

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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May 7, 1997

Chancellor John T. Montford
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX 79409-2013

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Dear Chancellor Montford:

Thank you for your letter of April 25, 1997, and for your kind comments about the Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict and our conference on teaching Vietnam.

What you --almost alone, it seems-- have appreciated is that in the Vietnam project we have a very valid area of academic research which also happens to be of great interest to a significant segment of the American public. That is a rare combination which gives Texas Tech an excellent opportunity for very positive national publicity.

I believe that with sustained effort from News & Publications, the Vietnam project will continue to garner significant state and national publicity. In order for this project to continue to enjoy its current level of success, the following things are necessary:

a. It is exceedingly important, I believe, for the Center to be perceived as offering opportunities for all points of view to be expressed. In addition to decision-makers like Admiral Zumwalt and General Rosson, we must also invite individuals who were identified with the anti-war movement.

b. We must continue our active correspondence with the academic community engaged in studying the war. I am pleased, in this respect, to report that my request for a secretary has been approved, and that I expect to advertise the position within a week.

c. We must continue to receive the strong support of the university's leadership. The support we currently receive, I might add, is a source of constant amazement within this discipline. Texas Tech, to the best of my knowledge, is the only university in the nation which actively supports such a program, and as one of the leading names in the field commented in a letter to me some months ago, those in the field are "all green with envy about Texas Tech." I sincerely hope they will have reason to stay that way indefinitely.

Thanking you again for your continuing support and encouragement, I remain,

Very respectfully,


James R. Reckner

Director

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