



## CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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July 5, 1996

Dr. Daniel Ellsberg  
3801 Connecticut Ave., NW, #146  
Washington, DC 20008

A handwritten signature, likely of the sender, in dark ink.

Dear Dr. Ellsberg:

I don't know whether you remember me. We met at the one-day conference on Mr. McNamara's book, at the Army & Navy Club in Washington last November, and sat beside each other during some of the presentations.

The Center I direct at Texas Tech University conducts a regular program of conferences and symposia on various aspects of the Vietnam War. In 1995 we cohosted with the Army War College a two day Vietnam Roundtable which examined Harry Summers' thesis. Earlier this year we hosted our second triennial Vietnam symposium, a copy of the program of which is included in the attached newsletter.

We are currently planning a two day conference on teaching Vietnam, to be held in our new headquarters building on 18 - 19 April 1997. As the opening sessions of the conference, we are inviting leading individuals representing all points of view to speak for about half an hour in response to the following question: "From your point of view, what should we teach about the Vietnam War?"

At present, Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., has agreed to speak from the point of view of the American military. We have invited former South Vietnamese Prime Minister Air Vice Marshall Nguyen Cao Ky to speak from the South Vietnamese perspective, and Lieutenant General Pham Hong Son, PAVN (General Giap's brother-in-law) to speak from the North Vietnamese point of view.

On behalf of the Vietnam Center Advisory Board, I would like to invite you also to speak, presenting your views on what we should teach. The Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict will, of course, cover all of your travel and accommodation expenses should you choose to participate.

Following these opening presentations, the conference will, over two days, have presentations from a wide range of academics examining various aspects of teaching

VIETNAM CENTER NATIONAL COUNCIL  
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (RET), Chairman  
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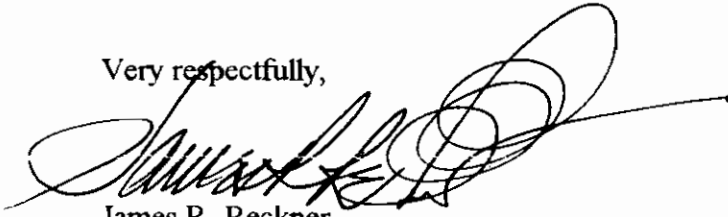
Dr. Daniel Ellsberg

Vietnam in American high schools and universities. The specific details of this portion of the program are being worked out by a committee of academic specialists.

We intend to use this conference to formally open our new \$8.8 million archive building and also our \$3.5 million International Cultural Center, which will provide office suites for the Vietnam Center and state-of-the-art meeting facilities for all of our future conferences and symposia.

Hoping that you will be able to take time from your normal schedule to join us for this important conference on teaching Vietnam, I remain,

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James R. Reckner', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

James R. Reckner

Director

encl: Vietnam Center newsletter  
Vietnam Archives holdings list

xc: Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.