

# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## THE VIETNAM CENTER

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### Vietnam Center Advisory Board Meeting of 29 September 1999 Minutes

**Present:** Col. Don McCullough, Col. Sanford Hunt, Brig. Gen. A. R. Brownfield, Prof. Douglas Pike, Mr. Khanh Le, Ms. Alison Honig, Dr. Leslie Cullen, Dr. Ronald Frankum, Mr. Curtis Peoples, Lt. Col. Larry Goldston, Mr. Bill Tynan, Ms. Taylor Bloom, Mr. David Shelly, Ms. Lynne Hudson, Mr. Jim Laible, Mr. Phil Price, Ms. Tanya Jones, Lt. Col. David Reid, Capt. Charlie Stallings, Dr. Don Walker, Mr. William Fitzgerald

**Apologies:** Dr. Sankar Chatterjee, Dr. David Schmidly, Dr. John Buesseler, Brig. Gen. John Arick, Greg Westmoreland, Dr. Phieu N. Tran

**Introductions:** Taylor Bloom, Steve Maxner (in absentia), Cody Waldrop (HSC), Lynne Hudson (HSC), James Laible (HSC)

**Admiral Zumwalt:** Hospitalized on 22 September. The Doctors have discovered a malignancy on his lung and they will be removing the entire lung.

**First report of FY 00:** Expenditures for FY 99 were \$230.00 shy of total revenue. This is well within University Standards.

**Fund Raising:**

- a. Funding requested from the Plum Foundation for scholarships for Vietnamese student tuitions has yielded 100 2-year scholarships.
  - i. Recipients must meet with visiting Scholars from Texas Tech University
  - ii. Recipients must be the child or grandchild of Vietnam War era veterans (NVA or ARVN)
- b. We have received a \$5,000.00 grant for translation of American History text into VN (Helen Jones).

**Formation of 501(c)3 for gifts and insurance policy:** Draft policy in hand for James R. Reckner. The board to manage the funds separate from University to support the continuance of the Vietnam Center. CPA firm is Mason Warner, \$3140.00/yr premium.

**Archive Report:**

- a. New Personnel
  - i. Dr. Reckner introduced Mr. Cody Waldrop, who is being hired by TTUHSC as a full-time staff member to develop medical assistance programs for Vietnamese universities. Mr. Waldrop has medical experience and is completing an MBA in Health Organization Management at Texas Tech. Vice President for Managed Care, Col. Jim Laible discussed his vision of the probable development of the medical exchange program between Texas Tech University and Vietnamese university medical students.
  - ii. Mr. Stephen Maxner, Assistant Archivist (Oral Historian).

VIETNAM CENTER NATIONAL COUNCIL  
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Chairman  
General William C. Westmoreland, Hon. Bui Dlem  
Hon. William P. Bundy, Professor Douglas Pike  
Colonel Roger H.C. Donlon, M.H.

THE VIETNAM ARCHIVE  
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b. **New Materials**

- i. Joel Halpern: University of Washington: collection of studies received.
- ii. William Fitzgerald: 2 linear feet to the VHPA materials received (this is 400-450 boxes of material).
- iii. The Dingman collection delayed pending packaging and shipping.
- iv. Dr. William Duiker: collection of publications regarding No. Vietnamese in progress.
- v. Bookstore in Kanda (Tokyo), Japan has donated a number of hard-to-find books to Prof. Pike, of which he in turn has donated a major portion to the archive.

**Korean War Archive:** Dr. Reckner reported on the efforts to acquire Korean War Archive from the Center for the Study of the Korean War in Independence, MO. In order to assist with this development a Korean War Committee was established comprised of VN Center Advisory Board members who are also Korean War veterans: Col. John A. Buessler (Chairman), Maj. Gen. Dudley E. Faver, Brig. Gen. A. R. Brownfield, Col. Sanford Hunt, and Professor Douglas Pike.

Chancellor Montford and Admiral Zumwalt have expressed strong support for acquisition of the Korean War Archive which, at least initially, will come under the wing of the Vietnam Center.

**Trips:** Dr. Reckner (to Washington, 14-17 September). Visited with Vietnamese Ambassador Le Van Bang, former South Vietnamese Ambassador Bui Diem, Cassidy and Associates, Admiral & Mrs. Zumwalt, Vice Admiral & Mrs. Tidd, Congressman Sam Johnson and Congressman Larry Combest's staff. At each meeting, discussed issues relating to the Vietnam project. Support for the "Virtual Vietnam Archive" funding is "soft" with Cassidy & Associates and Combest's office because of low priority assigned by Texas Tech. Congressman Sam Johnson continues strong support. Reckner raised issue of arranging for US Navy port visit to Vietnam to deliver books and medical equipment currently being collected by Texas Tech. 16-17 September, attended SecNav Advisory Subcommittee meeting.

- Travel Plans:**
- a. Dr. Ron Frankum and Mr. Steve Maxner to attend the B-Troop, 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 17<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment reunion in Las Vegas, NV on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dr. Frankum will present a speech about the Vietnam Center project and the Vietnam Archive. There is the possibility of acquiring the contents of their archive to be added to the Center's holdings.
  - b. Dr. Ron Frankum, with Mr. Khanh Le, will return to Vietnam at the end of November. Dr. Frankum will offer library and archival management courses in Hue, Ho Chi Minh City, and Can Tho. Mr. Cody Waldrop will accompany the party and will visit medical schools and hospitals.
  - c. Professor Pike was in Washington D.C. from Sept. 22- 24, where he attended a U.S. Government conference entitled "Insurgent-Counterinsurgent Struggles." He gave a presentation entitled "Analyzing Insurgency: Evaluation of Insurgent/Counterinsurgent Performance. Professor Pike will attend an international conference on Vietnam in Paris October 5-12, 1999.

**Outreach to Vietnamese Americans Committee meeting in October:** Dr. Leslie Cullen will be heading up planning for the 2000 conference.

**Visit by Tran Bach Dang and Nguyen Huu Chau:** Mr. Dang was accompanied by his daughter Ms. Tran Hong Anh, and his translator Mr. Nguyen Van Quang. Mr. Dang spoke at Dr. Reckner's graduate course. He is also committed to histories of the Vietnamese generals who served in the war era. Mr. Nguyen Huu Chau joined the delegation a few days later. Mr. Chau is the son of the founder of the Vietnamese National Liberation Front, Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho.

**Other Business:** Lt. Col. Larry Goldston proposed that the Vietnam Center consider acquiring a gutted mobile home for conversion to a traveling display facility for the Center/Archive, to send to veteran group reunions and for outreach to public schools.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 27, 1999 at 3:30 p.m.