

FAX From: Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH

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TO: Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Jr.

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

I am writing with respect to the Sept. trip to Vietnam.

1. Unless you have a special reason for wishing to go through the Foreign Ministry, which usually does a very poor, that is, very non scientific, job of Agent Orange tours to Vietnam, it seems to me better that Dr. Le Cao Dai of the 10-80 Committee be our host. He can see that the entire trip is scientific and not propaganda. He can also add on other areas you may wish to cover, if any.

2. I think we will have to work hard with the media to establish the scientific opportunity in Vietnam for first rate Agent Orange and dioxin health studies. If we coordinate who in the press we would like to have with us, where we will go in Vietnam, and who we will meet, and who we might wish to avoid, what our press type fact sheet should say, and which TV programs we would like to appear on after return, we should be able to better coordinate the campaign for Congress and the President to want to fund the work. With your permission, I should like to begin planning specific reporters, shows, network appearances etc to communicate the trip and the scientific need for the work in Vietnam.

You and I might wish to invision how we can maximize the two of us. You are extremely well known and respected and your personal role and tragedy with respect to Agent Orange is also very well known. With respect to my contribution, I believe I have the knowledge and experience in the dioxin and Vietnam scientific and medical side to give what I see as our team the scientific credibility we need, and the tie in with the IOM recommendation in their final report vis a vis Vietnam Agent Orange health research, which was originally my suggestion to them.

3. Should we be doing anything to try to get the veteran community to organize a letter writing campaign in order to have funds in the next fiscal year budget?

4. Last, will you be able help raise funds for the trip? I estimate and budget usually about \$3,000 to \$4,000 per trip.

I can usually be reached at home in the AM (607-772-6067) and work after ca 10:30 to noon.

With warmest regards, I remain

