

# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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June 18, 1994

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.  
1500 Wilson Blvd., Suite 641  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Admiral:

At the end of a week of very intense activity regarding the Vietnam Center and related programs, I would like to briefly summarize progress:

a. **State Budget Line Item.** This project was completed on Friday and submitted. The university will reprint my work on the appropriate forms and provide me a copy, which I will, in turn, provide to you. In essence, we asked for nearly \$500,000 for 1996 and \$200,000 for each subsequent year.

b. **Pike Collection.** Doug Pike tells me he has started packing it, and that it should be ready for shipment by mid- to late August.

c. **Contemporary Indochina Project.** Dean Winer has accepted my proposal to establish a multi-disciplinary approach, and to request additional funding to accept Pike's contemporary Indochina archive and continue to expand it. We will be having a meeting on that topic in the near future. We have added \$3,000 per annum for periodicals in order to provide up-to-date research materials for this project. Journals will include *FBIS*, which will in itself cost several hundred dollars per year.

d. **Indochina Chronology.** This is the quarterly journal that Pike publishes. Pike has indicated that if his archive goes, publication of this journal will go with it. We have accepted that idea and added a few thousand dollars to our budget and an additional research assistant to deal with that.

e. **International Cultural Center.** The Center director has responded to these developments by allocating additional space to the Vietnam Center and also allocating a portion of the Center's library as a reading room for contemporary Indochina periodicals for the new group, which I have tentatively designated the "Contemporary Indochina Studies Group." This group, as I envision it, will function under our Center, and will channel graduate students from the various disciplines into thesis and doctoral research into the relevant aspects of contemporary Indochina.

VIETNAM CENTER ADVISORY BOARD  
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (RET)  
Chairman

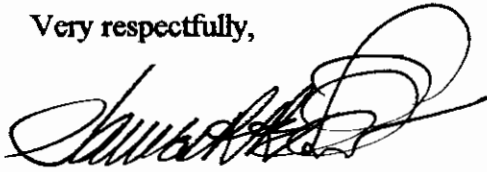
VIETNAM ARCHIVE  
Texas Tech Library  
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f. Perot. We will continue formulating our approach to Ross Perot. A hefty sum from him (say, \$5,000,000) would really put a fire under the entire program and bring us to unquestioned "world class."

g. Myself. In the new budget, I have allocated myself a 50% reduction in teaching load, and half pay throughout the summer months. I cleared this with the Dean. If the budget goes through, then, I will have infinitely more time to devote to the Vietnam Center and all of the programs that are developing.

h. Ambassador Diem. In discussions with Ambassador Diem, he intimated that he would enjoy an opportunity to teach at Texas Tech for a semester. While I offered no encouragement at the time, I have appealed to the Dean for funding to invite him to Tech for the Spring semester of 1995. As of Thursday, she said she was actively considering that proposal and would let me know soon. If we could have Ambassador Diem present a course on Vietnam as Vietnamese history during the same semester that I will be presenting a course on the American experience in Vietnam, our students will have an excellent learning experience. If, at the same time, we host the Army War College conference on the Summers thesis, then that will be a remarkably good piece of timing. I will keep you advised about this.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James R. Reckner', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

James R. Reckner