



M A R C H 2 0 0 1 • V O L U M E 8 I S S U E 1

CONFERENCE 2001 (20-21 APRIL)

Deadlines: Paper Proposals - 15 March - Hotel Reservations - 30 March
(details Inside)

GREAT NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVE

The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University received two distinguished honors in December 2000. First, on 17 December, the Vietnam Archive was notified that federal funding for a Virtual Vietnam Archive, under a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services within the Department of Education, was approved. The Virtual Vietnam Archive is a project to

digitize all of the non-copyright material in the Vietnam Archive. Then, on 20 December, the archive received a significant collection of material from the late Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. USN, former commander of the United States Naval Forces in Vietnam, 1968 to 1970 and Chief of Naval Operations from 1970 to 1974.

THE VIRTUAL VIETNAM ARCHIVE

The federal government has allocated \$461,000 to the Vietnam Archive to create the Virtual Vietnam Archive. With this project, Texas Tech University will significantly expand the research support offered by making available its non-copyright materials in electronic format to all with an Internet connection.

The Virtual Vietnam Archive will enable scholars, students and all interested in this remarkable period to conduct primary research directly from universities, schools, libraries, and homes. Of equal importance, it will enable Vietnam veterans - those who actually served - to access records that might be of importance to them in their continuing efforts to understand their own experiences. It will facilitate the research and writing of participants' memoirs, and will give high school and college students an important and authoritative source of information as they seek to understand the complexities of the Vietnam War.

Our next newsletter will provide more details on the Virtual Vietnam Archive project.

THE ZUMWALT COLLECTION

The Vietnam Archive also received a very significant collection in December 2000, the post-war personal papers of Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. USN. Admiral Zumwalt served as Chairman of the Vietnam Center's National Advisory Council from its inception in 1990 until his death on January 2, 2000. He served as Commander, US Naval Forces, Vietnam, from 1968 to 1970 and Chief of Naval Operations from 1970 to 1974.

The Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. collection contains a wide variety of information on the post Vietnam War career of the Admiral. The collection includes a large section of documents, studies and correspondence regarding the effects of Agent Orange used during the Vietnam War and the Agent Orange Coordinating Committee. Other notable sections in the collection include a large number of photographs from the Vietnam War, awards and certificates presented to the Admiral in appreciation of his service to his country and the United States Navy, the Admiral's post war correspondence and writings.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The recent months have been exceedingly busy ones for the Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University. As reported on the front page of this newsletter, the Vietnam Center received Federal FY 2001 funding to begin our long-planned "Virtual Vietnam Archive" project. As soon as that funding is actually received at Texas Tech University, the Vietnam Archive team, under Dr. Ron Frankum's very able direction, will begin the project, which is expected to last several years. Initial portions of the "Virtual Vietnam Archive," we plan, will be posted to the web within a few months of the beginning of the project, and additional collections added as work progresses. The end result will be an easily key-word searchable archive containing all non-copyrighted materials held in our archive. A special note of thanks is due to Congressmen Larry Combest and Sam Johnson, who sponsored the funding. Other Vietnam veterans in Congress expressed strong support for the project. Our ultimate goal with this project is to grant researchers, Vietnam veterans, and the general public free and easy access to the records now being collected at Texas Tech University.

The arrival of Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt's papers and memorabilia in December was a time of reflection for all of us at the Vietnam Center and Archive who had worked closely with the Admiral over the years since he became Chairman of our National Advisory Council in 1990. We were all greatly saddened by his passing, but we are honored that we have been entrusted with the preservation of an important part of his legacy. The Archive staff has been working hard to produce a finding guide to the approximately sixty linear feet of archival material in the collection. That work will be completed in the not too distant future, and will be posted to the archive web site: <http://www.lib.ttu.edu/vietnam>.

At the welcoming reception for the 2001 Vietnam conference, we will have a small ceremony opening an exhibit of some of the Admiral's artifacts and papers. These materials will remain on display in the International Cultural Center during the conference. At the same time, we will take this occasion to recognize the Admiral's family, many of whom will be with us for the reception and the conference that follows. We take this occasion to invite all of our readers, and particularly those already planning to attend the conference, to attend the welcoming reception, which will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 19th at the International Cultural Center at Texas Tech University [located at 6th & Indiana Avenue in Lubbock].

It is time now also to register for the conference, which will be conducted on Friday and Saturday, 20-21 April. There is considerable competition for hotel rooms in

Lubbock, and a number of other conferences are planned for that weekend. I urge early registration for the conference and early hotel registration. Due to caterers' requirements, we must provide final numbers of participants in the conference banquet on the evening of Friday, 20 April, before the conference actually begins. Therefore, if you wish to attend the banquet, we must have your banquet registration in advance. Attire for the banquet will be business suit, tuxedo, or appropriate military uniform.

Having celebrated my 60th birthday last year, the fact has hit home to me that the productive years remaining for those of us of the Vietnam generation are not entirely unlimited. If we are to ensure that future generations of Americans have available all the evidence necessary to reach their own conclusions about the turbulent events of the 1960s and 1970s, we must redouble our efforts to gather those materials and ensure they are in safe-keeping in a professional archive. I address this message not just to those who served in the US Armed Forces in Vietnam, but also to those who opposed the war, to those who served in the Armed Forces of the Republic, and also to those who stayed home and waited for [and worried about] loved ones serving in Vietnam. If we, the Vietnam Generation, have one final duty, it should be that we leave behind a fair and balanced record. The Vietnam Archive is dedicated to preserving all aspects of the Vietnam experience. Please help us to be true to history by preserving whatever pieces of that history are currently in your possession.

As we finalize plans for our "Virtual Vietnam Archive," please reconsider the disposition of the papers, photos, maps, and other Vietnam-related materials you have been storing in your attics, closets, garages for the past quarter-century. By donating those materials to the Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech, you will ensure that they will carefully preserved and made available to researchers around the world through our new program. The Vietnam Archive will gratefully accept any materials in virtually any format. For more details, please contact the Vietnam Archive at (806) 742-9010 or by e-mail at livna@lib.ttu.edu.

ENDOWMENT HONORS GENERAL AND MRS. WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND

Texas Tech University received a donation of \$10,000 from Colonel Roger H.C. Donlon, USA (Ret), the recipient of the first Medal of Honor for actions in Vietnam. The donation is intended to endow small scholarships for Vietnamese students studying in Vietnamese universities.

2001 CONFERENCE - PAPER PROPOSALS

- U.S. Army Advisers in Vietnam During the 1961-1964 Period (Dr. Charles Anderson)
- Examining South Vietnamese Armed Forces and the Roles/Outcomes of Advisors (Robert Bayless)
- A Division Advisor, Early and Late in the War (Colonel Paul Braim)
- The Advisor Experience from an Enlisted Perspective (Tom Brown)
- CAP and the Popular Forces (Jim Donovan)
- U.S. Army Special Forces Advisors and the Montagnard Mutiny: Between a Rock and a Hard Place (Christopher Ives)
- The Unknown Tet (Brigadier General Ted Mataxis, Sr.)
- The Vietnam War (Ted Mataxis, Jr.)
- A Scientific and Technical Approach to Analyzing Vietnam War Events: The Case of Helicopter Losses in Central Vietnam (Dr. Tinh Dinh Ngo)
- Macro American Experiences of ARVN in Light of Micro American Experiences of Major General Hieu (Tin Nguyen)
- Advisers to the Regional Forces: Experience of a Combined Mobile Improvement Team (CMIT) in Lam Dong Province, 1967-68 (Neil Olsen)
- The Odyssey of a Marine Co-Van (LtCol. James Page, USMC (Ret.))
- We Will 'Outconventional' the Unconventionalists!": American Doctrine during the Early Advisory Period (Major Dave Toczek)
- US Advisers and the Battle of An Loc, 1972 (Dr. James Wilbanks)

The Oral History Project - for more information and to participate, contact Steve Maxner at (806) 742-9010 or e-mail: lisfm@lib.ttu.edu

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2001 CONFERENCE

Name (As it is to appear on your name tag):

Title (check one): Mr. Mrs. Dr. Prof. Other

Name:

Given _____ Middle _____ Family _____

Address:

Street/PO Box: _____ E-mail: _____

City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone:

Home: _____ Office: _____ Fax: _____

Institution/Company/Affiliation: _____ Position: _____

Are you with COUNTERPARTS? Yes No

I want my name and information to appear on the Conference Roster Yes No

If yes, please check information to appear on the Conference Roster:

Title Address Email Hm Phone Ofc Phone Affiliation

Make all checks payable to: Texas Tech Foundation, Inc., Attn: Vietnam Center
Mail to: Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University, Attn: Conference Processing, Lubbock, Texas 79409-1045

Conference Registration

Number of guests (including yourself)

\$50.00 _____

Banquet

\$25.00 _____

West Texas Barbeque Dinner

\$20.00 _____

Total Paid: _____ Date: _____



Texas Tech University

Box 41045

Lubbock, Texas 79409-1045

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lubbock, Texas
Permit No. 68

PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 30, 2001

Conference Schedule: A detailed conference agenda will be mailed to each registered participant after April 1. Conference Hotels for Counterparts Group: Lubbock Fairfield Inn, 4007 South Loop 289, Lubbock, TX 79423, 806.795.1288; or The Hampton Inn, 4003 South Loop 289, Lubbock, TX 79423, 806.795.1080. Kristin Ferguson can make the necessary reservations and answer any questions you may have regarding the Hampton and Fairfield Inns. The Lubbock Inn

is available for all other conference participants: 3901 19th St., Lubbock, TX 79410, 806.792.5181. Cathie Way can help you with reservations and any questions you may have regarding your stay at the Lubbock Inn. The Vietnam Center has reserved 70 rooms at each hotel; however, we urge you to contact the hotel directly and make your personal reservations as soon as possible. If you wish to be included in the conference banquet and BBQ dinner guest lists, please

register for the conference by April 6 to allow us to make the necessary arrangements with the caterers. If you will require pick up service at the airport, please provide our office with the Airline, flight number, dates and times of arrival and departure by April 16. If you have any special audio/visual needs or wish to display materials, make your requests no later than April 1, 2001.

CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

The focus of our next conference, scheduled for 20-21 April 2001, is "The Advisory Effort and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam." Its purpose is to examine the South Vietnamese Armed Forces and the role and outcomes of American advisors in Vietnam during the war. As with every Vietnam Center conference, papers representing all points of view and all aspects of the theme are

welcome. Active participation by graduate students is particularly encouraged.

Individuals interested in presenting papers should submit a one page outline proposal to Dr. James Reckner, at the Vietnam Center, by e-mail, fax, or regular mail. Deadline for submissions is March 15, 2001.

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