

JUL 14 1994

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

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July 11, 1994

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.  
1500 Wilson Blvd., Suite 641  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

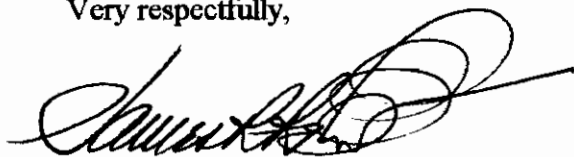
I take this opportunity to enclose President Lawless' letter of invitation for General Giap. I hope General Giap will see the merit in the proposal and agree to join us for the conference. We will deal the details, including security, should he decide to come.

Within the last week or so I received a very interesting publication, *Report on the 1990-1991 Survey of Courses on the Vietnam War*, published by the Indochina Institute at George Mason University. Although the survey was of a fairly narrow base (89 university professors), the figures are still enlightening. The survey found that 47.2% of the professors polled who were teaching courses on the Vietnam War had been active in the anti-war movement. Only 24.7% were Vietnam vets, and more than a quarter of those who identified themselves as Vietnam vets also indicated that they had been active in the anti-war movement.

This indicates to me that we very clearly are losing the war once again: this time in the classrooms of American universities. I am not certain what the answer to this might be. I hope that a new generation of university professors will arrive who were completely untouched by the war, and who can therefore approach the topic with a better balance. But the trouble is they will have to be taught by someone, and the odds are their teachers will have been members of the anti-war movement, with all of the biases that implies. Perhaps if our program at Texas Tech continues to develop, and the funding is available in the years ahead, we might be able to train enough future academics to at least impartially consider the military's point of view. All we can do, I suppose, is continue on our present course with as much vigor as possible.

The Army War College folks will visit with us on Thursday and Friday. I will report the results of that visit.

Very respectfully,



James R. Reckner



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

July 18, 1994

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James R. Reckner, Ph.D.  
Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict  
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Lubbock, TX 79409-1013

Dear Jim:

Thank you very much for sending me the letter for delivery to General Giap which I will take with me on the trip for that purpose.

With regard to your very appropriate remark that we are losing the war academically, I have the following query. Would it not be possible to get someone in the media interested in doing an expose' on the fact that the teaching about the war is being captured by the anti-war movement?

60 Minutes will be accompanying me on my September trip to Vietnam, and I will try to sell it there, but you might think of other opportunities.

All best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Bud*

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

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