



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

AUG 13 1993

Department of History

Box 41013
Lubbock, TX 79409-1013
(806) 742-3744

10 August 1993

d

Dear Admiral:

The attached report on the Pike Collection
is forwarded as per my fax of this date.

Very respectfully,

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

James R. Reckner



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

Box 4529/Lubbock, Texas 79409-1013 / (806) 742-3742, 742-3744

REPORT OF VISIT TO INDOCHINA ARCHIVE, BERKELEY

James R. Reckner

The following observations are submitted concerning the visit of Dr. David Murrah and Dr. James Reckner to the Indochina Archive at the University of California (Berkeley) on Thursday, June 17, 1993.

Dr. Murrah and I were met by Professor Douglas Pike, the Director of the Indochina Archive and the anticipated donor of the collection to Texas Tech University. During the visit, Pike gave a detailed outline of the organization of the collection and an extensive tour of the physical layout of the Indochina Archive, which is currently housed in spacious facilities in a former typewriter factory approximately two miles from the Berkeley campus.

Dr. Murrah will provide a detailed summary of his estimate of the extent of the collection and probable space and personnel requirements for housing and maintaining the collection. I will limit my comments to the value of acquisition of the collection for Texas Tech and the Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict.

Of what value would the Pike Collection be to Texas Tech? It seems to me that acquisition of this extensive and widely known collection would serve a number of purposes:

1. Research Materials for Growing Graduate Research Program. Acquisition of the collection, which has been described as "the nearest thing the country has to a central depository of research materials" on the Vietnam War, would provide a remarkably rich research resource for graduate students currently studying Vietnam-related topics at Texas Tech University. At this point, we have one doctoral candidate currently committed to a Vietnam dissertation; a second is transferring from Texas A & M University to begin his program in the Fall. A third individual has indicated his desire to begin a Vietnam-related doctoral program here in the Fall of 1995. In addition to the above, we currently have two masters students preparing theses on Vietnam topics, and a graduate Vietnam course to be offered this Fall has already filled beyond capacity with 18 students. Although I have no substantive information to support the assertion, Professor Pike claims that our Vietnam graduate studies program is the most active one in the United States today.

2. Support for Undergraduate Studies. In addition to graduate studies, the History Department regularly offers undergraduate courses in the History of the Vietnam War. These courses, which are consistently oversubscribed, require formal term papers using primary source materials. The addition of the Pike Collection would significantly enlarge the scope of paper topics which might be attempted by undergraduate students; further, the presence of a first-rate research facility on campus doubtless would encourage some of these students to continue on to graduate studies in Vietnam-related fields.

3. **The Pike Collection as a Catalyst for Growth.** On the larger scale, the acquisition of this premier collection would do much to establish Texas Tech University as one of the principal research institutions dealing with Vietnam. It would attract serious researchers to Texas Tech, and, equally importantly, would attract further contributions of papers to the Vietnam Archive. The Pike Collection as the centerpiece of the Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University, I am certain, would serve as a magnet drawing other collections of Vietnam-related materials to the Archive. Success breeds further success; the acquisition of the Pike Collection would represent a major step forward in developing the Vietnam Archive, would establish the image on the national level of Texas Tech University as a principal (possibly the principal) research center, and would encourage other holders of Vietnam-related documents to donate them to Texas Tech's Vietnam Archive.

4. **Future Development of the Pike Collection.** While the existing collection is arranged topically and chronologically within each topic, there remains considerable opportunity to improve accessibility of the material contained therein. No catalog of the materials currently exists. Although the development of such a computer-based catalog would be a major undertaking, it would be of inestimable value to future researchers. Further, such a catalog would greatly enhance the utility of the extensive microfilm publication developed from the Pike Collection while at the same time identifying material which is not included in that microfilm publication.

There are other elements of the Pike Collection which will require further processing in order to make the materials accessible. Some 40 boxes of unorganized newspaper clippings need to be reviewed and relevant clippings preserved and catalogued. A run of the Vietnam years of the *New York Times* currently stored in boxes might be clipped and filed, thereby preserving and focusing *New York Times* coverage of all aspects of the war for the convenience of the researcher.

Other newspapers, incomplete series, include *Nhan Dan*, North Vietnam's principal paper, and *Quan Doi Nhan Dan*, the official organ of the North Vietnamese Army. These and a number of South Vietnamese newspapers as well as interrogations of Viet Cong defectors and other documents are in Vietnamese. While they present no particular difficulties for the non-Vietnamese speaking archivist, their effective exploitation will require an historian with significant Vietnamese language skills. If this collection is acquired, and bearing in mind the Archive's intention to acquire Cornell University's Echols Collection in microfilm [which includes a significant number of Vietnamese-language monographs] when funds become available, it would be very useful to contemplate hiring an Asian historian with Vietnamese language skills and a focus on Indochina whenever Professor Key Ray Chong decides to retire.

5. **Conclusion.** Acquisition of the Pike Collection offers an unparalleled opportunity for Texas Tech University to establish a credible national-level research profile in an area of continuing national interest. As the recent Vietnam conference has indicated, an active, well-organized program in this field will attract academics of the first order as well as nationally recognized personalities to our program. That such a program will also attract continuing acquisitions from the Vietnam Archive is borne out by the offers of Ambassador William E. Colby and Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt to donate their papers to the Vietnam Archive.

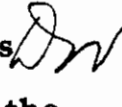
Although the donor offers the collection *gratis*, its acquisition will not be without cost to the University. Shipping the materials to Lubbock presents but the first cost; adequate space must be found, or, ideally, developed in conjunction with plans for adequate housing for the Southwest Collection. And provision of adequate staff to develop and service the collection will be an essential ongoing expense. All of these topics fall within the purview of Dr. Murrah's report.

The University's response to the offer of the Pike Collection requires a major decision concerning the future of the Vietnam program at Texas Tech University. If the University chooses to acquire this collection, it will be necessary to make a financial commitment to the program which has thus far been lacking. The program, in my view, offers Texas Tech a unique opportunity to establish its credentials in an important niche of academic research. While this cannot be done without expense, the expenses related to it are relatively modest, and will be far outweighed by the long-term benefits to the university.

Southwest Collection
Box 41041
Lubbock, TX 79409-1041
(806) 742-3749
FAX (806) 742-0496

DATE: July 28, 1993

TO: Don Haragan, Executive Vice President and Provost

FROM: David Murrah, Associate Director of Libraries 

RE: Report of Visit to the Indochina Archives at the University of California at Berkeley

Prof. Jim Reckner and I visited the Indochina Archive at the University of California at Berkeley on June 17, 1993. We conducted an extensive visit with the Archive's founder and director, Douglas Pike, toured the facility, and viewed the collections.

Prof. Reckner has completed a separate report and it is attached as Attachment A.

Our findings coincide with my report to you of May 27. The collection is under Pike's control, although the University of California has been providing housing and financial support (approximately \$100,000 per year) for the past ten years.

Pike has been trying to get UC to make up its mind as to whether it will continue support of the Indochina Archive after he retires. In late 1991, UC engaged Southern Illinois University's Vietnam scholar, William S. Turley, to survey the Indochina Archive and to make a recommendation on its future. Pike furnished us with a copy of that report, entitled, "Assessment of the Indochina Studies Program and Archive: University of California at Berkeley." It is attached (Attachment B), and serves as a definitive overview of the entire Indochina Archive.

Turley's report recommends that UC keep and maintain the Archive, but to date, the University has not given Pike its answer. Therefore, he has made overtures to Johns Hopkins University, George Washington University, the Hoover Institute, and, on a limited basis, to Texas Tech, in an effort to find a suitable home if UC no longer continues the program.

Pike's offer to Texas Tech is only to give us a portion of the overall Archive. He proposed to Prof. Reckner and I that we take only the material that deals with the history of Vietnam War. Therefore, the balance of this report and my recommendations will pertain only to that material, which Pike describes as "The History of the Vietnam War Collection."

Description of the History of the Vietnam War Collection (HVWC)

The HVWC constitutes approximately two million items, or 1400 linear feet of material. It is primarily a gigantic clippings file, because it is comprised mainly of printed material gathered by Pike beginning with his work as a Foreign Service Officer in South Vietnam in 1960. Since that time, Pike has continually added to the collection by collecting Vietnam-related reports, pamphlets, brochures, and other material. Much of the collection consists of the publications of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), an arm of the CIA, and of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), published by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Major portions of the Collection have been microfilmed. Beginning in 1969, the federal government provided funding to microfilm the Collection, and by 1975, about 40 percent of the Collection had been filmed. However, that project was scrapped when the War ended, and in 1987, University Microfilm International (UMI) began refilming the Collection and marketing it under the title "History of the Vietnam War" (see attachment C). That project has only recently been completed, and approximately 60 sets of microfiche have been sold to libraries around the world. However, only four academic libraries in the U. S. have purchased the Collection, and only one currently has the complete microfiche set (Middle Tennessee State U.).

However, Pike continued to add to the Collection even after it had been filmed, and, according to his estimation, it has grown by 20 to 25 percent since the filming was begun.

Advantages of TTU's Acquisition of the Original HVWC

1. The HVWC is, as Turley describes, "the nearest thing this country has to a central depository of research materials" on the Vietnam War, and, as Prof. Reckner points out in his Report, "would provide a remarkably rich research resource for graduate students currently studying Vietnam-related topics."
2. As Prof. Reckner indicates, Texas Tech's possession of the HVWC would serve as a catalyst for attracting other collections as well as researchers. And, it would help recruit potential graduate students as well.
3. The Collection also contains unique materials no longer available from any other source.
4. Because researchers strongly prefer to work with original documents rather than with microfiche, Tech's possession of the original Collection would attract researchers to the Tech campus to use the Collection.

Disadvantages of Acquisition

1. Most of the Collection has been filmed and is available through commercial purchase at a cost of approximately \$22,000 for the entire microfiche set. As previously mentioned, approximately 60 sets have been sold worldwide. The set is currently being acquired by four academic and four public libraries in the United States. The University of Oklahoma is the closest purchaser to Texas Tech.
2. Neither the original Collection nor the microfiche set is cataloged in any detail; UMI has prepared some helpful guides to the fiche set, but the Collection includes thousands of items that can be found only through a page-by-page search of the fiche. In order for the Collection to be more useful than the fiche set, it would need to be cataloged in detail.
3. Much of the information contained in the Collection is available at Tech and elsewhere. For example, Government Documents in the University Library holds in microfiche form both FBIS and JPRS, much of which has been indexed.
4. Ownership of the originals will present some problems of preservation. Most of the material has been glued onto paper, and the quality of both the original paper and the mounting paper is poor. Ultimate preservation will require use of photocopy or microfilm.

Space and Staffing Requirements

1. The Southwest Collection currently holds approximately twenty million items of manuscript material; the HVWC contains about two million items, or approximately 10 percent of the amount contained in the Southwest Collection. To house the HVWC would require approximately 2,000 linear feet of shelf space.
2. Because of the uniqueness of the HVWC and the lack of a detailed inventory or catalog, ownership of the Collection would require a staff of at least two, one professional archivist, and an archival assistant.
3. Housing for both the material and staffing would require approximately 4,000 square feet.

Funding Requirements

One-time costs would be as follows:

packing for shipment	\$3,000
additional boxes	1,000
shipping costs	<u>11,200</u>
total one-time cost	\$25,200

Annual maintenance costs would be as follows:

Staff archivist	\$25,000
support staff	18,000
maintenance & operation	<u>5,000</u>
total annual cost	\$48,000

Recommendation

I concur with Prof. Reckner that acquisition of the HVWC "offers an unparalleled opportunity for Texas Tech University to establish a credible national-level research profile in an area of continuing national interest." That opportunity, however, is created, not by the uniqueness of the HVWC, but rather because possession of the HVWC will serve as the catalyst for attracting other collections. Therefore, an even greater commitment of space ultimately will be required than that outlined above.

It would be fruitless for Texas Tech University to accept the HVWC without a commitment of new space and new funding. Without such a commitment, the Libraries would better serve the Vietnam Archive by purchasing the microfiche set and thereby would save the cost of annual maintenance and future preservation.

If the University is willing to commit space and funding for staff, then Tech can indeed take advantage of this special opportunity to enhance our Vietnam Archive and studies program. Space could be provided in the proposed new Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, should that project ever become a reality.

xc: Dale Cluff, Library
 Jim Reckner, History
 Don Walker, History
 Allan Kuethe, History
 Len Ainsworth, Academic Affairs
 Denise Jackson, Development
 Jane Winer, Arts & Sciences
 Bruce Cammack, Library



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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Report of Visit to Indochina Archive at Berkeley

James R. Reckner

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

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

3. **The Pike Collection as a Catalyst for Growth.** On the larger scale, the acquisition of this premier collection would do much to establish Texas Tech University as one of the principal research institutions dealing with Vietnam. It would attract serious researchers to Texas Tech, and, equally importantly, would attract further contributions of papers to the Vietnam Archive. The Pike Collection as the centerpiece of the Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University, I am certain, would serve as a magnet drawing other collections of Vietnam-related materials to the Archive. Success breeds further success; the acquisition of the Pike Collection would represent a major step forward in developing the Vietnam Archive, would establish the image on the national level of Texas Tech University as a principal (possibly the principal) research center, and would encourage other holders of Vietnam-related documents to donate them to Texas Tech's Vietnam Archive.

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ASSESSMENT OF THE INDOCHINA STUDIES PROGRAM AND ARCHIVE,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY

William S. Turley
6 January 1992

Executive Summary

This report assesses the Indochina Studies Program and the collection known as the Indochina Archive from a scholarly point of view. It is based on a visit to the University of California, Berkeley campus, on 7-9 December 1991, during which I surveyed the Program and its collection of research materials and held discussions with Frederic Wakeman, Joyce Kaligren, Douglas Pike, Stephen Denney, and Eric Crystal.

The Program and Archive started with a strong focus on the Vietnam War but have developed resources to support research on a broad range of topics concerning post-war Indochina as well. Although not an academic studies program in the usual sense of the term, they have played a vital role in sustaining both academic and popular interest in the region.

The core of the Archive is some 3.5 million pages of carefully filed material, a large proportion of which consists of clippings from FBIS and JPRS. University Microfilms is placing up to three million of these pages covering events up to 30 April 1975 on microfiche. Other materials include captured documents in Vietnamese, about 10,000 books in English, photographs, maps, videotapes, and more. The collection's main strengths are its broad coverage of the Vietnam War, its documentation on the revolutionary side in that War, and rational arrangement of materials to maximize convenience of use. Reflecting its beginnings in Mr. Pike's copious collection of materials that were most readily available to him during the War, however, the collection has relatively few books and serials in the languages of the region.

The Program's current activities include publication of *Indochina Chronology*, which is closely followed by scholars world-wide, and a number of "research projects." Of the latter, the UMI Microform Project is nearing completion, several seem likely to wind down with Mr. Pike's departure, and the Indochina Oral History Project, Vietnam Leadership Project and Indochina Biographic Research Program hold promise if properly designed and implemented. All of these activities, along with publications that are not evaluated here, indicate the Archive's potential for continuing exploitation and development by resident staff.

Assuming the University wishes to keep these assets, three futures seem possible: maintain the Program/Archive as a research unit as it is now, keep the Archive but suspend acquisition and Program activities, or integrate the Program/Archive more fully into the University's area studies activities in conjunction with enhanced offerings on Indochina. The preferred approach would maintain the Archive under Mr. Stephen Denney's administration while one or more scholars with faculty positions in an Institute or Center and a Department provided intellectual direction. This approach presumes the hiring

of an Indochina scholar for the faculty. A second approach, deferred maintenance pending construction of the East Asia library, is acceptable so long as the Archive remains in its present location and Mr. Denney is appointed to guarantee continued acquisition and filing. A third approach consisting of radical downsizing is a last resort, to be adopted only if that is the price of keeping the collection's core and building upon it to strengthen general academic studies of Indochina.

Indochina Studies in the United States

The Indochina Studies Program and Archive comprise what is essentially a research unit with special strengths related to the Vietnam War rather than a center for academic studies of culture, history, and society. Situating them within the general context of Indochina studies therefore involves some inappropriate comparisons, but doing so will help explain their character.

The academic study of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam in the US, today as in the past, mirrors the historically weak American interest in these countries apart from the Vietnam War. The major centers of area studies responded modestly to interest in the region during the War, but they reduced their support afterward. Of the young scholars who finished their graduate work during the late 1960s and early 1970s, most took jobs abroad or at universities lacking strong commitment to Asian studies, and for about a decade after 1975 university support for the study of Indochina in the United States was notable mostly for its absence. The significant exception was UCal/Berkeley's agreement to house the Indochina Archive. Then, in the 1980s, the Social Science Research Council launched an Indochina Studies Program to support research on the region while it was largely closed to Western scholars, and Luce Foundation grants to centers of Southeast Asian studies included money for Indochina studies. In response to the resurgent interest and funding, Harvard, Washington, UC/Berkeley and others added courses in Vietnamese while Cornell and Hawaii added faculty in history and political science. The failure in 1990 of Cornell and Southern Illinois to replace crucial losses in political science and linguistics respectively, however, are reminders of the fragility of these gains.

Library collections present a similar picture. Taking volumes in the Indochinese languages as an indicator, the preeminent collection is at Cornell University. The Echols Collection by the late 1980s contained 8,000 volumes in Vietnamese, 1,000 in Lao, and 1,000 in Khmer. (UC/Berkeley had 3,790 in Vietnamese, 55 in Lao, and 85 in Khmer). Cornell is the only university to have collected materials in the languages of the region more or less continuously over a substantial period. Yet even at Cornell the Vietnamese language materials are less than one-third as numerous as holdings in Thai and less numerous than the collection in Bahasa Malaysia. Other universities collected unsystematically, partly in recognition of Cornell's leadership, and most discontinued the effort after 1975. Subsequently, the Library of Congress, Hawaii, Washington and Harvard resumed collecting -- irregularly, on a small scale, and almost solely from Vietnam.

Due to political as well as resource constraints, the few libraries that have attempted to maintain Indochinese collections have had to depend since 1975

on erratic exchanges with Vietnamese institutions and occasional purchases by visiting scholars. Thus for sixteen years the acquisition of Vietnamese materials has been tiny in scale and haphazard in content, while collection of Lao and Khmer materials has suffered near total neglect. Publications from the Indochinese diaspora, the majority of which are printed in small runs and have a fugitive character, find their way into libraries mostly by chance. Of course, over this period other kinds of materials related to Indochina -- some serials, Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) translations, US Government documents, books in Western languages -- have flowed into libraries all across the country. But such materials are no substitute for sustained acquisition of materials directly from the region.

The reasons for the historically weak and wavering support of Indochina studies are not hard to find. Academic attention has tended to follow the flag, hence its concentration on other parts of Asia up to the 1960s, the burst of interest during the Vietnam War, followed by neglect. Political obstacles to field research or library acquisition after 1975 also discouraged established scholars and graduate students who might have focused their work on the region. And Indochina studies suffered along with area studies in general from intra-disciplinary debates concerning their value.

The glaring exception is the study of the Vietnam War, at least with respect to the availability of research materials, of which there is no dearth on events up to the American withdrawal in 1973. The system of presidential libraries, routine declassification by the US government, gifts of private papers, the Westmoreland trial, the Freedom of Information Act and other procedures have assured that the War will be, if it is not already, the best documented conflict so soon after its conclusion of any in American history. Primary sources from the "other side" are also abundant. By far the largest collection of such sources is the Combined Documents Exploitation Center (CDEC) Collection of Captured Enemy Documents, which contains 2.2 million pages (on 110 ten-inch reels of 35mm microfilm) comprising up to half a million items, most of which are internal documents of the communist parties and armed forces. National Archives has the original microfilm, and the Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences at UMass/Boston has a copy with plans for developing computerized retrieval. From a scholarly standpoint one glaring void in the general flood of War-related documentation is the Saigon government and armed forces. Another is the period from the American withdrawal to war's end in 1975. But in general the main impediments to research are not volume or breadth of documentation so much as the scattered location and inadequate or non-existent finding aids for existing collections.

Teaching on the War also has flourished. A 1988 survey counted 425 courses at American universities that focused on the War in some significant measure. Regular workshops and conferences for secondary and university instructors on how to teach the War, and panels at annual meetings of associations as diverse as the Popular Culture Association and the American Historical Society, suggest this interest is durable, at least while the 'sixties generation remains professionally active in academe. The large majority of these activities, however, turn out on closer examination to focus on American politics, diplomacy, media and literature, rather than on the countries in which

the War took place. The combining of American with Indochinese dimensions, or teaching about the War with Indochina in the foreground, is still a rarity in "teaching the War."

That is a shame. While research and teaching on certain aspects of the War belong within American studies, other dimensions are properly the province of Indochina studies. No satisfactory understanding of the War can be achieved within one context alone. Indochina studies therefore have a major role to play in this nation's coming to terms with the War as well as in addressing issues of culture, society, ecology, politics, economy and security left in its wake. It is in sustaining scholarly interest both in the War and in these post-war issues, within an appropriate academic setting, that the Indochina Studies Program and Archive at Berkeley have made their greatest contribution to date.

In the beginning the Program, or more specifically the Archive, was entirely and in large measure remains organized around the War. As such it has always been the nearest thing the country has to a central depository of research materials on the War. It is a necessary, often first stop for scholars conducting research in otherwise rather far-flung resources. But the Program/Archive from the outset reflected Douglas Pike's comprehensive concept of what constituted that War, with the result that it has always been an important resource for research more broadly on politics, economy and society in contemporary Indochina. While university libraries virtually abandoned efforts to add to their Indochina collections in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Archive continued gathering what it could, including items librarians would refuse to catalogue. Moreover, the *Indochina Chronology* edited by Pike gained acceptance among scholars world-wide as the central clearinghouse of Indochina studies news, activities, and trivia -- appearing on a more regular basis, and for a much larger readership, than the newsletter of the Vietnam Studies Group of the Association for Asian Studies. Without doubt the Program has performed a vital role in keeping alive an interest in Indochina and facilitating research on the region, not only at Berkeley but in the nation.

The Indochina Archive

Two aspects of the Archive deserve separate discussion. One is the way the collection was accumulated and organized; the other is its general contents.

The Archive is above all the Mr. Pike's personal creation, starting with materials he collected copiously while in the State Department, literally rescuing some items from the shredder, and continuing in eclectic fashion down to the present. Over the years he has developed his own filing system, which is most highly developed with respect to the War. Naturally, this system reflects Mr. Pike's conception of the War's general contours, issues, and themes. Considering the obviousness of many categories (e.g., Tet Offensive, Political Settlement 1972) and vast quantity of material, it is hard to say any other arrangement would serve better. Some categories, most often outside the War, are quite broad -- "Agriculture" for example -- but within them chronological order helps one find desired items. Others such as defector and prisoner interrogations defy systematization. As materials arrive, it is Mr. Pike who has determined where they are to be filed, principally to assure consistency. The

organization of the Archive is one of its most important features, about which more later.

As regards the general contents, it is difficult to assess 3.5 million pages plus other forms of material without first commenting briefly on the major pieces that together comprise the Archive. Here, in no particular order, are some impressions:

1. Vertically-filed documents in the "Archive Room" and elsewhere

This is the heart of the collection, a large number of vertical files containing printed material. Most of the 3,500 to 4,000 pages of material that Pike marks for filing each month goes into these files according to subject and date. The bulk of the material is related to the Vietnam War, but as time passes the proportion of material on more recent subjects grows steadily. By far the majority of files contain material on Vietnam, but there are substantial holdings on Laos, Cambodia and Southeast Asia as well.

The nature and value of the material depends on the file. Probably the greatest diversity in type of material is found in the files on the War, which contain everything from clippings out of the FBIS Daily Report and JPRS Translations on North Vietnam to CIA studies, transcripts of clandestine radio intercepts, official government statements, clippings from Western newspapers and newsmagazines, scholarly publications, and more. It is this War-related material up to 30 April 1975 that UMI is filming for the History of the Vietnam War on Microfilm and which eventually may run to three million pages. Virtually all of these materials are in English, and FBIS/JPRS output appears to constitute the majority in both number and volume. For the period since 1975, the proportion of FBIS/JPRS material increases, nearing the total of material on some subjects, e.g. SRV economy, and SRV-PRC relations.

Over the years, Pike has gathered some materials of special interest into single new categories that otherwise would have remained dispersed in the collection. One example is the "historic documents" file, which contains key resolutions and directives of the communist party, NFL, and subordinate organs. Among these is an eight-inch file on the controversial "CRIMP document" which includes the document and analyses of it. Categories for "South Vietnamese refugees" and "POW-MIA" are other examples of files on special themes that any researcher would find very useful.

2. "VCD" (Viet Cong Documents) holdings

Separate from the vertically-filed, English language war documents are the Vietnamese language captured documents which Pike had microfilmed for MIT and the Center for Research Libraries years ago. Since then he has added more items. The documents consist of booklets, pamphlets, diaries, directives and so forth on all imaginable subjects. While the CDEC Collection surely contains the majority if not all of these 3,000 or more items, here one can consult an intelligent selection of the originals. Particularly strong on NFL organization, mobilization techniques, and doctrine.

3. Conference papers

Scholars around the world send Mr. Pike papers they have presented at professional meetings, knowing he will cite and sometimes comment on them in the *Chronology*. The number of manuscripts now numbers in the hundreds. While some no doubt have been published since the Archive received them, others probably will remain forever unpublished. Invaluable for finding out about work-in-progress.

4. Books in English

The Archive has about 10,000 books organized by subject and date of publication. Since these are mostly from English language university presses and commercial publishing houses, there is almost certainly substantial overlap with the main library. It is certainly a convenience for researchers, however, to have the relevant secondary sources located right next to the primary ones.

5. Books in Vietnamese

The only books in Indochinese languages appear to be in Vietnamese. Those published under communist auspices fill only 3-4 shelves and do not include many important works published since 1975. Acquisition of books in Vietnamese, or Lao and Khmer, has not been a priority of the Archive until Pike's recent trip to Vietnam. Those on hand, however, should go some small way toward updating the holdings of the main library.

6. Publications from the diaspora

Books, journals, newspapers, newsletters and fugitive materials produced in the emigré community are sometimes harder to obtain than ones from Vietnam. The research value is potentially great, because some of Vietnam's finest scholars are emigrés, the community is virtually the sole source of information on the old Saigon political and intellectual elite, and since 1989 debate in Vietnam over the country's future has become entwined with politics in the diaspora. While the Archive's collection of these materials might seem modest -- about half a dozen five-foot shelves -- it is the largest I have seen.

7. Graphics

These consist mostly of photographs from the "other side," that is, scenes of North Vietnam during the War, communist forces in battle, village life in "liberated zones," etc. Some have been reproduced from Hanoi or other communist-source pictorial magazines, others are glossies. The collection may be the largest of its kind outside Vietnam.

8. Posters

The largest and most striking part of the poster collection are no doubt ones produced by the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam. Many original pieces. Unique. Rare.

9. Maps

US armed forces mapped Vietnam in detail and quality that recent cartographic work by the Hanoi government has not matched. These along with maps produced under the French and a smattering of other sources make this probably the best collection in the public domain.

10. Clippings

There are 45 cartons of newspaper clippings, mostly from the US but some from Asia, all in English, from the war period. Without clearer organization, it is difficult to see how these are any more useful than a good newspaper archive combined with FBIS/JPRS. Someone should cull the lot to arrange systematically, separate the wheat from the chaff, or discard.

11. Chronology file

This appears to be a complete war-time run of "Current News," a digest of news and analysis distributed by the Air Force. I believe it mostly reprints articles from secondary sources for distribution inside the US government. (I believe this because it reprinted an article of mine from Foreign Policy in 1980). While as such it is unoriginal and has little intrinsic value, the chronological arrangement has obvious uses including as a finding aid to periodical literature.

12. War participant interviews

The RAND Corporation, Simulmatics Corporation, the Joint US Public Affairs Office (USIA) and the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA of DOD) interrogated hundreds of Vietnamese communist prisoners and defectors. Translated into English, these transcripts and reports of interrogations were the primary source material of studies on the "motivation and morale" of communist forces as well as a source of current intelligence. To the academic researcher they are invaluable for insights into the unit dynamics, local politics and daily life of the "other side," and scholars have yet to exploit them fully. The collection appears to be complete for each agency and is certainly the largest anywhere. The only significant group of translated interrogation reports not included that I am aware of is the output of the Combined Military Intelligence Center (CMIC), which is part of the the CDEC Collection.

13. University Press of America and Westoreland trial microfilms

These contain the declassified documents of the National Security Council, Department of State, CIA and Department of Defense pertaining to

Indochina. Available to any library with the money to buy them, they comprise the core of materials for research on American policy-making and are an essential part of any serious research collection.

14. Biographical materials

Biographical information is arranged by name in seven vertical files devoted primarily to Vietnamese personalities of the defunct Saigon regime, the war-time Hanoi regime, and the post-war Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The material consists mostly of press clippings and biographical citations from FBIS/JPRS, although the files of the famous (Ho Chi Minh, Vo Nguyen Giap), contain lengthier papers and documents. The strength is not in the volume for individual cases but in the number and variety of individuals included. I suspect all Indochina scholars keep biographic files -- five I know have databased their files on computers -- but none has a collection as extensive across time and regime as this one.

15. Newspapers in Vietnamese

Over eight vertical files are filled with Vietnamese newspapers, mostly from Hanoi and Saigon during the War. The runs are mostly short or broken, although some runs of Saigon English-language papers are long and the run of the emigré newspaper, Nguoi Viet, is complete. Since the Library of Congress and Cornell have substantial holdings of all or most of these papers, it is not likely much here has any scarcity value, and microfilm would be easier to use.

16. Other holdings

The Archive contains several items from private as well as public sources that are available nowhere else. Three vertical files contain what appears to be the complete papers (including cancelled checks) of the American Friends of Vietnam, a pro-Saigon lobby active in the 1950s. The personal papers of Professor Albert Blaustein along with the proceedings of the RVN Constituent Assembly are a unique source on South Vietnamese constitutional law and a rare one on Saigon politics. Outtakes from a documentary produced by Accuracy in Media on one-inch videotape could have value for research on American post-war retrospectives. The transcript of the Paris Peace Talks and personal papers of Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker are key primary sources on the Saigon regime's end. The Congressional Research Service and Georgetown University have each donated materials to the Archive upon completion of research projects. And there is more. The continuing addition of materials through donation is testimony to Pike's reputation and the Archive's preeminence as a depository of documentation concerning the Vietnam War and contemporary Indochina.

As a whole, the Archive has two features that constitute special strengths. One is its size and scope, particularly with respect to the Vietnam War. Where other collections are limited by the source of their contents (e.g., the presidential libraries) or general purpose (university libraries), the Archive is the

nearest thing in existence to a comprehensive collection on the general topic of the War. Moreover, it has continued to add material since 1975, so its holdings on the post-war period are also significant. The Archive's other special strength is its organization. Although the bulk of its pages consist of clippings from FBIS and JPRS and other serials commonly available in university libraries, all of these are filed in a way that greatly facilitates research. Were it not for the major presence of other materials, one would have to say the primary justification for the Archive is the convenient access it provides to FBIS and JPRS. Although federal depository libraries receive these materials gratis on microfiche, the format is hard to use and the indexes are crude.

Another strength of the Archive is its coverage of the "other side." Reflecting Pike's understanding of the War as something that happened to people in Indochina and not just in People's Park, and of post-war events as occurring outside American influence and interest, the Archive constitutes a major institutional corrective to American parochialism. The bulk of this material comes from FBIS and JPRS, but the collection of internal documents, interrogation reports, graphics, posters, etc., in translation and Vietnamese, exceeds in size and quality anything presently available aside from the CDEC collection. The collection is also quite good with respect to "our side," considering the general paucity of documentation on America's Saigon allies.

A shortcoming is that a number of items have been filed without complete citation, that is, without date, place or title or all three. In some cases this is because the information was confidential at the time of filing, in others it was simply oversight. The number of such items appears relatively small as a proportion of the whole, and it does not prevent use of inadequately sourced material for background. But scholars occasionally may have to choose between citing the Archive as source or not citing a source at all.

The Archive's major weakness is apparent when considering what role it might play in future academic studies of Indochina. In acquisitions, research and service, the Program and Archive long ago branched out from the War, but these activities continue to depend heavily on the daily clipping and filing of FBIS/JPRS, particularly with respect to contemporary affairs. The wealth of material in English certainly facilitates use by non-specialists and is adequate for many purposes, but notably absent is a major, up-to-date collection of books and serials in the languages of the region. It simply is not possible to support comprehensive scholarly study of foreign societies on the basis of translated materials alone. Up to now general academic study of Indochina was not the Archive's mission, but it already has moved in that direction by collecting on subjects unrelated to the War, maintaining files on current events, and sending Pike to Hanoi to discuss academic and book exchange. To integrate the Program and Archive with the University's other area studies activities, further steps in this direction will have to be taken.

While this report has acknowledged the difficulty of obtaining books on a reliable basis, it has been possible for years to subscribe to serials from foreign suppliers or purchase them on microfilm from the Library of Congress Photoduplication Service at modest cost. And with normalization of relations and lifting of the embargo in prospect, it should soon become much easier to obtain books directly from the region.

Research Projects

The Program prospectus presently lists about a dozen "research projects," ranging from curriculum development and adult education to archival development and conventional academic research. Some of these seem closely linked with Pike's tenure as director and therefore not likely to outlast his departure (Curriculum Development, Talking About Vietnam, Bay Area Outreach), but they may indicate the Program's potential to provide community service. Others in the proposal stage could be part of any program of academic studies (Academic Exchange, Scholar-in-Residence) but presumably would require new funding. Projects underway that might well be brought to completion in the near future or have special interest to scholars are:

1. UMI microform project

This project is focused on the War and ends with documents dated 30 April 1975. When completed (at UMI's expense), this will place around 85 percent of all printed material in the Archive apart from books, Vietnamese language documents and peripheral material on microfiche. The fiche version will retain Pike's organization by subject and chronology. Assuming the Archive keeps a copy, discarding the vertical files will be an option, at an enormous saving in space but great loss in convenience.

2. *Indochina Chronology* on Electronic Database

I have already commented on the value of the *Chronology*. Making all issues accessible by computer and modem is another example of the Program's remarkable emphasis on the convenience of scholars. One hopes access will be possible via bitnet as well as regular phone connection, and that it will provide an online index as well as free text editing. The number of users will be small but appreciative.

3. Indochina Oral History Project

The purpose of this project is to "collect approximately 250 two-hour interviews on videotape of selected Indochinese living in northern California concerning historical and contemporary events in the three Indochinese countries. . ." About 100 interviews have been completed. This project has the potential to add significantly to the present dearth of information on the Saigon regime. However, it seems to have been undertaken without much awareness of oral history methodology, as indicated by the arbitrary two-hours allotted to each interview (some in practice have gone longer) and absence of system in the choice of subjects. The project could benefit from participation by a professional oral historian and training of interviewers.

4. Vietnam Leadership Project and Indochina Biographic Research Program

These are certainly meritorious as subject areas, and any compilation and regular updating of information on leadership would be useful to all

scholars with an interest in contemporary affairs of Indochina. To move beyond compilation to research, however, this project needs a design, preferably one that provides for computerized tracking and comparison of social backgrounds, career development, group affiliations, and so forth.

Recommendations

To an outsider, UCal/Berkeley would seem to have compelling reasons to support research on Indochina, and, more broadly, general academic studies of the region. The state of California is home to nearly half of all the one million Indochinese emigrés in the United States, and that proportion is steadily growing. As soon as the US has normalized diplomatic relations and lifted the embargo on Vietnam, interaction in all forms between the US, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia will grow rapidly, with California leading the way. Student demand for Vietnamese language courses has surged modestly up and down the West coast, including at UCal/Berkeley and nearby Fresno. And of course the University has significant assets in the Indochina Studies Program and Archive. Discarding these assets just as the state's stake in their subject matter seems set to expand would be hard to explain.

The plausible options therefore would be to keep only the Archive but suspend acquisition, maintain the Archive and the Program as an active research unit, or maintain them within one of the existing area studies centers as elements of an enhanced program in Indochina studies. The first option would cause the Archive to diminish steadily in value; the second would keep things as they are; the last one is clearly most desirable from the standpoint of guaranteeing the Archive's continued maximum use and development while strengthening the University's offerings in area studies. Combinations of all three options are possible. Here are some possible approaches, in descending order of preference:

1. Maintain in present form. In a sense, this is impossible because Mr. Pike has a unique place not only in the Program and Archive but in the field of Indochina studies. One cannot be certain, for example, how his departure will affect private donations to the Archive or contributions by scholars of professional news to the *Chronology*. Nor is it likely any successor would share all of his interests and commitments. Some scaling down of activities seems almost inevitable, at least for a time. However, the Archive is what most urgently needs maintaining and which would suffer most from any disruption of its activities. Fortunately, Stephen Denney, the present Archive Assistant, should be able to take over its management without difficulty. He is fully familiar with its organization, having done the actual filing in accordance with Pike's instructions for years. Parenthetically, let me add that whether Denney assumes this responsibility or continues in his present position as assistant, a salary commensurate with his skill and experience would be substantially higher than the one he is now receiving.

While Denney can maintain the Archive and oversee its natural growth, involvement by a professional Indochina scholar is needed to guide its development, help with editing the *Chronology*, and preserve something more than the document collection. By "something more" I mean not just the ongoing

research activities but the groundwork of what could be broader academic studies of Indochina at UCal/Berkeley. Ideally, such a scholar would hold a position in one of the existing Institutes or Centers and a Department and have released time to act as a link between the Archive and the area studies programs.

Finally, any program for Indochina, if it is to have a separate identity, should take another name. Although many scholars including myself continue to find "Indochina" convenient as a geographical expression, the term has ambiguous meaning and arouses resentment in some quarters. (Members of SSRC's Indochina Studies Exchange Program had a sharp debate on this issue, largely in response to a supporting foundation's objection to the term. Significantly, the Lao and Cambodia scholars lined up against the Vietnam scholars). My recommendation for UCal: Project on Modern Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia (housed within an existing Institute or Center).

2. Deferred maintenance -- with conditions. This option would preserve the collection, pending construction of the East Asia library. Under it the Archive would survive, while all other activities of the Program including the *Chronology* would either cease or be continued and developed along the lines discussed above. Upon integration into the East Asia library, the Archive would become less accessible than it is at present but probably have a more secure future in a stable institutional environment.

The major risk is the tendency of collections in deferred maintenance to suffer neglect and develop gaps. To guard against this (and the related evil of suspended use), while awaiting transfer to the library the Archive should not under any circumstance be warehoused but remain in its present quarters with Mr. Denney in charge and with an adequate budget to continue acquisition and filing.

3. Radical downsizing. A version of deferred maintenance is to prepare the Archive for integration into the main or East Asia library by significantly reducing its size. This can be done by discarding all the paper copies of documents that have been put on microfiche by UMI, discarding books in English that are already catalogued in the main library, and discarding newspapers and replacing them with microfilm. Harder decisions would have to be made about some of the fugitive and redundant materials, and things like the American Friends of Vietnam documents and War Participant Interviews would have to be stored not catalogued. While drastic, not to mention destructive to the convenience of use that is one of the Archive's main strengths, this approach would save in one accessible location the extraordinary record that Pike has accumulated. From an academic standpoint it is justifiable only if in return the University makes a commitment to build on this base, which means retaining Denney to keep the files current and developing a research collection in the languages of the region.

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