

2/24/96

Dear Adm Zumwalt:

I will definitely be in Subbar this April for the seminar but the reason for the letter is the naming of a new class ship, the LSD-17.

I have had a few inquiries regarding the name Mekong Delta for the first ship. While I wholeheartedly approve of the name for a Navy ship, I do not concur that it should apply to the first ship of a new class. The Amphibious ships are part of our Navy/Marine Corps team and therefore the first ship of the class should bear a name more appropriate with the Marine: such as the LPH-2 Iwo Jima, LHA-1 Tarawa. As I recall the LHA-5 was originally called Danang but was changed to Peleliu. I do not have any apt to ground

but I just don't feel like the lead
ship of a new class should bear the name
ess Nelson Delta.

My best to Mrs Zimmet. See
you on Sabbath.

Warm regards,

Art Price



E. R. ZUMWALT, JR.
ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY (RET.)

March 3, 1996

EW

RADM Arthur W. Price, Jr., USN (Ret.)

Dear Art:

I certainly understand your feelings with regard to the naming of an amphibious ship for the Mekong Delta. There apparently is a lot of support for the name, because so many brown water sailors associate themselves with that name.

I am advised that it is too far along to change the course at this point, but I will let Admiral Boorda know of your personal views.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Lubbock.

Sincerely,

Bud

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