



Emmett H. Tidd
 Vice Admiral, USN (Retired)
 1123 South Oakcrest Road
 Arlington, Virginia 22202

7-31-98

ADMIRAL -
 I CAN'T BLAME A LATE
 DELIVERY OF THIS 7/27
 LETTER ON USPS - I
 LET IT GET COVERED
 UP AND AM JUST MAILING
 YOURS TODAY. (smiley face)
 THE ACTION-ORIGINATOR NWC
 WENT BY PRIORITY MAIL 7/27.

Very respectfully
 Emmett

Memo for Admiral Zumwalt:
 27 July 1998

Dear Admiral,

I was flattered that Dr. Blake Dunnavent (Texas Tech) asked me to write a letter of recommendation in his behalf to the Miller Naval History Fellowship Committee at the Naval War College. They will award one \$500 fellowship, "... to the researcher who has the greatest need and can make the optimum use of research materials for naval history located in the Naval War College's Archives."

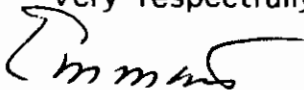
The recipient will be a research fellow in the Naval War College's Advanced Research Department, which will provide administrative support.

The application directive specifies only one letter of recommendation, and the (above) specific areas to be addressed. I have provided additional blind copies of the enclosed letter (your copy) to Dr. Reckner and Dr. Dunnavent.

I thought you might want to be aware of the recommendation that has gone forward. I do not know who is on the Selection Committee, but further "cold" contact could risk being counterproductive.

Blake did an excellent job on his dissertation (which you saw), "Muddy Waters: A History of the United States Navy in Riverine Warfare and the Emergence of a Tactical Doctrine, 1775-1989." The USMC is making use of his acquired knowledge by having him participate in seminars at their Center for Excellence in Riverine Warfare at Camp Lejeune.

Very respectfully,


 Emmett H. Tidd

Copy to: Dr. James R. Reckner w/ encl EHT ltr of 07/27/98



Blind
COPY

Emmett H. Tidd
Vice Admiral, USN (Retired)
1123 South Oakcrest Road
Arlington, Virginia 22202

27 July 1998

Miller Naval History Fellowship Committee
Naval War College Foundation
686 Cushing Road
Newport, Rhode Island 02841-1207

Re: Application of Dr. R. Blake Dunnavent, PhD
Lubbock, Texas

Distinguished Members of the Miller Fellowship Committee:

This is to offer my strong endorsement to the application of Dr. R. Blake Dunnavent, PhD, now under your consideration for a Miller Naval History Fellowship.

From our regular annual visits to attend seminars at Texas Tech University, Mrs. Tidd and I have come to know Dr. Dunnavent personally. He is a most worthy and outstanding candidate, fully meeting the criteria stated in your announcement, inviting applications by 1 August 1998:

- "To the researcher who has the greatest need": This young man has worked diligently to put himself successfully through his undergraduate/postgraduate education. He is a dedicated scholar and teacher, diligently pursuing his upward goals, on a most modest, limited budget, now living a very frugal life. Dr. Dunnavent's current research on the Navy's contributions to pacification in the Vietnam War will require travel from Lubbock, Texas to the Navy War College in Newport, and elsewhere. The Miller Fellowship grant would greatly assist in making the travel possible. He does not have the funds to meet those expenses without assistance. Ready access to the resources and administrative support of the Naval War College's Advanced Research Department will be invaluable to his current research.

- "To the researcher who can make the optimum use of research materials for naval history located in the Naval War College's Advanced Research Department":

From Dr. Dunnavent's application, you can appreciate the extensive research he has already completed in the naval and military history courses he has taught, and now teaches; in the quality of his articles published; in his contributions to book length

Blind
COPY

manuscripts; and in his successful dissertation for his PhD awarded in May, 1998 at Texas Tech University.

COPY

That PhD dissertation is a most impressive and thoroughly researched account of the historical development of our naval riverine doctrine. It covers the period from the American Revolution, to the present assignment to the U. S. Marine Corp for the responsibility of maintaining a current doctrine, now being implemented at the Marine Corps Riverine Center for Excellence, Camp Lejune. At their invitation, Dr. Blake has participated in seminars at this Center. His formal PhD dissertation will also be a valuable addition to your Naval War College resources.

His current research underway will expand on an important segment of that dissertation. It will study Operation SEALORDS and the Navy and Marine Corps's unique, positive contributions to pacification in Vietnam during that war. These pacification programs were acknowledged to be among the most successful in Vietnam during the period of U. S. involvement. I understand that there are important and rarely researched documents relevant to these programs in the Naval War College collections, the Naval Historical Center, the Marine Corps Historical Center, the Marine Corps Riverine Center for Excellence, Camp Lejune, and other collections. Access to all of these will be essential to Dr. Dunnavent if he is to successfully complete his serious and thorough historical research into this area of positive contributions by the U. S. military in Vietnam.

Your selection of Dr. Dunnavent for this year's Miller Research Fellowship will greatly assist in making his completion of that research possible. The results will be a worthy contribution to naval historical research that is complimentary to the goals of the Naval War College and their Advanced Research Department, whom he looks forward to working with in this project.

Dr. Dunnavent is meticulous in his historical research. His writings are clear, concise, precise, and interesting to read. He is highly articulate, always neat in appearance and is considered to be a cheerful associate to work with. He is physically active, trim, and in apparent good health. As a professor, he has good communications with young people, passing on to them the history and lore of the military in general, and naval history in particular, inspiring them to further study in these subjects. He is a highly moral person of good personal habits and the ethics of a dedicated historian. We are proud to know this young man and to have him for a friend. He may use us for a personal reference at any time.

Your selection of Dr. Dunnavent is most earnestly recommended. If I can be of further assistance, feel free to contact me at the above letterhead address, or:

My (unlisted) home phone:

My e-mail address:

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
COPY
Emmett H. Tidd
Vice Admiral, USN (Retired)

[Handwritten signature]
BLIND COPY
P.S.: I MUST ADD THAT MR. TIDD
AND I HAVE ONLY THE FONDDEST
OF MEMORIES OF OUR TIME IN NEWPORT
WHILE I WAS A STUDENT IN THE SB-SYCS io



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

August 5, 1998

VADM Emmett H. Tidd, USN (Ret.)
1123 South Oakcrest Road
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Emmett:

I agree with you, knowing the NWC procedures, that it would probably be counterproductive for me to contact them concerning Dr. Dunnavent.

Besides, I think your letter is clearly so superior that I could add nothing.

All best wishes and thanks for taking this on.

Sincerely,

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

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Arlington, VA 22209-3901

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