

# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## THE VIETNAM CENTER

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December 21, 1998

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.  
1000 Wilson Blvd., Suite 3105  
Arlington, VA 22209

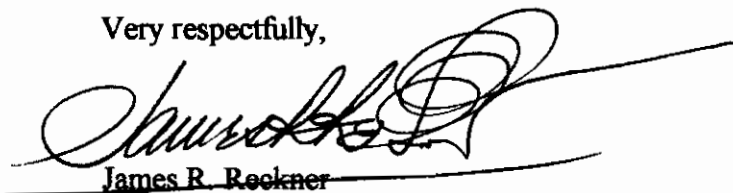
Dear Admiral:

I take this opportunity to forward, for your information, a copy of my rough notes from the latest meeting of the Biological Warfare Working Group at Texas Tech. I think they are heading in the right direction.

I forward, also, the minutes of the latest meeting of the Vietnam Center Building Planning Committee, at which was discussed plans for models of the building and the promotional video, which will include a computer-generated video walk-through of the building, based on our plans. One aspect of our plan for this propels me to make yet another request of you. As we envision it, we will have a helicopter flight around the building, showing the exterior from every angle. The helicopter will then land in front of the building, and we will progress into the museum, go upstairs, viewing the Huey on display enroute, then enter the orientation theater. To this point, everything will be computer-generated. The orientation theater will then darken and we will shift to regular video. Here we would very much appreciate it if you would appear to say a few words about the Vietnam project. We then would present the interior layout of the building, then cut back to a final appeal from you for support for the building.

If you would agree to participate in this, then I will ask Ron Kendall's folks to allocate an hour of your time during your January 25th visit for us to film you. Phil Price and I will work together to produce the script for this. Of course, we will alter the script in any way you feel appropriate.

Very respectfully,



James R. Reekner  
Director

encl: BW Minutes  
VN Building Minutes

VIETNAM CENTER NATIONAL COUNCIL  
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (RET), Chairman  
General William C. Westmoreland  
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### **Biological Warfare Working Group Notes, Meeting of 18 December 1998**

The committee met on December 18, 1998, in the Pharmacology Conference Room, University Medical Center, at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Approach to White Paper**

At a meeting held on the previous day, committee members determined that while the various groups have been working on related projects, there had been no unifying theme that could tie the efforts together. Therefore, they proposed that the White Paper be formulated around three possible scenarios, with each of the working groups then focusing their report upon those scenarios.

In the discussion, it was proposed that each of the subcommittees examine the following scenarios:

- a. An attack upon Ft. Bragg, a military base with a population of approximately 100,000. The unique aspect here is that the population of the base would be easily controlled.
- b. An attack upon an isolated, medium-sized city such as Lubbock, with a population of about 200,000.
- c. An attack upon a suburban area, such as Chevy Chase, MD.

It was suggested that the three sites offer quite different problems. Fort Bragg, for example, is an area in which detection devices might easily be installed and monitored. The situation in the other examples is quite different in this respect.

Similarly, the problem of containment, particularly in the case of attack with communicable diseases, is quite different. In Ft. Bragg and Lubbock, containment might be achievable; however, in Chevy Case it would be almost impossible.

The problems of medical teams in these areas also would vary considerably.

These proposals spurred considerable discussion, particularly as to the selection of particular scenario locations. It is most probable that the scenario sites will be altered, probably to reflect more emphasis upon the Southwest and/or West Coast.

The essential idea, though, was that these three scenarios would adequately test the arrangements which the committees would propose. The scenarios also are based on the proposition that any BW attacks upon the US are likely to be local in nature, though they should include the possibility of multiple, concurrent attack, with all of the attendant questions of assignment of priorities for dealing with such an attack. 11 130

The issue of coordinated attacks gave rise to an interesting discussion of the need for devolution of authority for dealing with such incidents; that individual states should have responsibility for dealing with crises in their respective states, with the possibility of falling back to the federal government should the crisis become too big to handle. It was felt it would be inappropriate for total authority to remain with the federal government.

**Johns Hopkins University Initiative:** A committee member reported that Johns Hopkins University is planning a meeting in February 1999 to develop a White Paper on civilian countermeasures to biological warfare. This was discussed at some length, with the conclusion that we should press on with our own work, secure in the knowledge that should we develop an appropriate proposal, the possibility exists that funding might be made available for more than one initiative in the field. It is logical to assume that the subject is of such importance that more than one institution of higher learning should be engaged.

**Deadline:** The committee set the deadline of 15 January for the completed draft of the White Paper. Review groups will conduct successive reviews of the draft on 5, 8, 12, and 15 January, and the full committee will meet at 10:00 a.m., on 19 January, after which the White Paper will be sent via overnight delivery to Admiral Zumwalt.

**DOD RFP:** There was some discussion of the DOD RFP which was circulated earlier. It has a submission deadline of 1 March 1999. The committee determined to press on with the current work, and at the same time produce an RFP for submission to the DOD. I suggested that in this case we might reasonably approach Admiral Zumwalt for a cover letter for this project. 11

12-20-98



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

January 6, 1999

James R. Reckner, Ph.D.  
The Vietnam Center  
Texas Tech University  
P. O. Box 41045  
Lubbock, TX 79409-1045

Dear Jim:

I have the following responses to correspondence received from you during the holidays:

-- I look forward to serving on the panel you have assigned me for April. I acknowledge your request that I be the keynote speaker for the formal opening ceremony of the Wall visit on April 14.

--I will be trying to contact Mrs. Westmoreland and Mrs. Abrahms this week concerning a symposium. Mouza's health continues to be troubling, and I don't think she will be up to doing the panel, but I will keep you posted.

-- Many thanks for the update on the biological warfare meeting.

-- With regard to your December 21 letter, I would be happy to say a few words about the Vietnam project for the promotional video, and I agree to your asking Ron Kendall to allocate an hour of my time during my January 25 visit for the filming.

Sincerely,

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

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*P.S. Judy no. Wiley you 30 min  
Group says she will do it.  
Meeting would be great thing*

