

THE VIETNAM CENTER

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FAX COVER SHEET

Date: June 16, 1998

To: Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
 C/O Priscilla Barry

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From: James R. Reckner

Subject: Memo of Visit of Colonel Roger Donlon, USA (Ret) MH

Number of Pages (Including Cover Sheet): 5

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THE VIETNAM CENTER

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Memorandum

June 15, 1998

To: Chancellor John T. Montford
 President Donald R. Haragan
 Provost John Burns
 Dr. Jane L. Winer, Dean, A&S
 Dr. Allan J. Kuethe, Chairman, History Department

From: James R. Reckner 

Subj: Visit of Colonel Roger Donlon, USA (Ret) MH

The visit of our first Congressional Medal of Honor recipient from the Vietnam War, Colonel Roger Donlon, is now completed. It has been significant for a number of reasons:

1. **Westmoreland Memorabilia.** Prior to his visit, Colonel Donlon was instructed to advise me that General and Mrs. Westmoreland have now decided that they wish to deposit the general's memorabilia from his Vietnam service at Texas Tech University. This is an extensive collection which, when we receive it, will form the core around which we will develop our artifact collection for the new Vietnam museum. I will, of course, very actively pursue this contribution, working through his son James, whom I met in November 1995.
2. **Vietnam Center National Council.** At Admiral Zumwalt's suggestion, Colonel Donlon has agreed to become a member of the Vietnam Center's National Council. He will join the Admiral, General Westmoreland, Ambassador Bui Diem and William Bundy in this important organization which works to give the Vietnam project national image and profile. I will draft a formal letter of invitation to join the Council for Chancellor Montford's signature.
3. **Other developments.** As a result of his decision to join us, Colonel Donlon has suggested a number of areas where he can be of immediate help:

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

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- a. **Visit by General & Mrs. Westmoreland.** He is anxious to convince the Westmorelands to visit Texas Tech University at the time of the 3rd triennial Vietnam symposium (15 - 17 April 1999). He is quite certain that, the general's health permitting, he will be able to get him to participate. This would be particularly true if we could at the same time arrange a fund-raiser for a "Westmoreland Room" for the new Vietnam Center building.
 - b. **Visit by General Fred Weyand.** General Weyand is the only other surviving Commander of the US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. Colonel Donlon feels certain he can entice him also to participate in the symposium.
 - c. **Visit by President George Bush.** In a similar vein, Colonel Donlon has access to President Bush and has volunteered to approach him to participate in the symposium.
 - d. **H. Ross Perot.** Colonel Donlon has open access to Mr. Perot. He has indicated to the Chancellor that during his next visit he will call Mr. Perot's attention to the work of the Vietnam Center, concerning which he was most impressed. The purpose of this would be to lay the groundwork for a future visit by the Chancellor to seek funding for the Vietnam building.
 - e. **Other individuals of importance.** The colonel has agreed to provide a list of individuals of importance with whom he has personal connections, who would be interested to learn about the Vietnam project. He has volunteered to write a covering letter to be forwarded with newsletters from the Vietnam Center to these individuals.
4. **Westmoreland Scholars Foundation.** During his meeting with the Chancellor, Colonel Donlon discussed the possibility of the Westmoreland Scholars Foundation (of which he is the executive director) working with Texas Tech University to jointly offer scholarships to deserving Vietnamese students, both during the Chancellor's visit to Vietnam in 1999, and afterward. The Chancellor expressed an interest in considering this possibility.
 5. **Conclusion.** Colonel Donlon left Texas Tech sincerely impressed with the work of the Vietnam project. He will be contacting Ambassador Peterson in Hanoi to reinforce the Ambassador's interest in what we are doing. I sensed, too, that Colonel Donlon will adopt a very activist approach to our project, and that his very active intellect and extensive connections throughout the United States will be directed toward opening new doors and new opportunities for Texas Tech University.

encl: Westmoreland Scholars Foundation information

xc: Admiral Ehmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

THE WESTMORELAND LEGACY

WESTMORELAND LEGACY... COLONEL ROBERT H. DUNLON, M.H.

THE WESTMORELAND SCHOLAR FOUNDATION

WESTMORELAND SCHOLAR FOUNDATION... FUNDING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS... [List of names and titles]

THE WESTMORELAND SCHOLAR FOUNDATION

AN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION... FOUNDED IN 1982... CONCERNING THE RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE AMERICANS AND VIETNAMESE PEOPLE

Building Bridges Not Borders

WHAT IS THE WESTMORELAND SCHOLAR FOUNDATION?

The Westmoreland Scholar Foundation is a non-political, non-profit 501(c)(3) educational foundation established for the purpose of educating those young people who can best contribute to reconciliation and harmony between the people of the United States of America and the people of Vietnam. We will pursue this goal in three phases:

- Provide scholarships for young students active in the Vietnamese-American community who have strong academic ability and high potential for service to the larger community.
- Provide opportunities for short-term study and humanitarian service in Vietnam.
- Provide opportunities for young Vietnamese exchange students to study in the United States.

WHAT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE WESTMORELAND SCHOLARS PROGRAM?

Westmoreland Scholars will be students at a wide range of high-quality American colleges and universities, selected on the basis of their academic quality, commitment to the goals of The Westmoreland Scholar Foundation, and their interest in diversifying their student populations.

HOW WILL WESTMORELAND SCHOLARS BE SELECTED?

Students will be eligible to become a Westmoreland Scholar if they:

- Enroll as full-time undergraduates at a college or university with a Westmoreland Scholar program.
- Are active in the Vietnamese-American community.
- Are United States citizens, nationals or permanent residents.
- Were born after April 30, 1975.

Selection will be based on merit without regard to gender, religion or financial need. The Westmoreland Scholar Selection Committee will evaluate applicants on the basis of their potential for a career as leaders in the public interest as indicated by their academic record; evidence of potential for leadership in the public interest; the quality of the applicant's description of her/his professional aspirations, including plans for advanced education, the quality of the applicants' description of her/his involvement with the Vietnamese-American community; two letters of recommendation from professors, teachers, or others who are in a position to assess the applicant's suitability for selection as a Westmoreland Scholar and personal interviews. The annual application deadline will be March 26.





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

July 1, 1998

Colonel Roger H. C. Donlon, USA (Ret.)
2101 Wilson Avenue
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Dear Colonel Donlon:

The purpose of this letter is to tell you how delighted I am that you accepted our invitation to become a member of the Vietnam Center National Council along with General Westmoreland, Ambassador Bui Diem, the Honorable William Bundy, and me.

I look forward to an even closer relationship with you in the future.

All best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

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