

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

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

**FAX COVER SHEET**

**Date: 28 October 1996**

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

**From: James R. Reckner**

**Subject: Douglas Pike**

**Number of Pages (Including Cover Sheet): Four**

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# 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

28 October 1996

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.  
1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 3105  
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Fax: (703) 528-5795

Dear Admiral:

Douglas and Myrna Pike have come and gone, and they were given the royal treatment throughout their visit. They had interviews with virtually everyone of importance here at the university, including Chancellor John T. Montford and President Don Haragan. (I might here add that in all his years at Berkeley, he never met any of the university's senior leadership, and thus was favorably impressed.)

Chancellor Montford was very direct with Pike. He promised him that he would use all of his energy to get him any amount of money he needed for his research. And he emphasized that the Vietnam project at Texas Tech was one of the university's strengths, and an area on which he intended to focus his fund-raising efforts. After leaving this appointment, Pike commented that Montford had offered him everything he could possibly hope for. President Haragan was equally supportive and terribly enthusiastic. The dean of the college and also the director of libraries were completely forthcoming. In brief, we have offered him:

- \* Appointment as Associate Director of the Center
- \* Appointment as adjunct professor of history (pending a vote of the faculty)
- \* Appointment to the graduate faculty (pending vote of the graduate council)
- \* Two offices in the International Cultural Center
- \* Adequate storage space for his materials and appointment of two additional archivists to facilitate processing them
- \* Funding for any project he might wish to undertake

In essence, we have offered him a position in which he will be much respected, and in which he can continue to make a positive contribution in writing and also in assisting graduate students. I don't believe he will receive a better, or even a similar, package anywhere else in the country, and I feel confident that within the next week or two we will receive a letter from him accepting our invitation to join us.

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

*An Affirmative Action Institution*

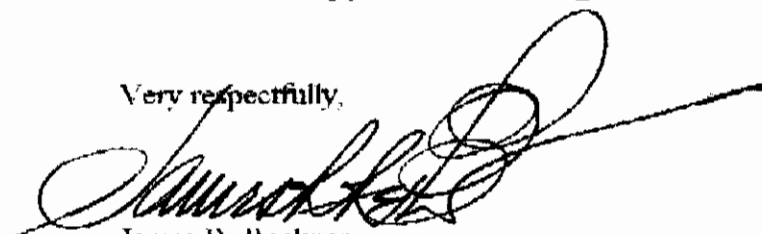
ARCHIVE OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT  
Texas Tech Library  
Lubbock, Texas 79409-0002 (806) 742-3758  
Fax: (806) 742-1920

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

Perhaps it would be good at this point, if you think it appropriate, for you to send him a short letter of encouragement. I enclose a draft for your consideration.

I will be in Washington from 6 to 10 November to attend the VVI conference and Patriots' Ball, and look forward to visiting with you then. If at all possible, I would like to call on you on 7 November, if you are in town and it is convenient. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you on the evening of 9 November.

Very respectfully,



James R. Reckner  
Director

encl: Draft letter to Douglas Pike

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

**D - R - A - F - T**  
(By FAX)

Douglas Pike  
Indochina Archive  
University of California  
6701 San Pablo Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94608

Fax: (510) 643-9930

Dear Douglas:

Jim Reckner has advised me of your recent visit to Texas Tech and the Vietnam Center's great desire to convince you to join the Vietnam project at Texas Tech. May I just add a short word of encouragement?

As you will already appreciate, the Vietnam project at Texas Tech is growing by leaps and bounds, and the band of students wishing to study Vietnam is growing with equal speed. At Texas Tech your wealth on knowledge would play a critical part in preparing the young men and women who will be the next generation of professors teaching the Vietnam war. It would be their great honor if they could study under you, and I know that Jim is ready and willing to share that important task --and there is no more important one-- with you

In the context of the Vietnam project itself, I know your depth of knowledge and extensive contacts around the world would serve to enrich the project in many ways. While Jim Reckner is prepared to do all of the administrative work related to the project, I know he would be very grateful to have your advice and guidance in many areas as the project continues to mature and expand.

Sincerely,

*as a separate matter I would cherish the opportunity  
& associate more closely with you if you come to  
John Tull*