

APR 12 1993

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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7 April 1993

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

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

I take this opportunity to forward copies of short biographies of Commander Bruce Brunson, USN, and Lieutenant Rick Mooday, USN. Commander Brunson is the Commanding Officer of Texas Tech's Navy ROTC Unit, and the senior active duty naval officer in Lubbock. Lieutenant Mooday will be your aide during your visit.

I am also enclosing a copy of Rear Admiral Chan's letter.

Very respectfully,

[Handwritten signature of James R. Reckner]

James R. Reckner

**BIOGRAPHY OF COMMANDER
BRUCE H. BRUNSON, USN**

Commander Bruce H. Brunson enlisted in the Navy in 1969 and served as a Seaman while attending the Naval Academy Prep School. In 1979 he received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD. He graduated and was commissioned from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1974 with a BS degree in Operations Analysis. In October 1975 he was designated a Naval Aviator at Whiting Field in Pensacola, FL and transferred to Jacksonville, FL for advanced helicopter training.

CDR Brunson reported to Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron 9 (HS-9) in 1976 as a SH-3 pilot and deployed onboard the aircraft carrier USS NIMITZ.

CDR Brunson's first shore tour was as an Operational Test Director and Pilot for Air Test and Evaluation Squadron One (VX-1), Patuxent River, MD. He was among the first Navy pilots to fly the SH-60B Sea Hawk.

In 1982, CDR Brunson transferred as an exchange pilot to the Canadian HS-443 Squadron Shearwater, Nova Scotia. While in Canada, he served as officer-in-charge of a Canadian SH-3 helicopter detachment and as a squadron department head.

From 1985 to 1987 CDR Brunson was assigned to the first SH-60B Sea Hawk squadron on the east coast, Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light 42 (HSL-42). As the officer-in-charge of Detachment 4 onboard the USS DEWERT (FFG-45), he was actively involved in the 1987 Libyan operations. CDR Brunson completed his squadron tours with over 3,000 hours of flight time.

The squadron tours were followed by a Pentagon tour as the Assistant to the Director, International Research and Development (OP-98F). Upon selection to war college, he transferred to the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL.

After graduation from war college, CDR Brunson was assigned to a joint duty billet at the United States Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, CO. While in the Space Command he was the Assistant Director, Communications and Connectivity and worked in the analysis division on ballistic missile defense.

Commander Brunson's awards include Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation, Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, Coast Guard Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy "E", Expeditionary (Navy). He has subspecialty codes in Antisubmarine Warfare, Financial Management and Space Operations. He is also designated a Joint Service Officer.

Commander Brunson has a Master of Business Administration and a Masters in Computer and Information Resource Management through Webster University.

Commander Brunson is married to the former Jeanne Van Horn. They have a son and a daughter. Matt is a freshman at Frenship High School and Jennifer is in second grade at Lubbock Christian School.

BIOGRAPHY OF LIEUTENANT
RICK MOODAY, USNR

Lieutenant Rick Mooday was born in Tuscola, Illinois on 02 January, 1963. After graduation from Tuscola High School in June 1981, he attended Eastern Illinois University for two years. He completed his education at the University of Illinois and graduated with honors in May 1985, with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering.

Immediately after graduation, Lieutenant Mooday reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida. for Aviation Officers Candidate School. He was commissioned in September 1985, and reported to Sherman field for flight training. He was designated a Naval Flight Officer in November 1986 and subsequently reported to Attack Squadron 42 (VA-42) for training as a Bombardier-Navigator (B/N) in the A-6 INTRUDER.

Lieutenant Mooday reported to Attack Squadron 75 (VA-75) in December 1987. While in VA-75, Lieutenant Mooday served in numerous billets in the Administration, Maintenance and Operations Departments. He made two extended deployments aboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67), accumulating over 1050 flight hours and 335 arrested landings. Lieutenant Mooday was actively involved in Desert Shield and Desert Storm combat actions. During the conflict, he accumulated over 110 hours of combat flight time during 23 combat flights.

In July 1991, Lieutenant Mooday reported to Naval ROTC Unit, Texas Tech University. He serves as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science and class advisor, and fulfills several collateral duties. Lieutenant Mooday is single and currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree in Chemical Engineering at Texas Tech.

Lieutenant Mooday's awards include The Air Medal (with combat "V"), Two Strike Flight Air Medals, The Navy Commendation Medal (with combat "V"), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Unit Commendation, and Southwest Asia Campaign Medal.

Tran Van Chon

March 22, 1993

Dr. James R. Reckner
Texas Tech University
Department of History
P. O. Box 41013
Lubbock, TX 79409-1013

Dear Dr. Reckner:

I am delighted to receive your letter of March 5, 1993 that reminds me of the wonderful days we had in the fighting against the Vietnamese Communists in the riverine area. The ceremony of the turnover of a large part of the TF 212 under a heavy downpour is really unforgettable.

It is a distinct honor to be invited to your conference geared to commemorate the signing of the Paris Peace Accords. I am very pleased to accept this invitation.

I am also delighted to learn that you have dedicated your effort to the Vietnam Archive which encourages the research of Vietnam-related topics. As you know, until now many people have not understood much about the Vietnam war. What you and your organization have been doing is essential in maintaining and promoting public understanding of that conflict.

I would like to attend the conference and enhance my knowledge through meeting those experts on the Vietnam war and those who were directly involved in it. It would also be a chance to meet old friends and get to know new ones. Unfortunately at this time, it would be unlikely that I could play an active role as speaker, due to current limitations in my communication skills. I personally feel that I can best attend the conference as an observer.

Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to join the activities of your organization. I wish the best luck and success to you and your Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict.

Very respectfully,



Tran Van Chon

c/c: Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Chairman
Vietnam Center Advisory Board