

# Friends of The Vietnam Center

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F E B R U A R Y 1 9 9 9 • V O L U M E 6 I S S U E 1

## VIETNAM SYMPOSIUM (15-17 APRIL 1999)

DEADLINES PAPER PROPOSALS: 15 MARCH • HOTEL RESERVATIONS: 24 MARCH  
(DETAILS INSIDE)

### PRESERVING THE RECORD OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

**W**ith the assistance of former South Vietnamese Ambassador Bui Diem, the Vietnam Center has launched an initiative to preserve documents relating to the Republic of Vietnam.

Our goal with this project, quite simply, is to preserve for future generations as much as possible of the record of the Republic of Vietnam. Future generations of overseas Vietnamese, it seems certain, will seek answers to many questions about their ancestors, the role they played in the Republic of Vietnam, and why, ultimately,

they came to be *Viet kieu* [overseas Vietnamese].

If any of that record is to be preserved, we must do it now, and not wait another twenty years. While the Vietnam Center is prepared to allocate some of its resources to this effort, ultimately, the task must be accomplished by the older generation of Vietnamese, who lived through the traumatic events which shaped, and ultimately ended, the Republic of Vietnam.

In this effort, we appeal to the sense of history of the Vietnamese people. We must work to preserve the history of South Vietnam or subsequent generations of Vietnamese who left Vietnam following the war will be condemned to a future without a past. For a people with such a rich sense of their history, that would be most unfortunate.

Individuals interested in donating materials relating to the Republic of Vietnam are encouraged to contact the Vietnam Archive or the Vietnam Center. The Center's Vietnamese language specialist, Mr. Khanh Le, can be contacted by telephone at (806) 742-3742.



Ambassador Bui Diem and Texas Tech University President Donald R. Harrigan

### VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

**S**ince our last newsletter, we are very pleased to announce that the national leadership of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association has voted to make Texas Tech's Vietnam Archive the repository for their records. The first three boxes of these materials were delivered by Bill Fitzgerald of the VHPA, who also has joined the Vietnam Center Advisory Board. We look forward to a long and fruitful association with the VHPA, and are grateful for the opportunity to preserve their records.



Morning Knights  
"Vietnam Images" by Richard Rezac

# PIECE OF 'HANOI HILTON' FINDS HOME IN TECH'S VIETNAM CENTER

by Kara Altenbaumer, *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, November 13, 1998

**T**exas Tech's Vietnam Center acquired a piece of American history Thursday complete with dust, mortar and paint.

A brick from the front wall of the Hanoi Hilton prison was presented to the center by Gary Flanagan, deputy commander of the government's efforts to find American soldiers still missing in Vietnam and Laos.

The Hanoi Hilton, as it was called by American soldiers, held American prisoners of war captured in North Vietnam.

"This brick is a symbol of American courage," Flanagan said. "And the fact that [the Hanoi Hilton] is being destroyed by a capitalist venture represents the emerging relationship between countries."

A large portion of the prison was torn down in 1995 to make way for an office park and apartment building, Flanagan said. Construction is now under way to turn the remainder into a tourist site and hotel.

As a Vietnam veteran, center director James Reckner said the Hanoi Hilton memento has partic-

ular significance for him.

"I know a number of the men who spent years in this prison," he said. "It is a stunning memory of what those men went through."

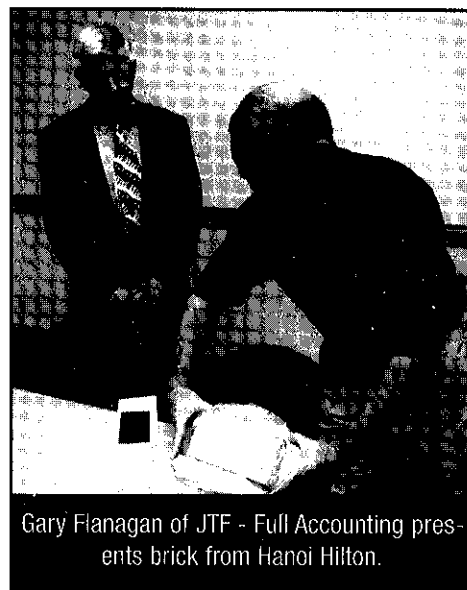
Average stay in the prison, whose Vietnamese name meant "Fire Oven," was six to seven years, Reckner said. The first American prisoner was held for nine years.

During a lecture Thursday evening, Flanagan detailed his work in Southeast Asia, including more than 2,000 investigations, 200 oral history interviews and 100 excavations. Since he and his team began work in 1987, the number of unaccounted-for American soldiers has dropped from 2,583 to 2,078.

"That's 20 percent," Flanagan said. "In 1987, we thought if we could do 10 percent we would be successful."

Flanagan's work is important, Reckner said, because it brings closure for many Americans with connections to the Vietnam War.

"It's extremely important to be able to say to



Gary Flanagan of JTF - Full Accounting presents brick from Hanoi Hilton.

the children, "We've found your father," he said.

"Sixty-five percent of people alive in Vietnam today were born after the war. We can't transfer the hostility of my generation onto them. They had nothing to do with it."

## VISITORS FROM VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, HANOI

**O**n 15 - 17 November 1998, The Vietnam Center hosted a visit from Dr. Pham Quang Long, Vice-Rector of Vietnam National University (VNU) Hanoi and Pham Quang Minh, VNU's director of international relations.

During the two day visit, the Vietnamese guests met Texas Tech University Chancellor John T. Montford, who presented Dr. Long

with a set of Texas Tech "spurs." The gift presentation was followed by some discussion of the function of spurs, after which it was decided they would be mounted in a display case in Hanoi.

The Vietnamese guests met with the Dean of Libraries, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the Chairman of the History Department, during which visits they

discussed future cooperation in these fields between Texas Tech and VNU Hanoi.

Among the goals of the desired cooperation are the establishment of "American studies" programs in Vietnam, and various projects for the improvement of Vietnamese academic library systems.



Texas Tech University Chancellor John T. Montford presents Texas Tech Spurs to Dr. Pham Quang Long



Dr. Pham Quang Long, Mr. Khanh Le and Mr. Phan Quang Minh examine a captured Viet Cong document at the Vietnam Archive.

## VIETNAM SYMPOSIUM NEARS

**W**e are now completing planning for our 3rd Triennial Vietnam Symposium, scheduled to be held 15-17 April 1999 at the Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza [the same venue as our 1993 and 1996 symposia]. At the time of writing this newsletter, there are more than sixty papers proposed for presentation during the three day symposium. A list of proposed papers appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

For those interested in participating, we urge early registration at the symposium hotel. We have reserved a block of 150 rooms at the hotel, but reservations must be made by March 24,

1999. Individuals registering after March 24th may experience difficulty getting a room. To make reservations, call the Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza at (806) 797-3241, fax: (806) 793-1203.

Symposium participants arriving by air are encouraged to provide the Vietnam Center their arrival flight number and time of arrival. Vietnam Center staff will meet you at the airport and provide transportation to the symposium hotel. All subsequent transportation needs will be met by the Vietnam Center.

## VIETNAM ART EXHIBITIONS

**D**uring the month of April, the Vietnam Center will host two art exhibitions. One, "The Other Side of the River," is the collection of 25 works of combat art by three North Vietnamese artists mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. It will be on display at the International Cultural Center throughout the month of April.

The second exhibition represents a wed-

ding of new technology with the artistic process. Using high-end computer systems, Richard Rezac has employed digital painting to intensify the emotional impact of a series of Vietnam War images by Italian photojournalist Gianfranco Moroldo. Samples of this exhibition, "Images of Vietnam," appear on the back of this newsletter.

## MOVING VIETNAM WALL TO VISIT TEXAS TECH CAMPUS

"The Wall that Heals," the replica Vietnam Memorial, will visit Texas Tech University campus, 14 - 18 April 1999, in conjunction with The Vietnam Center's 3rd Triennial Vietnam Symposium. A program of events at the Wall has been integrated into the symposium agenda.

Symposium participants and the general public are invited to participate in all Wall events.

### Principal Symposium/Wall Visit Events

#### Wednesday, April 14, 1999

- 5:00 p.m. Opening ceremony at Wall
- 6:00 p.m. Public reception at University Center
- 7:00 p.m. Reception at International Cultural Center (for fund-raising dinner)
- 8:00 p.m. Fund-raising dinner at ICC

#### Thursday, April 15, 1999

- 9:00 a.m. Opening ceremony of symposium
- 9:30 a.m. Panel 1: Differing Perceptions of the War
- 11:15 a.m. Panel 2: We Also Served
- Noon Lunch.
- Speaker: Cambodian Ambassador to US
- 1:30 p.m. Panels 3a, 3b, 3c, etc.
- 3:15 p.m. Panels 4a, 4b, 4c, etc.

- 5:00 p.m. Civic Reception at American State Bank
- 8:00 p.m. Candlelight ceremony at Wall

#### Friday, April 16, 1999

- 8:45 a.m. Panels 5a, 5b, 5c, etc.
- 10:30 a.m. Panels 6a, 6b, 6c, etc.
- Noon Lunch. Speaker TBA
- 1:30 p.m. Panels 7a, 7b, 7c, etc.
- 3:15 p.m. Panels 8a, 8b, 8c, etc.
- 5:00 p.m. Ceremony at Wall. Speaker: TBA
- 7:00 p.m. Reception at ICC
- 8:00 p.m. Conference Banquet. Speaker TBA

#### Saturday, 17 April 1999

- 8:45 a.m. Panels 9a, 9b, 9c, etc.
- 10:30 a.m. Panels 10a, 10b, 10c, etc.
- Noon Lunch. Speaker TBA
- 1:30 p.m. Panels 11a, 11b, 11c, etc.
- 3:00 p.m. Plenary Session: Final summing up and Recommendations for the future
- 5:00 p.m. Evening at V-8 Ranch
- 9:00 p.m. Fellowship at Holiday Inn

#### Sunday, 18 April 1999

- 8:00 a.m. Nondenominational Memorial service at Wall
- 5:00 p.m. Closing ceremonies for Wall visit

**Panel Assignments for Panels 3 through 11 will be made shortly after the March 15 paper proposal deadline.**



### VHPA DONATES RECORDS

Vietnam Center Director  
Jim Reckner (left) receives VHPA records  
from Bill Fitzgerald (right)

## APRIL 2000 CONFERENCE: VIET KIEU EXPERIENCE

**H**ighlighting the Center's initiative to preserve the record of the Republic of Vietnam, we are pleased to announce that the Center's conference for April 2000 will focus on the *Viet kieu* experience.

We hope to use this meeting as a vehicle to network with overseas Vietnamese from around the world to chart a course for our project to preserve the record of the Republic of Vietnam. Texas Tech University has undertaken a longer-than-lifetime commitment to preserve any documents and artifacts we obtain.

It is time that we, together, Vietnamese and friends of Vietnamese alike, work to establish a first-rate research resource documenting the efforts of the South Vietnamese people and the experiences of the overseas Vietnamese.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

**A**s we begin our sixth year of publication of this newsletter, I would like to thank Phil Price for the continuing, generous support of The Price Communications Group, Inc. (TPCGI), in providing all artwork and layouts *gratis*. Many thanks, too, to Scott Corneliuss of TPCGI for his professional input which contributes so much to our finished product.



# 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., USN (Ret)  
General William B. Rosson, USA (Ret)  
PACV Lieutenant General Nguyen Dinh Uoc

## WE ALSO SERVED: MILITARY WIVES' EXPERIENCE

Moderator: Mrs. Mary Ann Harrison  
Mrs. Kitty Westmonland  
Mrs. Mouda Zumwalt  
Mrs. Mary "Muggs" Tidd

## ARCHIVES

Panel 1: *VIETNAM AND THE US NATIONAL ARCHIVES*  
Richard L. Boylan, Cliff L. Snyder, Jeannine S. Swift, Charles A. Shaughnessy, National Archives Staff

1. Background of Vietnam Records 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*

Arthur J. Dommen, George Mason University, "Searching for Vietnam History Through the US National Archives."  
Steven Denny, UC Berkeley, "Watching Hands: The Changing Conditions for Following Contemporary Developments in Vietnam."  
John Newman, Colorado State, "Vietnam War Literature at Colorado State."  
James Glenner, 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 Shockey (invited)  
Richard Vernon, Texas Tech, "The 1962 Geneva Accords on Laos and Debunking the 'Cold War Rhetoric'."

## CAMBODIA

Panel 1: *US Military Support for the Lon Nol Government*  
Brigadier General (ret) Theo C. Matyas, 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. Matyas  
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, "The 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."  
John Ernst, Morehead State University, "Opportunities won and Lost: A Comparative Study of the ROK and US Vietnam War Experience."  
Douglas Pike, Texas Tech, "America's NATO Allies and Vietnam."

## EARLY VIETNAM STRATEGY, TO 1965

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.)

## CRISES AND TURNING POINTS

Fred Logewall, UC-Santa Barbara, "Window of Opportunity: Lyndon Johnson and Disengagement from Vietnam, November 1964 - February 1965."  
David Fuhrmann, Independent Scholar, "America's First Indochina Crisis, 1940-41"

## EARLY VIETNAM WAR

Chair/Commentator: Colonel Roger Dorton, USA (Ret), M.H. Major Dave Toczek, US Military Academy, "A Miserable Damn Performance: The Battle of Ap Bac, Vietnam, 1963."  
Anne Blair, Monash University, "The Battle of Nam Dong, July 1964: Three Turning Points in the War."  
John Coleman, UC Santa Barbara, "Advisors to Fighters: America's First Combat Soldiers of the Vietnam War."

## VIETNAM BATTLES, 1968-73

Mark Moyer, Independent Scholar, "Deception and Conspiracy During the Tet Offensive."  
James McLeroy, Independent Scholar, "The Battle of Kham Duc Special Forces Camp, May 10-12, 1968."  
Howard Feng, National Archives, "The Path to the Ben Hai: Vietnamization, Force Structuring, and the Activation of the 3rd ARVN Infantry Division, October 1971."

## RESCUE ATTEMPTS

John Veith, Independent Scholar, Paper on attempted POW Rescues."  
Daniel Whitcomb, Independent Scholar, "Untitled paper on SAR: Rescue of BAT 21 BRAVO."

## POW/MIA ISSUES

Gary Ranagan, JTF Full Accounting, Det 2, Hanoi, "JTF Full Accounting Report of Activities"

## END OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM, 1973-1975

Chair/Commentator: Dr. Larry Berman, University of California at Davis  
Dr. James Wilbanks, Army Command & General Staff College, "The Fall of South Vietnam."  
James E. Parker, Jr., Independent scholar, "The Evacuation from South Vietnam, 1975."  
Captain Do Kiem, VNN, "The Vietnamese Navy and the Evacuation of South Vietnam."

## The Vietnam War on Campus: Open Wounds, More Dissonant Drums

Chairman: 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 D. Edmonds, Ball State University, "The Anti-War Movement at Ball State University."  
Marc Jason Gilbert, North Georgia College & State University, "Look and Load Revisited: Protest, Memory and the Internet."  
Steve Wheeler, Northeastern State Technical CC, (TN), "Hell No We Won't Go, Y'all: Southern Opposition to the War in Vietnam."  
Discussant: Ellen Pincus, Independent Scholar

## VIETNAM ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Panel 1: *Art with Anti-War Themes*  
Joan Seidman Robinson, "Fire and Light: An Anti-War Mural at Syracuse University."

## Panel 2: *Portraiture of Vietnam*

Antonia Neubauer, Presentation (with slides) on Vietnamese culture, religion, etc.  
Ted Engelmann, Photographic essay, Vietnam 1968.

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

## THE VIETNAMESE REVOLUTION: RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

Chair: Nguyen Manh Hung, George Mason University  
Do Quy Toan, *The Ky 21* (21st Century) Magazine, Westminster, CA, "Civil 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

## VIETNAM & CHINA

Nguyen Hong Thach, SRV Foreign Ministry, "Vietnam between China and the United States, 1950-1985."  
Lynn Shofits, Texas Tech, Untitled paper on Vietnamese relations with China

continued on next page



#### OPERATION RANCH HAND, VIETNAM, 1961-1971

LTC Paul Cecil, USAF (Ret), "Target Nomination, Approval, and Mission Planning for Spray Targets."

Colonel Ralph Dresser, USAF (Ret), "Flying Techniques Developed, and Tactics Used by A-1H Flying the Spray Mission."

Major Jack Spey, USAF (Ret), "The Association of Combat Crop Dusters, and the Myths about 'Agent Orange'."

#### 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."

#### 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."

#### 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."

Marc Jason Gilbert, "Teaching the Vietnam War: A Guide to Resources on the World Wide Web."

#### CURRENTLY NOT ASSIGNED TO A PANEL:

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

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

Steve Potts, Hibbing CC (MN), "Sowing Red: The Nghe-Tinh Rebellion, U.S. News Coverage, and the American Perspective on Communism in Indochina, 1929-1932"

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

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

Colonel Jack Broughton, USAF (Ret), "Rolling Thunder: Attacking Hanoi from the Air — With Hands Tied Behind Your Back."



65% of Vietnam's population has been born since the war.  
Vietnamese children, Hanoi, July 1998.



Saigon Central Market, July 1998

## REGISTER NOW FOR 1999 VIETNAM SYMPOSIUM

**Symposium Schedule:** A detailed agenda for the symposium will be mailed to each registered participant after March 15. In the meantime, for planning purposes, activities will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14, with the opening of a visit by the Moving Vietnam Wall, followed by a reception at the Vietnam Archive and then a fund-raising dinner at which the plans for our new Vietnam Center building will be unveiled.

**Symposium Venue:** Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza, 3201 South Loop 289, Lubbock. This is the same hotel used for the 1996 symposium. Phone: (806) 797-3241. The Vietnam Center has reserved 150 rooms; however, we urge you to contact the hotel and make your personal reservations as early as possible; our block reservation lasts only until March 24, 1999.

**PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS BEFORE 24 MARCH 1999**

### 1999 Vietnam Symposium

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

Symposium registration

(includes 3 luncheons, receptions) \$75.00 Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund-raising dinner, 14 April 1999 \$100/plate Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Symposium banquet, 16 April 1999 \$30.00 Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Evening at V-8 Ranch, 17 April 1999 \$25.00 Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Make check payable to Texas Tech Foundation, Inc., Attn: Vietnam Center • Mail to: Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409-1045





# NEWS FROM THE VIETNAM ARCHIVE

**Advisors' Archive Project.** The Vietnam Archive has begun working with the organization of Vietnam advisors, "Counterparts," to establish a central archival collection at Texas Tech relating to the advisory experience in Vietnam. We welcome this opportunity to cooperate with this important group, and the opportunity to preserve the record of their efforts.

**Ranch Hand Vietnam Association.** In a similar vein, The Ranch Hand Vietnam Association also has decided to make Texas Tech the repository of its records. We encourage inquiries from all Vietnam-related organizations. Vietnam Archive (806) 742-9010.

**Vietnamese Combat Art.** Texas Tech also is the grateful recipient of twenty-five works of combat art produced by three North Vietnamese artists during the mid-1960s: Do Manh Cuong, Nguyen Thu, and Colonel Quang Tho. They are the gracious gift of the widow of Mr. Sam Cummings, the founder of InterArms. These works will be on exhibition in the International Cultural Center at Texas Tech during the month of April, and then will be on permanent display in the new Vietnam Center building when it is completed.



**Other Collections.** Other materials donated to the Archive include personal papers of Colonel Ed Metzner, USA (Ret); a CD-ROM of photographs depicting the wartime experiences of Mr. J.R. Foster; a complete run (84 issues)

of a comic book entitled, *The 'Nam*, and 11 more boxes of the records of the National Vietnam Veterans Coalition.

**Microfilm Collections.** The microfilm collections of underground newspapers and POW-MIA materials, which represent an expenditure of \$60,000, have now been received at Texas Tech and are available to researchers.

**Agent Orange Finding Guide.** The Archive staff continues work on developing finding guides to assist researchers. The latest such product is a guide to Agent Orange materials. Interested researchers may request copies from the Vietnam Archive.

**Cooperation with Vietnamese Institutions.** As part of Texas Tech's efforts to establish working relationships with Vietnamese universities, Dr. Ron Frankum will be offering an Archival Management course in Hanoi, probably in July. Additionally, in conjunction with Texas Tech Libraries, the Vietnam Center/Archive is hosting a visit by the senior librarian of Can Tho University, Ms. Diep Kim Chi. She will be in Lubbock at the time of the symposium, to discuss areas of possible cooperation between Texas Tech and Can Tho University.

**Donors:** Those interested in donating individual collections, or discussing housing organizational records, should contact **The Vietnam Archive at (806) 742-9010.**

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**I**n recent months I have been involved on the Board of Directors of a foundation seeking to establish an in perpetuity arrangement for a museum preserving the artifacts and records of the World War II glider pilots, the great majority of whom learned to fly at Lubbock.

These men were real heroes, who accepted the challenge of flying into battle on "Silent Wings." Over the years they carefully preserved their records and artifacts. But they were unable to establish a mechanism to hand these materials over to the care of a future generation.

The experience of working with this great group has brought home to me the importance of The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech, and I want to share that with all Vietnam veterans' organizations. We have to recognize that we are no longer the youngsters we were when we served in Vietnam. In the quarter-century since the war, many organizations have accumulated significant collections of papers relating to their units and experiences.

What will become of all of these records in twenty or thirty

years' time? Will grandchildren cleaning out a deceased veteran's attic simply throw them all away? How much will thus be lost to future researchers? I hope each organization will consider this issue.

The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech offers veterans' organizations a permanent home for their records. Upon receipt, our professional archivists will carefully catalogue and preserve your materials, and Texas Tech will ensure they are available for future generations.

For organizations with such concerns, we can enter into agreements to provide copies of files, upon demand, within a few working days.

Help us preserve the important records for future generations. Ensure the records of your organization will survive even after all of us have passed from the scene. Contact the Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech (806) 742-9010, or me personally at (806) 742-3742, to discuss this important issue.

— Jim Reckner, Director

# VIETNAM CENTER PROJECTS

The Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech are engaged in a number of important projects/initiatives

## Preserving the Record of the American Vietnam Experience.

This is the principal mission of the Vietnam Archive.

### Related Activities:

*Outreach to Veterans' Groups* to locate and preserve records

Effort to preserve the story of the anti-war movement

*Oral History Project* to preserve unwritten histories

*Collection of Ephemera* to preserve informal publications from the war and from postwar veterans' efforts

## Preserving the Record of the Republic of Vietnam.

This is the mission of a new, high-level committee of prominent Vietnamese-Americans, headed by former Ambassador Bui Diem.

### Related Activities:

*Outreach to Viet kieu (Overseas Vietnamese)* world-wide

*Collection of Oral Histories*

*Teaching Vietnamese Language*

*Conference on the Viet kieu Experience* scheduled for 2000.

This event will provide a vehicle for mobilizing Vietnamese-American support for the project.

## Encouraging Continuing Study of the American Vietnam Experience.

This is the principal function of the Vietnam Center's conference/symposium series. We conducted three conferences in 1997/98, and currently are planning our 3rd triennial Vietnam symposium, to be held 15-17 April 1999. These meetings, by providing a venue for researchers to present their work, encourage continuing study of all aspects of the Vietnam war.

## Outreach to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Through a series of programs and exchanges we are seeking to establish working relationships with Vietnamese universities, with a view toward improving the educational experiences of Vietnamese students and American students interested in Vietnam.

## Vietnam Center Building.

Central to all of these efforts is the establishment of an adequate facility to house the collected materials, and to function as a central point for all future efforts to preserve the record of the American Vietnam experience. Strategically located on the Texas Tech campus, the proposed location of the new building offers a commanding position for academic endeavor which also enjoys easy access from off-campus. The Condray Design Group of Lubbock, Texas, has developed an exciting, innovative design for this new facility, which will be unveiled on April 14, 1999.

## Observing, Analyzing and Reporting on Current Events in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

This function is carried out by Professor Douglas Pike, through his quarterly journal, *Indochina Chronology*. Individuals wishing to receive this journal should contact The Vietnam Center.

## Undergraduate and Graduate Courses on Vietnam and the Vietnam War.

These courses, offered by History Department faculty and Vietnam Center staff, meet a continuing, strong desire on the part of students to understand the Vietnam War. Additionally, Vietnam Center staff teach Vietnamese language courses to assist researchers wishing to use Vietnamese language documents.

## The Virtual Vietnam Archive Project.

In order to provide better access to our archive, Texas Tech has requested federal funding to put all of our uncopyrighted materials on-line. The Virtual Vietnam Archive, if funded, will provide Vietnam veterans and scholars from around the world direct access to the record of the Vietnam War and the American Vietnam experience without the expense of traveling to the US National Archives or to Texas Tech.

## FRIENDS OF THE VIETNAM CENTER MEMBERSHIP

I enclose my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for an annual membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to the Texas Tech Foundation, Inc., Attn: Vietnam Center. Contributions to the Vietnam Center are tax deductible as allowed by law. For additional information regarding membership or to donate materials to the Vietnam Archive, please call the Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3742 or 742-3744. Mail this form with your check to:

The Vietnam Center  
Texas Tech University  
Box 41013

### Categories of Memberships

Please check appropriate box.

#### Individual

- ☐ Individual \$25
- ☐ Patron \$100
- ☐ Benefactor \$500
- ☐ Sustaining Life Member \$5,000 (1,000 per year x5)

#### Corporate

- ☐ Corporate \$100
- ☐ Corporate Benefactor \$500
- ☐ Sustaining Corporate Sponsor \$5,000 (1,000 per year x5)

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"IMAGES OF VIETNAM"

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Richard Rezac/Gianfranco Moroldo on Exhibition at Texas Tech 14-18 April 1999

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