

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

THE VIETNAM CENTER

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Memorandum

Tab

January 4, 1999

To: Participants in 199⁹ Vietnam Symposium

From: James R. Reckner 

Subj: 1999 Vietnam Symposium

1. Attached please find a listing of the papers thus far proposed for the Vietnam Center's 3rd Triennial Vietnam Symposium (15-17 April 1999). I have not yet set up the agenda for the symposium as in past I have encountered resistance from individuals when I found it necessary to make adjustments. Therefore, it is my intention to hold off on publishing a specific agenda until the date of the symposium gets closer and I more fully understand all of the papers proposed for presentation. If anyone wishes to propose additional papers for the conference, I would urge you to do so soon, so I can fit them into the program.

2. As always, we will attempt to meet everyone at the airport upon arrival, so, if you are planning to attend, please advise us of your flight number and arrival time. We will provide all necessary transportation; therefore, there is no particular need to rent a car. I urge you, also, to make your hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza as soon as possible. I have reserved 150 rooms for the symposium; however, they are likely to fill up early, as they did in 1996. Latecomers are likely to find themselves in other hotels, with all of the accompanying inconvenience. Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza: (806) 797-3241. *// P*

3. We have arranged a number of events to mark the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Vietnam project at Texas Tech, including a visit of the Moving Vietnam Wall (14-18 April); a fund-raising dinner at which the Chancellor of the university will unveil plans for our new \$15 million Vietnam Center building; a civic reception; symposium banquet; and an evening of West Texas entertainment at the V-8 Ranch on Saturday evening. Thank you for joining us to celebrate this landmark in our development.

4. Events will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 14 April 1999, with ceremonies marking the beginning of the Moving Wall visit to Texas Tech University, at which Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., will speak. I hope to see you then.

encl:

VIETNAM CENTER NATIONAL COUNCIL
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (RET), Chairman
General William C. Westmoreland
Hon. William P. Bundy, Hon. Bui Dicom, Professor Douglas Pike

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January 03, 1999

Third Triennial Vietnam Symposium (15-17 April 1999)

Paper Proposals

Listing Does Not Reflect Sequence of Presentation
Panel Assignments Subject to Change at Discretion of
Vietnam Center Director

Differing Perceptions of the War

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
PAVN Lieutenant General Nguyen Dinh Uoc
US Army General Officer [to be identified]

Archives

Panel 1: Vietnam Project at the US National Archives

Richard L. Boylan, Cliff L. Snyder, Jeannine S. Swift, Charles A. Shaughnessy, National Archives Staff.

1. Background of Vietnam Recors and Vietnam Records Processing
2. Records Access
3. Nature of Vietnam Research at NARA, Past, Present, Future Possibilities
4. Present Use of Technology and the Records

Panel 2 Archives and Research

Dr. Arthur J. Dommen, George Mason University, "Searching for Vietnam History Through the US National Archives."

Steven Denny, UC Berkeley, "Watching Hanoi: The Changing Conditions for Following Contemporary Developments in Vietnam."

John Newman, Colorado State, "Vietnam War Literature at Colorado State."

James Ginther, Texas Tech, "The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University."

Laos

Panel 1

Chair/Commentator: William Head, Warner-Robins ALC

John Prados, Independent Scholar, "International Aspects of the War in Laos."

Earl H. Tilford, US Army War College, "Operation Commando Hunt: The Air War against the Ho Chi Minh Trail."

Dr. Tim Castle, Air Command & Staff College, "Bombing Through the Clouds: The Establishment and Operation of Site 85."

Panel 2: The Secret War in Laos

Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt

Ted Shakley

Richard Verrone, Texas Tech, "The 1962 Geneva Accords on Laos and Debunking the 'Cold War Rhetoric'."

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Cambodia

Panel 1: US Military Support for the Lon Nol Government

Brigadier General (ret) Theo C. Mataxis, USA, American Military University, "The Activation and Operations of the US Military Equipment Delivery Team Cambodia (MEDTC)."

Major General (ret) John Cleland, USA, "Operations of MEDTC Before and After Cut Off of USAF Air Support (15 Aug. 1973)."

Major General Ken Bowra, USA, CG US Army Special Warfare Center and School, "Operations and Withdrawal of MEDTC (Operation Eagle Pull)."

Panel 2: Peace Operations in Cambodia

Chairman: Brigadier General Theo C. Mataxis

Gregory A. Olson, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, "Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Senator Mike Mansfield: The Nixon Administration's Missed Opportunity to Avoid the Killing Fields."

James G. Zumwalt, [Invited] Paper on 1998 Elections in Cambodia

Cambodia Desk Officer, US State Department, "Current Status and Future Trends in Cambodia."
[Requested]

America's Allies in Vietnam

Curtis Peoples, Texas Tech, "American Allies: The Role of Third Country Forces in Vietnam."

Ronald B. Frankum, Texas Tech, "Another Vietnam War: Australia and the United States in Southeast Asia, 1963-1965."

Douglas Pike, Texas Tech, "America's NATO Allies and Vietnam."

Early Vietnam Strategy, to 1965

Lieutenant General (ret) John Cushman, USA, untitled paper on early strategy.

Major General (ret) Edward B. Atkeson, Institute of Land Warfare, AUSA. "Vietnam War Strategy: A Prosecutor's Brief." (Deals with March 1965 Commander's Estimate of the Situation.)

Early Vietnam War Battles

Chair/Commentator: Colonel Roger Donlon, USA (Ret), M.H.

Major Dave Toczek, US Military Academy, "A Miserable Damn Performance": The Battle of Ap Bac, Vietnam, 1963."

Anne Blair, Australian National University, Battle of Nam Dong, 1964.

Logevall, Fred. UC-Santa Barbara. One of a possible menu of four papers, to tie in with Dr. Anne Blair's proposed paper on the Battle of Nam Dong, 1964.

1. "An Inevitable War? The Domestic American and International Context, 1964-65."
2. "Window of Opportunity: Lyndon Johnson and Disengagement from Vietnam, November 1964 - February 1965."
3. "Coercive Diplomacy: The U.S. and the Seaborn Mission to Hanoi, June 1964."
4. "More Flags": The American Attempt to Get Third Country Assistance in Vietnam."

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Vietnam Battles, 1968-73

Mark Moyer, Independent Scholar, "Deception and Conspiracy During the Tet Offensive."
Howard Fong, National Archives, "The Path to the Ben Hai: Vietnamization, Force Structuring,
and the Activation of the 3rd ARVN Infantry Division, October 1971."

End of the War in Vietnam, 1973-1975

Chair/Commentator: Dr. Larry Berman, University of California at Davis
James E. Parker, Jr., Independent scholar. "The Evacuation from South Vietnam, 1975."
Dr. James Willbanks, Army Command & General Staff College. "The Fall of South Vietnam."

Anti-War Topics

The Vietnam War on Campus: Other Voices, More Distant Drums

Chair/Commentator: Marc J. Gilbert, North Georgia College & State University
Paul Lyons, Stockton State University, "The Sounds of Silence: Silent Boomers in an Age of
Protest."

Anthony O. Edmonds, Ball State University, "The Anti-War Movement at Ball State University."

Marc Jason Gilbert, North Georgia College & State University, "Lock and Load Revisited:
Protest, Memory and the Internet."

Barbara Tischler, Horace Mann School, "Refiners Fired: Women and the Anti-War Movement
on Campus."

Vietnam Art and Photography

Joan Seeman Robinson, "Fire and Light: An Anti-war Mural at Syracuse University."

Panel to be organized by Sally Packard of Dallas:

David Thomas, curator of *As Seen from Both Sides* and *An Ocean Apart*

John McAuliff, director, Indochina Reconciliation Project

Le Ly Haslip, author, *When Heaven and Earth Changed Places*

Don Schol, associate dean, School of Visual Art, Univ. of North Texas

An-My Le, Vietnamese-American artist

Joan Seeman Robinson

Antonia Neubauer, Presentation (with slides) on Vietnamese culture, religions, etc.

Ted Engelmann, Photographic essay, Vietnam 1999.

The Viet Kieu Experience

Chair/Commentator: The Hon. Bui Diem, former Ambassador to the United States
Jeffrey Brody, California State University, Fullerton, "The Reporter from Little Saigon."

Major Quang X. Pham, USMCR, Untitled paper on his personal experiences.

Andrew Lam, Pacific News Service, Untitled paper on his personal experiences.

Henry Nguyen, Texas Tech University, Untitled paper on his personal experiences.

The Vietnamese Revolution: Retrospect and Prospect

Chair: Nguyen Manh Hung, George Mason University

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Do Quy Toan, *The Ky 21 (21st Century) Magazine*, Westminster, CA, "Civic Culture in Vietnam's Tradition."

Nguyen Manh Hung, George Mason University, "Debates on the Nature and Direction of the Vietnamese Revolution."

Le Van Tien, Westminster, CA, "From the Second to the Eighth Party Congress: Comparison of Two Generations of Communist Leadership."

Discussant: Douglas Pike, Texas Tech University

Teaching the Vietnam War

Joe Dunn, Converse College, "Day One of a Vietnam War Course."

Randy Fertel, Tulane University, "Teaching the Vietnam War as an Interdisciplinary Text."

Naval Topics

William A. Mitchell, David Sarabia, Daniel Faraci, James Kurtz, Baylor University. "The Combined American, Republic of Vietnam, and Khmer Republic Effort to Protect Vital Transnational Mekong River Convoys in 1971."

Les Cullen, Texas Tech University, "'A Damascus Road Experience': Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., and ACTOV's Human Dimension."

Vietnam & China

Nguyen Hong Thach, SRV Foreign Ministry, currently studying at Australian Armed Forces Defence Academy, "Vietnam between China and the United States, 1950-1995."

(Depends upon Vietnam Center financing to attend)

Lynn Sholtis, Texas Tech, Untitled paper on Vietnamese relations with China

Key Figures

Samuel B. Hoff, Delaware State University. "Colby versus McNamara: Vietnam Performance and Postscript."

Geoffrey D.T. Shaw, University of Manitoba. "The Counterinsurgency Legacy of William Colby and Frederick (Fritz) Nolting during the Diem Period."

Currently Not Assigned to a Panel:

Sankar Chatterjee, Texas Tech University. Untitled paper on geology of Vietnam and formation of oil fields.

David Morokoff, Texas Tech University, "The Media's Coverage of the Vietnam War."

Gary D. Solis, US Military Academy. "General Courts-Martial in Vietnam: Heavy Handed or Sentencing Sweethearts?"

Darrel Whitcomb, Independent Scholar: Untitled paper on SAR: Rescue of BAT 21 BRAVO.

Brigadier General (ret) George Gaspard, USA Presentation (with slides) on Vietnam experiences, including FULRO uprising.

David Fuhrmann, Independent Scholar, one of two papers:

1. "America's First Indochina Crisis, 1940-41"
2. "Laos, Kennedy and the Bombing of North Vietnam"