

Date: Fri, 04 Sep 1998 06:43:28 -0500  
From: "James R. Reckner" <jjrec@TTACS.TTU.EDU>  
Subject: Colonel Donlon & Westmoreland Scholar Foundation  
To:

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Dear Admirals:

Just a brief update on Colonel Donlon and the Westmoreland Scholar Foundation (WSF).

In my meeting with the Provost, Dr. John Burns, and Phil Price earlier this week, Burns gave the go-ahead to get specific proposals from the WSF for establishing a closer relationship with that organization. The problem is that while we have spoken of a closer relationship, Colonel Donlon has never gotten beyond broad generalities. At this end we very much need the specifics of what sort of relationship they (the WSF) ultimately desire.

The WSF Board of Directors met in Washington on Wednesday, and at it agreed to move further toward this "new relationship." I have advised them of our willingness to consider any proposal from them. I will today be sending a fax to the chairman of their board, Mr. John Allen, a lawyer in Washington, urging them to give us a very specific proposal so our lawyers can check it out and approve it. They (Texas Tech's general counsel) are particularly concerned that we ensure that in establishing this new relationship we do not undertake any existing liabilities of the WSF, and Mr. Allen will have to clarify that issue.

Concerning Colonel Donlon, I have received permission to go ahead with recruiting him to work at the Vietnam Center. I anticipate that we would appoint him to a yet to be created position entitled, "Associate Director for Outreach." In this position, he would be responsible for the Center's interaction with veterans' groups. Here his unquestioned credibility will be a strong asset as we approach these groups for individual and organizational records for the archive, artifacts for the museum, and funding. His additional role will be to assist in fund-raising by using his access to potential donors to get our senior fund-raisers in the front door on Vietnam Center-related funding requests.

Dr. Burns has indicated that he probably would have the funds to cover his salary (estimating \$50,000 per annum) from April 1999 to the end of the fiscal year. Further, I have approached the Chancellor on this issue and he responded that if I have any difficulty getting Donlon here, to contact him.

I have discussed this very informally with Colonel Donlon, whose immediate response was, "Well, I guess you will have to help me with house-hunting." At this point, I am not soliciting any correspondence between you and him on this issue; rather, I am just updating you on developments. When we get further along, then a note from you might be helpful.

The Center has just received authorization to create a second full-time secretarial position. The person hired will be responsible for producing the Indochina Chronology. This project has been handled by grad. students thus far, but we are having considerable difficulty with

continuity, as students disappear for the summer, and there is a lack of continuity in the work. Therefore, the new position will greatly facilitate the timely production of the journal. As that job is not really a full-time one, I anticipate that this person also will, ultimately, perform some of the administrative support necessary for the Westmoreland Scholar Foundation.

Very respectfully,  
James R. Reckner



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

September 10, 1998

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Dear Jim:

It is a very hard to provide guidance to someone who is so far ahead of the horizon that one just sights him occasionally.

Just let me concentrate on commending you on the good news about Phil Price's tremendous contribution and about your continuing efforts to establish a relationship with Westy.

Please call on me when it is time to weigh in on either of these issues in any way that it would be helpful.

Sincerely,

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