



CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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20 February 1997

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

Dear Admiral:

Expanded Vietnam Center Budget Request. Despite my best-laid plans, I got caught not entirely prepared when yesterday afternoon I received a telephone request for a budget for \$4,000,000 for the Vietnam Center. The budget was required within fifteen minutes, for immediate transmission to Austin! It was the busiest fifteen minutes I have spent in quite some time. Attached is a copy of the budget as I sent it; I am certain there will be considerable room for alteration once the actual budget --whatever sum that might be-- is approved by the legislature.

There are a number of key provisions in the proposed budget:

* **Significant funding (\$350,000 per annum) for exchange programs with Vietnamese institutions of higher learning.** I intend to push for active connections with the very best institutions in Vietnam, for our prestige there will be measured by the company we keep there. Of course, we will continue working with Phu, the Foreign Trade University and the Foreign Language Center. But the key connection must be at the top level in order to ensure that we are taken seriously in Vietnam. (This is an important cultural consideration, there, I suspect.)

* **Truly major funding for acquisitions (\$500,000 per annum) and a very strong program for staffing the archive to process all collections and make finding aids available.**

* **A full-time position for the Center Director, and a senior administrative assistant to take over much of the day-to-day correspondence and telephone business.**

Vietnam Center Advisory Board Member Nominated for Board of Regents. Unfortunately, Governor Bush did not select Colonel Buesseler for the Board of Regents. I suspect he had a number of political bills to pay and used the appointment to do that. Nevertheless, Colonel Buesseler remains on our board and a very strong and influential local supporter of our program.

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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An Affirmative Action Institution

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

Vietnamese Delegation to the Conference. Phu faxed yesterday to request another invitation for Colonel Ta Minh Kham, the former commander of the VC 9th Division. I am faxing the invitation today to Phu and also to the American Embassy in Hanoi. It now seems very probable that Phu, General Son and Colonel Kham will attend the conference. Admiral Tidd will be arriving in Lubbock on the 13th, and I have requested that he and Mrs. Tidd assist me in entertaining the Vietnamese party. I have asked the Vietnamese to arrive by 14 April, in order to rest up before the conference. General William B. Rosson, USA (Ret) also will arrive in Lubbock on 13 April for a short visit. He is unable to attend the conference, and will depart on 16 April.

Ambassador Diem, Air Marshal Ky. I talked with Ambassador Diem yesterday. He is very excited about the Vietnamese delegation's possible participation. He went to school with General Son forty years ago. He said he will contact Ky within the next two days and press him to attend. Ky apparently has been out of the country, but should be back home now.

The Vietnam Museum/Center/Archive Building. I believe we have now successfully planted the seed in the Chancellor's mind that we need an entirely new building for the Vietnam project, the ground floor of which would be a magnificent museum of the Vietnam War. I have heard indirectly that he has begun talking about it as one of our new big projects. It is entirely possible that we will see it in the next couple of years. I will just need to ensure that the seed is watered and fertilized from time to time. Perhaps you will have the chance to do some of the "watering" during your visit.

Ambassador Sally Shelton-Colby. Mrs. Colby has now firmly committed to attend the conference. We will present the plaque that will be permanently displayed in the Vietnam Center offices at the reception on the evening of the 17th.

Ambassador-Designate Pete Peterson. I received an e-mail message from Ambassador-Designate Peterson in which he indicated that he now thinks he will be in Hanoi by March, and that he will be pleased to help us in any way he can. I think he will prove invaluable in our efforts to establish good working relationships with Vietnamese institutions in the months ahead.

Douglas Pike's Transfer to Texas Tech. There has been some resistance at Berkeley to Pike's plan to move to Texas Tech. The dean responsible for area studies has written a letter --a model of legal ambiguity-- to President Haragan indicating that Berkeley has some claim to Pike's papers. Pike has engaged a lawyer in San Francisco who indicates Berkeley has no case. I have suggested to Doug (and will suggest to President Haragan) that Texas Tech merely acknowledge receipt of the letter from Berkeley, and thus compel the dean in Berkeley to make some clear statement of what he wants. I believe this is all just maneuvering designed to cover a fair degree of embarrassment in Berkeley about the loss of Pike. That loss, of course, is a direct result of their shabby treatment of him over several years.

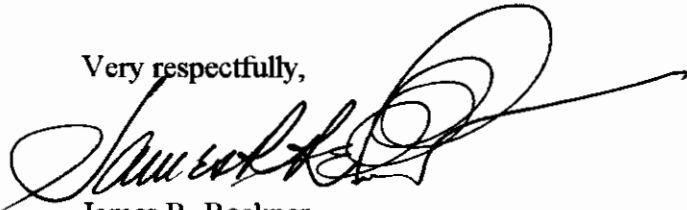
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

New Collections. Within the last week we have received offers of two important collections which we, of course, will accept. The papers of Dr. Basil Rauch deal in great detail with Franklin Roosevelt, anticolonialism and Indochina. They include, I understand, some rare early French documents relating to Indochina. The papers of Professor John Donnell apparently are already on the way. They deal with the politics of South Vietnam, and were gathered principally for a study of the Can Lao Party. They include many early interviews of Vietnamese Buddhists, members of the Hoa Hao sect, Viet Cong, etc. Donnell wrote two books: *Electoral Politics in South Vietnam* and *Politics in South Vietnam: Doctrines of Authority in Conflict*. He also wrote a number of Rand studies, principally relating to Viet Cong recruitment and pacification.

Texas Tech Leadership Award. I gather from the distribution on the letter from Major General Dudley Faver announcing that I have been awarded the leadership award that you played some role in it. I want to take this opportunity once again to thank you for your support in this -- as you have supported so many other things here at Texas Tech in recent years. I am much honored to receive this award.

We all very much look forward to your and Mouza's visit to Lubbock in April.

Very respectfully,



James R. Reckner
Director

encl: Proposed budget

Vietnam Center Budget Proposal 18 February 1997

(Amounts below per annum for biennium)

Archival Staff (7)	\$235,000
Administrative Staff (2)	\$60,000
Research Assistants (8)	\$64,000
Technical Assistant (1)	\$30,000
Professor, Vietnamese Language (1)	\$35,000
Vietnamese Language Assistant (2)	\$60,000
Douglas Pike	\$60,000
Vietnam Center Director	\$75,000
Acquisitions	\$500,000
Programs & Exchanges with Vietnamese Universities	\$350,000
Conferences	\$30,000
Postdoctoral Fellowships (2)	\$70,000
Predocctoral Fellowships (4)	\$72,000
Vietnam Historian	\$40,000
Capital Purchases	\$75,000
Periodicals	\$20,000
Publications, Monographs, etc.	\$50,000
Operating Expenses	\$114,000
Travel	\$60,000
Total	\$2,000,000

Notes:

Vietnamese Language Specialists to assist with translations, cataloguing, etc., in archive and to assist Douglas Pike. They also will assist in relations with Vietnamese universities.

Funds allocated for "Publications, Monographs, etc." will cover expenses for publishing *Indochina Chronology* and a planned series of monographs relating to Indochina.

Postdoctoral fellows will offer one course each relating to their area of expertise within their own particular discipline. Predoctoral fellows will be required to offer at least one lecture on the topic of their doctoral research.

Programs and Exchanges with Vietnam Universities will include invitations for senior Vietnamese academics to visit/lecture at Texas Tech and will include opportunities for Texas Tech faculty and graduates to conduct research in Vietnam.

I envision the Center Director position as a full time position under this arrangement.

Due to short notice, I was unable to project expenses for second year of biennium. A more detailed budget will be necessary to account for this.



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

March 4, 1997

James R. Reckner, Ph.D.
Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict
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Dear Jim:

Each of your letters is so full of startlingly good news that I have to pinch myself.

Please schedule me to do the necessary "watering" when I come down.

I hope it will be possible for Mouza and me, the Tidids, and the Reckners to have dinner with Ambassador Sally Shelton-Colby while we are there.

I am meeting today with Ambassador Peterson and will let you know if anything of interest transpires.

We are looking forward to being with you.

Sincerely,

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

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