

**CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE
VIETNAM CONFLICT**

**Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX 79409-1013
Fax: (806) 742-1060**

FAX COVER SHEET

Date: 20 December 1995

To: Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. Fax: (703) 528-5795

From: James R. Reckner

Subject: Invitation to Lt. Gen. Le Van Duong (PAVN)

Number of pages (including cover sheet): Four

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*Adm
go ahead & sign
this second original
in case copy by mail
does not reach him*

*P
go ahead w/lt
mail as requested
also give Jim 2 copy w/note
"Please deliver in perso m
to back up the one we sent
via mail*

2

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

Box 41013 / Lubbock, Texas 79409-1013 / (806) 742-3742, 742-3744 / Fax: (806) 742-1060

December 20, 1995

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Admiral:

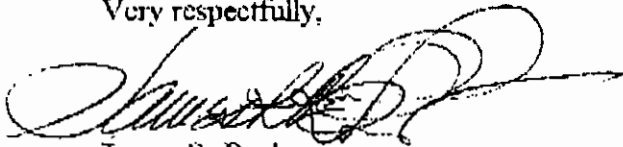
I received a fax from Douglas Pike yesterday saying that Lt. Gen. Duong has asked us to "send him an invitation and he would see (meaning get a Politburo okay)." I therefore enclose a draft letter of invitation, which I respectfully request that you send him via air mail. (We don't have a fax number for him.)

Our good friend and supporter, Congressman Larry Combest, who represents Lubbock and currently is Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, has been very active in our behalf of late. We have recently learned that he apparently has convinced the CIA to release approximately 15,000 Vietnam-era documents to our Archive. A preliminary survey of the list of documents suggests that this might amount to as much as 300,000 pages of information. Mr. Combest is now pressuring the Smithsonian to see what they might be able to part with.

On the advice of one of our Advisory Board members with connections inside the Perot family, we have reduced our request to Perot to \$5,000,000. We are told that that is exactly the amount the Perots are expecting us to ask for. Further, apparently we have "tremendous credibility" with the Perots as a result of the National Council membership and also public reporting of our project which has appeared in the *Dallas Morning News*. We are advised that this first financial request might be the beginning of a continuing financial relationship with the Perots. We will have our proposal to the Perots by 15 January, and, of course, a copy to you and General Westmoreland.

Merry Christmas to you and Mrs. Zumwalt.

Very respectfully,



James R. Reckner
Director

VIETNAM CENTER NATIONAL COUNCIL
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (RET), Chairman
General William C. Westmoreland, Hon. William E. Colby
Hon. William P. Bundy, Hon. Bui Diem, Professor Douglas Pike

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ARCHIVE OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT
Texas Tech Library
Lubbock, Texas 79409-0002 (806) 742-3758
Fax: (806) 742-1920

D - R - A - F - T

Lieutenant General Le Van Duong
Deputy Director
National Defense College
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
Nghia Do town
Tu Liem District
Ha Noi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Dear General Duong:

I take this opportunity to cordially invite you to attend the Vietnam Symposium, "After the Cold War: Reassessing Vietnam," which is scheduled to be held at the Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, 17 - 20 April 1996.

The program for the symposium includes many of the prominent American decision makers of the war and senior military officers, along with a wide range of American and foreign academics studying Vietnam. During my September, 1994, visit to Hanoi I had the pleasure of inviting General Vo Nguyen Giap to attend the symposium. I would be equally pleased should you also be able to attend. Our goal is to begin a constructive dialogue, particularly between American and Vietnamese military officers and academics studying military history. The Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict at Texas Tech, for which I have served as Chairman of the Advisory Board since the Center's inception in 1989, will, of course, cover all expenses related to your travel and accommodations while attending the symposium.

We would welcome your visit, too, to discuss a proposal to host a meeting exclusively between American and Vietnamese military historians and senior officers at Texas Tech University in 1997. The Vietnam Center is prepared to fund travel and accommodations for approximately six Vietnamese military historians and senior military officers to meet with a similar number of American military historians and senior officers in what we are calling a "Vietnam Workshop." Our idea is that we might agree in advance to

discuss one particular campaign or period of the war, and then Vietnamese and Americans would present papers on specific aspects of the campaign as understood from their points of view. After each side presents formal papers, there would be a period of informal discussion and exchange of ideas.

This proposal enjoys the active support of the Chief of Military History for the U.S. Army, Brigadier General John Mountcastle. We believe it offers an excellent opportunity to begin a constructive and cooperative dialogue between Vietnamese and American military historians and officers, and will contribute to the normalization of relations between our two nations.

I would be very pleased to learn of your response to our invitation to attend the 1996 symposium and also your views about our proposed "Vietnam Workshop" for 1997.



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

December 29, 1995

Lieutenant General Le Van Duong
Deputy Director
National Defense College
Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Nghia Do Twon
Tu Liem District
Hanoi
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

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Sincerely,



E. R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Admiral, USN (Ret.)

1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 3105
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Tel: (703) 527-5380
Fax: (703) 528-5795

bcc: James R. Reckner, Ph.D.

Jim,

Please deliver this copy in person to back up the original we sent via mail.

Dad