 13 as the coordinating member of the party of Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr, the highest ranking US Military Officer to return to Vietnam since 1975. This fact finding trip will involve health issues, of Agent Orange and US Vietnam cooperation, possible business opportunities and other issues.

We expect to have major US press with us including 7 persons from CBS TV News "60 Minutes" program covering the trip.

On this important visit of the former senior US Naval figure from the 1960s and 1970, I would hope to show the Admiral and his party what I consider the finest hotel in Hanoi, the Metropole. I would also hope the US public would be introduced to your hotel again by the press contact.

Would it be possible to confirm a block of rooms for the Admiral and his party, and possibly also the CBS TV crew. There should be 5 in the Admiral's party and 7 in the TV crew? There may be several other major press persons accompanying us, but this is not confirmed.

Sincerely yours,



Arnold Schecter, MD, MPH
Professor of Preventive Medicine

FAX From: Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH
SUNY Health Science Center, Clinical Campus at Binghamton
88 Aldrich Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903

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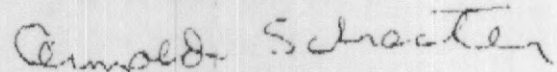
To: General Manager
Rex Hotel
Ho Chi Minh City
011-84-8-291-469

Dear Sir:

I will have the pleasure of returning to Ho Chi Minh City again this Sept 12 and departing Sept 16 as the coordinating member of Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt's party. The Admiral will be the highest ranking U.S. Military Officer to return to Vietnam since 1975. This fact finding trip will involve health issues, possible business opportunities and other issues. We expect to have 7 persons from the CBS News "60 Minutes" program covering the trip.

On this important visit, I hope to show the Admiral and his party what I consider the finest Hotel in Saigon, The Rex. Would it be possible to confirm 5 single rooms for the Admiral and his party? I hope it will be possible to stay at your delightful hotel again as I have done since first coming to Vietnam in 1984.

Sincerely yours,



Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH
Professor of Preventive Medicine
SUNY - Health Science Center
Clinical Campus at Binghamton
88 Aldrich Ave
Binghamton, NY 13903

FAX From: Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH

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PHONE: (607)770-8521

FAX: (607)770-8623

88 Aldrich Avenue

Binghamton, NY 13903

DATE: June 15, 1994

TO: Prof. Le Cao Dal

Dear Dr. Dal:

Thank you for your fax. I shall reply and add to the issues you discuss.

1. CIDSE is rapidly changing their staff in Vietnam and their agency to run the Vietnam branch of their office. Melba Vidal will be leaving, in day, I believe.
2. CIDSE decided to send me a check this month for only the dioxin analysis, not your computer equipment, which they will pay to you.
3. You have \$8,000 US waiting for you from CIDSE for computer, motor bike, etc as you requested and they decided. I will not receive that money by check because they assume you prefer to get it yourself in Hanoi, which seems reasonable. However, this means I do not have the money to buy you a computer and printer, but that CIDSE will pay it directly to you in Hanoi immediately, if I understand their fax and phone call to me. This is important, because the 10-80 Committee should make certain the money is transferred to you now. If, for any reason, you wish me to help you with computer equipment, money for that purpose should be transferred to me. I think you can probably buy what you need in Vietnam easier than I could bring it to you, except for small items like laptop computers or small dot matrix or ink jet printers. All computers now are 486 or Pentium chips (except Macintosh) at 33, 50, 66, 90 or 100 MH; RAM is usually 4 or 8 MB. Hard disks are 170-350 MB for laptops and 170 to 520 for desktops. VGA monitors have completely replaced EGA monitors, which are no longer sold here. For a 3.5 and a 5.25 " floppy drive, desk tops can have both, or laptops usually have built in 3.5 " drives and external 5.25" drives can be ordered for several hundred dollars extra-or a "file transfer" program and cables, like "Brooklyn Bridge" allows communication between different computers. Most computers in the USA are 120 volt and most elsewhere in the world are 220 Volt-that alone may make it a good idea to buy in Vietnam. Canon now makes a 360 by 360 black and also color ink jet printer for \$600, which some people like. Laserjet printers now start at \$500 and go up to \$1400 for bottom to top quality HP Laserjet 4 Plus (12 pages per minute, 25 MH RISC processor). I could carry a laptop computer in September, but these usually cost \$2,000 or more for one you would probably want, with color screen, removable hard disk, etc. If you wish, I will send you quotes, but you may prefer to use CIDSE money to buy yourself. I will help you in any way you wish, of course. But contact CIDSE IMMEDIATELY regarding terms of money to committee. This is very important. Contact me if you have any problems with this.
4. Admiral Zumwalt hopes very much to meet General Giap, and perhaps several other famous Vietnamese persons of historical stature such as Madame Binh etc. Will this be possible? Also, would you think it a good idea or not a good idea for for me to permit the US Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam to host a big reception for Admiral Zumwalt with business people, government officials and members of the diplomatic community invited? I should like to try to arrange a major reception Saturday, Sept 10, in Hanoi, and perhaps another in Ho Chi Minh City.
5. I suggested to CBS TV workers with the very famous program "60 Minutes" to contact you directly for assistance in their coming with us all of our trip and getting permission to do so. They will pay all our expenses for what is related to their filming but not for our planes and room and board. They also want to know the price of renting a large helicopter for one day in the south to film where Admiral Zumwalt and also his son served. Can you find out

the approximate price and number of people who could ride. They wish a total of up to 7 of them, at most, and Admiral Zumwalt and I will be part of a party of about 5, I believe. The CBS news crew also wants to rent the best quality new airconditioned vans to take all of us around in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and maybe one nearby province. We will need to carry 7 TV people, if all go along, you and I, a press person and the Admiral and his 4 or so companions. They would also like to get to know you, Dr. Phuong, Dr. Phlet during work and at dinner-they will treat, or pay-and others. They wish to go to one village, and Admiral Zumwalt hopes the one province would be the Cau Mau peninsula and the village of Nam Cam, probably as part of the helicopter trip, if that is not too expensive. A large bus may be ok also, or a helicopter and a bus. I suggested the press contact you directly first because describing the 10-80 Committee's work is of the utmost importance and I also do not want a problem like the one Margaret Greene of USA Today encountered where the press office did not help correctly and no story was written. When we worked together with CNN, we got excellent results.

6. Since Admiral Zumwalt will be the highest ranking American Military Officer to visit Vietnam since the war ended in 1975 and the embargo ended in 1994, we hope the publicity from his trip, and the congressional hearings to follow will finally lead to major US government funding for Vietnamese-US Agent Orange research, so careful planning and much high quality media coverage is essential. I hope to emphasize the wonderful Vietnamese cooperation on an area of mutual interest, Agent Orange research, and how well we can work together to solve this difficult health issue over the next 10 years.

7. Can we fly to Ho Chi Minh City from Hanoi in the late afternoon or evening of Sept 12? I think we should try to be in Ho Chi Minh City by the end of the day Sept 12, which means moving a large group to be able to continue work in the south.

8. Admiral Zumwalt has some involvement in a prosthetics group helping Vietnamese veterans and others which he hopes to visit, in addition to his Agent Orange work and his business work and his personal recollections. I think he would need two or three weeks to do what he hopes to do in one week, including a major TV production, but if you and I help him, and remember that the TV people will frequently spend money to save time, we should be able to make major accomplishments.

9. Admiral Zumwalt has a Vietnamese American friend or colleague who will be in Vietnam soon and who he wishes to accompany him as a translator and assistant. It might be a good idea for him to meet you, and if you wish it, Dr. Phuong and Dr. Phlet also perhaps. You should advise me of your thoughts and advice in this matter, and I will respect it and convey it to Admiral Zumwalt.

10. Since "60 Minutes" is but one US press outlet, although a very important one, I shall try to get other media coverage. I will notify you whether I can get the New York Times, perhaps with Mr. Shenon in Bangkok, to cover us, or AP in Hanoi to come with us, or Barbara Greene of USA Today or others.

11. Should I come a few days early before Sept 9 to assist you in coordinating our work together and going over the breast cancer pilot study? Or should I plan to enter Hanoi on the same plane as Admiral Zumwalt as a symbolic gesture, since I am a member of his party, and the American coordinator of his trip? I think Vietnamese people are very skillful in symbolism and communication and public relations (or what is sometimes called propaganda) so I will welcome your wise advice, as always. My dear friend and colleague. We are making progress. I look forward to seeing you and other friends again soon.

Arnold Schechter

10-80 Committee



NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR INVESTIGATION
OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CHEMICALS
USED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

Khuong Thuong - Dong Da
HANOI

Phone: (84-4) 522479

Fax : (84-4) 523514

Professor LE CAO DAI
Secretary General
10-80 Committee - HANOI

To: Mr. E.R. ZUMWALT
Admiral US Navy (Ret)

Hanoi, June 13, 1994

Dear Sir,

We have received your Fax dated May 27, 1994.

We highly appreciate your project to visit Vietnam next September, you and your delegation will be welcomed in our country.

We hope that your visit will push forward the researches on Agent Orange issue, strengthen the economic relations and so, contribute to a better understanding between scientists and people of our countries. We will try our best to make your trip successful.

1/ I am enclosing our proposal for a tentative schedule of your trip. Concerning the program of Sunday September 11 - you had mentioned in your Fax a meeting with the Minister of Commerce - I wonder if you already had an appointment with him - or have we to arrange it? Please let me know if you agree with our program.

2/ Concerning the CV of your delegation - it seems to us that you had omitted 2 persons mentioned in your previous Fax of May 2: Mrs. MOUZA O. ZUMWALT and Mr. LA VAN TRAN. Also, please complete them so we could arrange the formalities for whole group.

3/ We are also enclosing the hotel fee of some good hotels in Hanoi and HoChiMinh City - Please confirm your requirements so we could book in advance.

With the hope of meeting you soon - and my warmest regards - I remain.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Lu Cao Dai.

fax to Binghamton, NY (607) 770-8623



Associated Press

Peter J. Eng
NEWS EDITOR

May 28, 1994

Dear Arnold,

Thank you for your fax, and sorry for the delay in replying but I wanted to wait until I got some answer on the press conference. (there isn't yet) I have asked the Foreign Correspondents Club here to arrange a date and time for Zumwalt when he returns from Vietnam. I will let you know as soon as that is arranged.

Of course, in Vietnam itself we plan to give this good coverage. I have already sent word to our office in Hanoi.

In the meantime, I would like to write a story saying that the trip is on. I recall you had been trying to arrange this for quite a few years. Could you please tell me where and when I can reach Zumwalt for a short telephone interview over the next few days? If for any reason he does not want to be interviewed, I would appreciate more details about the trip if you could provide them.

Thanks very much,

Peter Eng



FROM: Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH
FAX: (607) 770-8623
Phone: (607) 770-8521 or 8522

88 Aldrich Ave.
Binghamton, NY 13903

DATE:
TO: May 20, 1994

Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Thi Phuong, Director
Tu Du Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital
Ho Chi Minh City

Dear Dr. Phuong:

I am trying to schedule a major trip whose purpose will be to raise US government funding for Agent Orange research in Vietnam.

Admiral Zumwalt and I and some of his relatives (wife and one son) and business colleagues will try to spend a short time around his schedule in Vietnam and then try to communicate with the US public and congress for that purpose.

Admiral Zumwalt has proposed flying into Hanoi on Friday, Sept 9, 1994, and then to Ho Chi Minh City Tuesday Sept. 13, and departing Ho Chi Minh City for Bangkok on Friday Sept. 16.

Would these times allow him to meet with you in Ho Chi Minh City or Hanoi, and also permit him to tour your hospital as a place for future US government supported Agent Orange research work?

Are there other places and people we should visit. Time will be very short, but we can work long hours, I believe.

Dr. Dal is aware of the trip, and has extended the invitation. Dr. Dal also asked concerning whether there were funds for him and another person to travel to the south. I expect he will be with us, but Admiral Zumwalt is in charge of funding this trip.

Please let me know if we can meet with you at your hospital at these times. We may also try to have major press coverage with us and certainly afterwards.

With best wishes to you and your family (especially from my wife and also daughter) and to your colleagues in Vietnam and mine, I remain

Sincerely yours,
Arnold Schechter
Arnold Schechter