

Friends

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General William C. Westmoreland

March 26, 1914 - July 18, 2005

On July 18, 2005, General William C. Westmoreland died in South Carolina at the age of 91.

Born in 1914 and raised in Spartanburg, South Carolina, William Childs Westmoreland knew early in life that he wanted to serve his country in uniform. At the age of five, he started wearing military style dress and, as an Eagle Scout in his early teens, he knew he would someday become a soldier.

He received an appointment to the US Army Military Academy at West Point after first spending a year at The Citadel. Excelling at both institutions, he became first captain and recipient of the Pershing Sword for leadership before graduating West Point in 1936.

Commissioned in the Field Artillery, Lieutenant Westmoreland met his future wife, Katherine "Kitsy" Van Deusen while at his first duty station at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Just before the outbreak of World War II, Westmoreland served in Hawaii and then went to Fort Bragg, NC, where he served with the 9th Infantry Division as a captain.

Westmoreland assumed command of the 34th Field Artillery in April 1942 and led that unit in North Africa and Sicily. He then commanded them as they fought at Omaha Beach in June 1944 and as they continued to distinguish themselves fighting through France, Belgium, and into Germany. Remaining in Europe until the end of the war, Westmoreland directly participated in one of the most decisive engagements of the war in Germany helping the 9th Armored Division hold the bridge head at Remagen, allowing American and Allied forces to cross the Rhine and more quickly end the war in Europe. He stayed in Europe until 1946, the youngest colonel in the Army at the age of 32. After returning to the US,



Colonel Westmoreland married Kitsy and went on to serve with the 82nd Airborne Division. He then became an instructor at the Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and then at the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks. During the Korean War, he commanded the 187th Airborne Combat Team where they defended a valley leading directly to Seoul, South Korea. Promoted to Brigadier General while serving in Korea, Westmoreland received his second star in December 1956 making him the Army's youngest Major General.

With the Korean armistice, MG Westmoreland returned to the US and commanded the 101st Airborne Division and then became superintendent of West Point. Promoted to Lieutenant General in 1963, he commanded the XVIIIth Airborne Corps at

Fort Bragg and, within a year, became the Commander of US Military Forces in Vietnam.

It was in Vietnam that General Westmoreland faced the most profound challenges. He advocated a conventional military buildup in Vietnam and developed a strategy of attrition to wear down the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong ranks before they could be replenished – a strategy that became and has remained controversial. At the height of his four years of service in South Vietnam, General Westmoreland commanded more than 500,000 troops. He left Vietnam in 1968 and served as the US Army Chief of Staff until his retirement in 1972.

Eschewing public attention, General Westmoreland continued to support American troops and participated in the major events that brought well-deserved honor and recognition to Vietnam veterans, in particular. He also became a frequent speaker at Vietnam



Remembering General Westmoreland

veteran reunions, reminding them that South Vietnam did not fall until after they left when the US government refused to live up to its commitments to support that nation.

In 1990, General Westmoreland also became a supporter of the Vietnam Center at Texas Tech, becoming a member of our National Advisory Council. He later authorized Colonel Roger Donlon to establish the General & Mrs. William C. Westmoreland Endowed Vietnam Scholarship at Texas Tech. The interest from this endowment provides \$100 scholarships to Vietnamese medical students in Can Tho. This modest amount covers students' tuition expenses for a year.

As historians and scholars continue to examine the amazing life of General Westmoreland, we do not yet know the ultimate story they will tell. But we can and should now say with certainty that a remarkable American soldier has left us. He served our nation proudly and honorably for 36 years, in three wars, at significant risk to his life. As a citizen-soldier, he accepted as his personal responsibility the defense of our nation and our collective safety and security. He was a loving husband and father. We will always remember him for the remarkable example he provides for he lived a complete and extraordinary life. ●

Remembering Gen. Westmoreland and Chieu Hoi

By Nguyen Xuan Phong

My personal recollections of General William C. Westmoreland go back to 1965. I was then member of the so-called "war cabinet" (the Saigon government) and had occasion to see him in various meetings. My great appreciation of General Westmoreland came later in the years 1967 and 1968 when I was given the task of setting up and heading the newly created Chieu Hoi Ministry. The Chieu Hoi program was originally put under the "Psychological Warfare" department of the Defense Ministry, then shifted to the Ministry of Information, and it was generally viewed as some sort of propaganda. In 1967, I finally succeeded in persuading the newly elected President Nguyen Van Thieu to proclaim Chieu Hoi a major national policy to enable Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops to return as citizens of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam) with full civil rights to lead a normal life. Not many people in the Saigon government shared my views or really believed in the program. I was, therefore, quite glad to discover strong support from General Westmoreland in time of great need and difficulty.

Little has been said in history books about General Westmoreland and the Chieu Hoi program. During the four years of General Westmoreland's stay in Vietnam from 1964 to 1968, there were 81,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops (the equivalent of 8 full divisions) who rallied to the Saigon side. It cost about US\$350 to bring back an enemy soldier through the Chieu Hoi program compared to US\$60,000 for eliminating him on the battlefield. The 81,000 returnees saved about US\$5 billion then or US\$20 billion now at current prices. In terms of the "1 to 3 kill ratio" at that time, it would have cost 25,000 additional lives of American, South Vietnamese and other allied forces to neutralize these 81,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops.

General Westmoreland gave me valuable assistance in my efforts to organize about 20,000 of these returnees into regular paramilitary units with their own chains of command and headed

by a former Viet Cong colonel (now living in the U. S.). I encountered stiff opposition from many Saigon officials who were not very disposed to give arms to these former Viet Cong. The problem became even more tense when I named another former Viet Cong colonel (not able to escape at the fall of Saigon) to a sub-cabinet position responsible for Planning at the Chieu Hoi Ministry. This did not worry General Westmoreland and again with his full support I was able to obtain the necessary weapons for the returnees, and even heavy armaments for the defense of some 50 Chieu Hoi centers which had been set up nation-wide to take care of the returnees and their families. By the end of 1967, each of these Chieu Hoi centers was fortunate to be equipped with powerful machine guns just in time to push back all the enemy attacks during the 1968 Tet Offensive, and save the lives of tens of thousands of these returnees and hundreds of thousands of their relatives. Many of these returnees and their families were able to seek refuge in the United States and elsewhere after the collapse of South Vietnam in April 1975.

"Thank you, General Westmoreland" ●

Call for Papers, 2006 Vietnam Conference

The Vietnam Center's 2006 annual conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza in Lubbock (the same hotel as this year's symposium), Friday and Saturday, 17-18 March. The theme for the conference is, "ARVN: Reflections and Reassessments after Thirty Years." While we have used the term ARVN, as it is most widely known, we encourage proposals for papers dealing with any of the branches of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam (RVNAF): Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, Rangers, etc. Such papers might be from an American point of view, as, for example, the views/experiences of advisors who served with Vietnamese units, or purely academic papers produced by a younger generation who are studying this topic, or from Vietnamese veterans. Papers are also invited that deal with the fate of RVNAF veterans after the fall of Saigon, including papers relating to the so-called "re-education" camps, and resettlement experiences in foreign countries.

We anticipate and encourage papers that deal with the ARVN's successes and strengths, such as their performance at An Loc and Xuan Loc; however, we also urge the submission of papers that critically analyze those areas in which RVNAF were less successful. It is not enough simply to blame the failure of the RVNAF on the withdrawal of US support, though that, of course, was one contributing factor. What, for example, was the impact of politicization of the senior officers of the RVNAF? How did corruption in some Province Chiefs, District Chiefs, etc., affect efforts to win the loyalty of the peasants for the South Vietnamese government?

This conference will offer academics, advisors, former leaders and members of the RVNAF an opportunity to reflect and reassess; however, it is exceedingly important that such reassessments be balanced by presenting weaknesses and their implications as well as strengths.

Deputy Director Steve Maxner will serve as conference organizer for the 2006 conference. Please address paper proposals to him at steve.maxner@ttu.edu or (806) 742-9010.



Archivists Assemble Artifacts of War at Vietnam Archive

Reprint courtesy of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
BY ELLIOTT BLACKBURN (July 11, 2005)

Far from the jungles, the politics and the killing fields of one of the most divisive conflicts in recent history, the leading repository for research on the Vietnam War is housed in a cool, temperature-controlled room in Lubbock.

There are rows and rows of acid-free boxes, filled with millions of documents, pictures and artifacts lining a special section of the Texas Tech Southwest Collections storage area.

Downstairs, archivists set up in an indoor loading dock catalog more boxes of information. There are manuals given to foreign service officers, brig logs from troop ships, and a new set of prized documents that chronicle the Vietnamese refugee experience. Nearby, more researchers work to publish as much of it as possible - more than 2.5 million pages worth so far - to the Internet.

"It's the place now where young scholars have to go if they're going to do any serious study about Vietnam," said Keith Taylor, a professor of Vietnamese history and literature at Cornell University. "There's nothing like it anywhere else."

The broad view

More than 15 years have passed since a group of West Texas veterans enlisted the support of Texas Tech and top military and government officials who served during the Vietnam campaign to support the creation of the Vietnam Center at Texas Tech.

Millions of collected documents, maps and photographs later, scholars nationwide describe Lubbock as the critical center for understanding the conflict.

"It's the leading institution in the United States studying the Vietnam War," said Raymond Burghardt, former U.S. ambassador to Vietnam and director of programs and seminars for the East West Center in Hawaii.

As the United States and Vietnam mark the 10th anniversary of re-establishing formal diplomatic relations, center director and Navy veteran Jim Reckner hopes the center will broaden its research role to projects encouraging understanding and reconciliation for a new generation. "I'd much rather take my students to Vietnam and have them meet Vietnamese students as friends and colleagues rather than meet the Vietnamese as we did, with an M-16 in hand," Reckner



Dr. James Reckner displays one of many maps housed in the Vietnam Archive. The map denotes fire bases used by the 1st Cavalry Division, 101st Airborne Division and Third Marine Division.

said. "It makes much more sense for the future of our children and theirs, and for the world."

Most scholars chuckle when asked why Lubbock would be home to the study of the Vietnam War. But center conferences are credited as the only place where all sides of the conflict - historians, former northern and southern Vietnamese officials and Americans - are welcomed and can be comfortable.

"There's no other place that does that," said Charles Neu, a professor emeritus at Brown University that studies the Vietnam War. "The passions and feelings about the war are still very strong. It's very hard to balance all these feelings and all these views on the war and not try to impose some party line."

The location allows the Center to sidestep the protests or passions that may erupt in larger cities to concentrate on the history, Taylor said.

"It's really hard to maintain any kind of momentum in Vietnamese studies, simply because there's so many, I guess you might say minefields - things that blow up in controversy," Taylor said. "The fact that it really is a relatively remote place has allowed them to really shape the center in a way that's welcoming to all groups, not just a place that is dominated by one constituency."

Political tensions

Location hasn't allowed the center to stay completely free of politics, and the researchers visiting the archive are not always historians. Members of the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth used the archive to research Sen. John Kerry's war record during the 2004 presidential campaign.

Early in the archive's existence, it was criticized as right-wing because its national advisory board included many prominent U.S. officials and military leaders involved in the Vietnam War. But Reckner dismisses the criticism and said the archive is firmly neutral and interested in the total historical picture of the war.

"Those people fail to see in our effort the fact that we're equally anxious to preserve the record of the anti-war movement, the record of the Hanoi government," Reckner said. "We preserve anti-war documents with the same diligence and reverence."

The military continues to use the Lubbock archive as well. Active duty officers have used the archive to research how South Vietnamese and American armies coordinated training during the war, looking for guidance on similar work with the Iraqi army today, Reckner said. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command use the digital archive to confirm details about veteran service or to assist the continuing search for soldiers who remain unaccounted for in Vietnam.

"They're certainly a valuable resource," said Larry Greer, a spokesman for the Pentagon's POW and Missing Personnel office. "Some cases would have been much, much more difficult to solve without them."

Widening the scope

Now the Vietnam Center hopes to broaden its mission. More artifacts and records, donated by Vietnam veterans nationwide or salvaged from military sources, continue to pour into the center, Reckner said. Soon the center hopes to begin fund raising for its own archive and museum facilities, he said.

But it also participated in trade talks on a cotton trade deal

40th Anniversary Seminar Commemorates Battles for Ia Drang Valley

between Texas and Vietnam in 2003. It holds agreements with eight of Vietnam's universities, is exploring the grant process to take part in HIV/AIDS research in the country, and created privately funded scholarships for Vietnamese and Cambodian students to attend college in their country.

Reckner hopes the center will become more actively involved in improving relations between Vietnam and the United States. It's a natural step for an archive established by veterans to try and help younger Vietnamese and Cambodians who suffer from a war in which they had no part, Reckner said.

"I find all these things very interesting, relevant to a great research university, and relevant to an American people who are quite generous in their efforts to alleviate suffering around the world," Reckner said. "Certainly suffering that we can directly associate with our ultimate failure in Vietnam." ●

Maxner Appointed Deputy Director



We are pleased to report that Steve Maxner, current associate director in charge of the Vietnam Archive, has been appointed deputy director of the Vietnam Center. This appointment recognizes Steve's well-proven ability to interact with the wide range of Vietnam Center clients and supporters, as well as his gift of motivating staff to excel in the work of the Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive. In

his new capacity, Maxner will continue to directly oversee all operations of the Vietnam Archive; however, he also will assume a more direct role in the overall management of the project, as reflected in his assignment to organize and conduct the Vietnam Center's 2006 conference. Steve is in the final stages of writing his doctoral dissertation, and we anticipate he will successfully defend that dissertation within the next few months. ●

Death of Mrs. Mouza Coutelais-du-Roché Zumwalt



Admiral and Mrs. Zumwalt in later life

As we go to press, we were saddened to learn of the death, on August 23, of Mrs. Mouza Coutelais-du-Roché Zumwalt, widow of the late Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., who served as Chairman of the Vietnam Center's National Advisory Council from 1990 until his death in January 2000. She was laid to

rest alongside the Admiral at Annapolis on September 3, 2005, following a ceremony attended by family and friends. A more detailed account of her life will be included in our next newsletter.

Mrs. Zumwalt, whose early life was by far more colorful than that of many a sailor, was born in Harbin, Manchuria, the only daughter of a Russian mother and French nobleman. She met the future Admiral in Shanghai in October 1945, and after a whirlwind courtship married the young "Bud" Zumwalt before the end of that month. She will be remembered by all who knew her not only for her strength, but also for her remarkably warm and sincere smile that lightened many a room which she entered. ●

On November 12, 2005, the Vietnam Center will host a one-day seminar to help the 1st Cavalry Division Association and the Pleiku-Ia Drang Veterans commemorate the 40th anniversary of the battles for the Ia Drang Valley. The seminar, which is open to the public, will take place on Saturday, November 12, at the Crystal City Hilton in Washington, DC. We hope to see you there!

Here is a draft of the agenda:

Saturday, 12 November

8:00 a.m. Opening Remarks

Location: Main Ballroom

LTG Hal Moore

Mr. Joe Galloway

Dr. James Reckner, Director, The Vietnam Center

8:20 a.m. Special Seminar Speaker

Location: Main Ballroom

David Halberstam

The Historical Significance of the Ia Drang Battles (TBD)

Introduction: Mr. Joe Galloway

8:45 a.m. Questions/Answers/Discussion

9:00 a.m. Coffee Break

9:15 a.m. Session 1

A View from History: Wartime and Postwar Assessments of the Pleiku/Ia Drang Campaigns

Moderator: Mr. Joe Galloway

- "Changing Interpretations of The Pleiku/Ia Drang Campaigns: The American Perspective" - John Carland, US State Department
- "Changing Interpretations of The Pleiku/Ia Drang Campaigns: The Vietnamese Perspective" - Merle Pribbenow, Independent Scholar.

10:00 a.m. Questions/Answers/Discussion

10:30 a.m. Special Session 2

Location: Main Ballroom

- "The North Vietnamese Perspectives of The Plei Me/Ia Drang Campaigns: Immediate Post-Battle Assessments" - Sedgwick Tourison, Independent Scholar

This presentation is based on special research conducted in Vietnam with key PAVN participants.

11:15 a.m. Questions/Answers/Discussion

11:55 a.m. Break for Lunch

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Location: Main Ballroom

12:30 Guest Speaker: LTG Hal Moore

Introduction: Mr. Joe Galloway

1:15 p.m. Lunch Ends

1:30 p.m. Session 2

Location: Main Ballroom

The Pleiku/Ia Drang Campaigns and the American War in Vietnam



From the Director...by James Reckner

Chair/Moderator: Dr. James Reckner, The Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University

- “The Kinnard Thesis: How the Pleiku campaign influenced Strategy and Operations during the Vietnam War” - Erik Villard, The US Army Center of Military History
- “Back at Benning: The Immediate Impact of the Ia Drang Fighting on Infantry Officer Training in the US Army” - Ron Milam, Texas Tech University
- “The Long Term Political Impact of the Pleiku/Ia Drang Campaigns from Johnson through Nixon” - Larry Berman, University of California, Davis

2:30 p.m. Questions/Answers/Discussion

3:00 p.m. END OF SEMINAR

From the Director: The Houston Sniper

Shortly after the 5th Triennial Vietnam Symposium, Dr. Robert Buzzanco from the University of Houston published a highly critical piece in an electronic journal called *Counterpunch*. Dr. Buzzanco reserves most of his vitriol for a bitter attack against one of the symposium participants for having the gall to present views about the war which he considers heterodox. Couched in a sneering sort of intellectual superiority, the article largely is an unseemly personal attack against a respected scholar, and a warning to others who might stray from Dr. Buzzanco's orthodoxy with any “revisionist” interpretations of the Vietnam War. Certainly many of the substantive issues raised are worthy of debate. But I regret the tenor of the article, which is so lacking in any sense of collegiality, and so intemperate as to ensure there will be no debate or substantive discussion.

When I read the article, I immediately went to the videotape of the presentation in question, anticipating that Dr. Buzzanco would have raised some important issues in the discussion of the paper that he has now challenged. In reality, he said nothing at the time, and even left before the presenter finished his presentation.

The paper in question was important enough for him to produce a lengthy written attack, but apparently not important enough for Dr. Buzzanco to engage in face-to-face discussion. Yet later in his paper, Dr. Buzzanco condemns other colleagues for not speaking out against similar “heterodoxy” at a conference hosted by the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). In a related footnote, Dr. Buzzanco claims he remained silent at Texas Tech because he doesn't “like the role of a crank,” and suggests that perhaps he “was craven.” On this point, at least, I can agree. In a sense, I can see a parallel between his cowardly approach to academic discourse and the actions of the infamous Washington snipers who, from positions of concealment attacked innocent citizens without affording them the opportunity to defend themselves.

The Vietnam Center itself did not escape Dr. Buzzanco's criticism. The Center, Dr. Buzzanco reports, “clearly resembles a right-wing think tank” though it has “given voice to officials from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and some antiwar groups.” [!!!] I personally welcomed Dr. Buzzanco to the symposium and spoke briefly with him. He did not seek to learn more from me about the

Center or its activities, or even how the Vietnam Center managed to be at the same time a right-wing think tank and the voice of Hanoi. He also declined to attend a briefing and tour of our project. It seems he had already made up his mind about us before he arrived, and wished not to be confused with any of the actual facts. I have encountered similar attitudes before.

I have often encountered individuals in academia who, learning of my military background, immediately label me “right-wing.” But in my years as Director of the Vietnam Center, our organization has very actively reached out to Vietnamese higher education institutions for cooperative scientific and educational projects; has provided scholarships for Vietnamese and Cambodian students, books for Vietnamese libraries, and medical equipment for Vietnamese medical schools; and has worked to further the process of reconciliation between the United States and Vietnam, even while encouraging Vietnamese-Americans to preserve, remember and re-examine the historical record of the Republic of Vietnam.

Dr. Buzzanco claims that academics of the Left have been under-represented at the Vietnam Center's conferences and symposia. In this respect he is absolutely correct. However, having personally arranged the agendas of every conference ever held by the Vietnam Center, I can assert with complete certainty that no academic of the Left who has proposed a paper for presentation at Texas Tech has ever been denied a place on the agenda. Indeed, the only person who has ever received an honorarium to speak at one of our conferences was Dr. George Herring, who, even Dr. Buzzanco will admit, is not a person of the Right.

So, if academics of the Left have never been denied a place at the table, one must ask why they do not regularly appear. My personal conclusion is that, quite simply, many are intimidated by the fact that at Texas Tech the Left does not completely dominate the discussion. That is to say, at Texas Tech you can count on hearing a countervailing point of view. And there always is the problem that after your presentation, someone in the audience might say, “That's all very well, Professor; however, I was there and I can tell you that it didn't happen that way.”

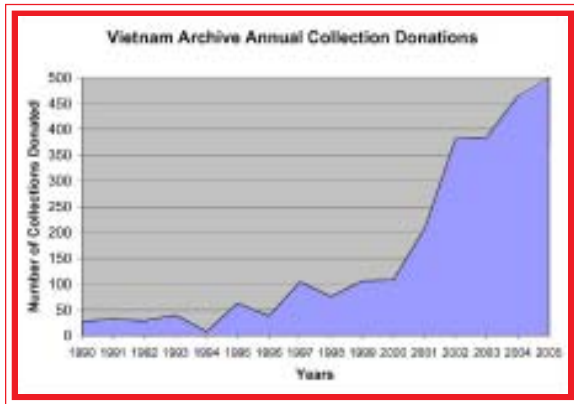
One academic wrote, in an e-mail relating to the Buzzanco article, that he would never attend a conference at Texas Tech because we permit colonels to attend! In any other field of history, a person with first-hand knowledge of events is considered a primary source. An African-American slave's first-hand account of his/her experiences in bondage quite rightly would be treated as a valuable, cherished, primary source for historians seeking to understand that period of American history. Apparently, though, this is not so for the Vietnam War whenever those primary sources' views do not correspond with a perceived academic consensus. The bad news for this particular academic is that those who served in Vietnam will always be welcome at Texas Tech. The good news for him is that he also will always be welcome.

I hope Dr. Buzzanco will attend the 6th Triennial Vietnam Symposium in 2008. I hope, too, that he will present a paper and join in the discussions. And, further, I can absolutely guarantee him a place on the agenda, so that his voice might be heard.

But I can't guarantee that everyone in the audience will agree with him. ●

- Jim Reckner

A Message From the Archive



Vietnam Archive collection donations: 1990 - present

By Steve Maxner, Deputy Director

As you will see in this issue of the *Friends* Newsletter, there is a lot happening at the Vietnam Archive this year! First, I am pleased to report that the archive continues to grow at a remarkable rate. This year we have received over 375 collection donations to date. If this rate continues, we will receive more than 500 collections this year! That is 1/5th of our total collection donations for the past sixteen years and as many as we received in our first decade of activity. We think there are a number of reasons for this increased tempo of gifts to the archive.

First and foremost, the Vietnam Archive staff is a group of hard working and dedicated professionals. Through their commitment to the project, they convince veterans every day that the Vietnam Archive is the best possible home for their treasured materials. That task is not always easy and we appreciate the difficulties many veterans face when entrusting to us their one-of-a-kind photos, slides, films, documents, and other artifacts. Through their skill and enthusiasm, the archive staff continues to win the trust and hearts of the many veterans we meet and serve. Veterans who work with us know we will take proper care of their collection that will ensure it is available for centuries.

Another important reason is the Vietnam Center and Archive's outreach to veterans' organizations, which increased in the year 2000. The Vietnam Archive now works in various capacities with more than 100 Vietnam veteran organizations. We act as a repository for individual personal collections as well as association level records. We are developing new and better ways of working and communicating with associations to make sure they and their members are more aware of Vietnam Center and Archive activities, collection donations from their members, and collection materials available online.

One way the archive builds a tremendous amount of trust with veterans is through the Vietnam Archive Oral History Project. Richard Verrone, who heads of the VAOHP, and Laura Calkins, contributed an article to this newsletter and I will let them tell you about the exciting things they do. I will merely point out that, through their remarkable efforts, the Vietnam Archive creates new and unique historical artifacts that would not otherwise exist. Their interviews inject new information and personal perspectives into the historical record that will make powerful contributions to our collective understanding of the Vietnam War for many

generations to come.

The Virtual Archive has also attracted a significant amount to collection donations as well. Through generous support from the US Congress and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Vietnam Archive continues to add substantial material to the Virtual Archive. To date, researchers can access more than 2.25 million pages of material. That includes nearly 200,000 documents, more than 80,000 photos and slides, hundreds of audio and video recordings, nearly 1,000 maps, and much more. In addition to providing researchers with access to remarkable materials, the Virtual Archive provides veterans with peace-of-mind as they know their materials are not just preserved in a state-of-the-art (if somewhat remote) archival facility in Lubbock, Texas, but also are made available to researchers throughout the world. In addition, Vietnam Archive collection materials are also being accessed thousands of times a day. In the past year, researchers have downloaded more than 800,000 files—nearly one terabyte of material.

The Vietnam Archive also benefited greatly this past year through a generous (\$154,000.00) grant from Houston Endowment, which has funded the first year of the Vietnam Archive Microfilm Scanning Project. The purpose of this project is to transform the massive microfilm holdings of the Vietnam Archive into searchable digital files that can be included in the Virtual Archive. We chose the Combined Document Exploitation Center (CDEC) Microfilm Collection as the first collection to be scanned. This 954 reel collection contains more than 2.3 million pages of captured PAVN and VC documents, intelligence reports and translations, as well as interrogation reports. Lacking an inventory or finding aid, this remarkable and very large assembly of materials has been all but useless to researchers who would need to spend months or years plowing through the collection as it lacks any serious organizational structure. By scanning the material and placing it online in our fully searchable database, researchers will now have unprecedented access to this unique and important collection. To our great pleasure and surprise, we have also learned that our online CDEC Collection has helped in 23 MIA cases currently under investigation at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) in Hawaii. Three of those cases remained "cold" until documents found in the Virtual Archive caused them to be reopened for action.

The Vietnam Archive is proud to be working with America's veterans who served in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. We are equally proud to be working with Americans and others active in theater, on the home front, and in other countries. Our pledge to preserve the history of the American Vietnam experience from the participants' perspective is stronger than ever and we will continue to push the envelope as we collect, preserve, and provide digital access to this remarkable history. ●



Kyla Osborne of the Vietnam Archive Microfilm Scanning Project digitizes materials from the CDEC Microfilm Collection

Growth and Expansion in the Vietnam Archive Oral History Project

By Richard Verrone, Assistant Archivist, Head of Oral History



Nationally, oral history is one of the fastest-growing areas of archival collection development, and the Vietnam Archive is no exception. The Archive's Oral History Project (VAOHP) has become one of the largest and most vigorous such projects in the country, with over 2,000 participants and over 430 interviews completed. More interviews are taking place every week, as the VAOHP continues to reach out to veterans, civilians, family members – anyone with a

connection to the Vietnam conflict – and to preserve their stories in their own words. A team of well-trained and dedicated undergraduate students transcribe the interviews, and after a thorough review process which assures that the transcripts faithfully follow the spoken word, all participants receive a copy of their interview, both the audio and transcript forms, on compact disc.

Richard B. Verrone, Ph.D., head of the VAOHP and Laura M. Calkins, Ph.D., oral historian, regularly conduct interview sessions onsite at the Vietnam Archive, travel to reunions and association meetings to publicize Center and Archive programs, conduct oral history workshops with middle school, high school, and university level students, and cooperate with external interviewers to integrate their interviews into the Vietnam Archive's collection. Currently several non-Archive historians are depositing their interviews with us. For example, Kara Dixon Vuic, a doctoral candidate in U.S. History at Indiana University, has donated all of the interviews she has conducted as part of her dissertation research, which focuses on the ways in which gender definitions and constructions shaped the ways American military nurses were used in the Vietnam War, as well as how the nurses see their experience in the war in light of the 1960s and early 1970s' shifting gender roles. To date, Kara has deposited with us over twenty interviews. The VAOHP is transcribing, digitizing, and working with those interviews to place them online in the Virtual Vietnam Archive for all to use. In addition, we continue our work with the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Center to transcribe and make available interviews from its massive oral history collection of some 10,000 oral histories conducted in the 1960s and early 1970s. The VAOHP is also cooperating with the new digital library at the U.S. Army's Ft. Leonard Wood in order to help its new oral history collection get off the ground by donating copies of some of our interviews to them, thus making parts of the Vietnam Archive's oral history collection even more accessible to active duty personnel.

In Lubbock, using state-of-the-art all-digital recording systems, the Oral History Project continues to make new materials available each month. Recently completed and continuing interviews include those with counter-insurgency expert COL Herbert Schandler; two-tour USMC rifleman and former Vietnam Veterans Against the War member Calixto Cabrera; Dr. Ron Milam, former USA MACV Senior Advisor to Montagnards in Pleiku Province and current Texas Tech

University Assistant Professor of U.S. History; USAF pilot and former POW LTCOL John Yuill; Winston S. Churchill, III, grandson of the former British Prime Minister, who went to South Vietnam in 1966 as a correspondent for *Look* magazine and the British press reporting on American, New Zealand and Australian, and South Vietnamese operations; USAmerican Division infantry officer David Taylor; and State Department Vietnam specialist AMB Joseph Mendenhall.

As an example of how the growing collection of VAOHP interviews can contribute to Vietnam War scholarship, in March 2005, Verrone and Calkins published *Voices from Vietnam: Eyewitness Accounts of the War 1954-1975* (London: David & Charles Publishers). This work utilizes interviews within the Oral History Project to tell the story of the war in the voices of those who participated in it. The book, which also uses photographs from the Vietnam Archive collection, has received national press attention and garnered strong positive reviews from historians, veterans, and civilians alike. *Voices from Vietnam* demonstrates the depth of the Vietnam Archive oral history collection by providing participants' views of everything from the Navy's work in evacuating Vietnamese from the North in 1954 to America's final withdrawal from Saigon in 1975. It includes first-hand descriptions of Americans in action (and on R & R!) in Southeast Asia, civilians and family members on the home front, as well as of America's enemies and allies. Publication of the book has generated new opportunities, such as the authors' several regional talk-radio 'appearances', to publicize the VAOHP and the work of the Archive and the Vietnam Center in general.

The VAOHP continues to receive great interest from those who want to conduct an interview and would like to include all who are interested. The majority of our interviews are conducted over the telephone at a time most convenient to the participant and as much time as necessary is taken to ensure that each participant has the chance to discuss all of his/her experiences in Southeast Asia. Most VAOHP interviews also include a biographical history of each participant as well as experiences before and after service in the conflict and/or participation in home front activities during the war. We invite anyone interested to contact the VAOHP at 806.742.9010 or via email at vaoralhistory@ttu.edu. ●



Dr. Richard Verrone (left), head of the Vietnam Archive Oral History Project, interviews retired U.S. Army LTC Patrick J. Curry, who was a Logistics Officer in South Vietnam in 1968 and 1969.



Vietnam Archive receives Vietnamese-American Heritage Foundation Collection

By Mary McLain Saffell, Associate Archivist

In December 2004, the Vietnam Archive began a relationship with the Vietnamese-American Heritage Foundation (VAHF) when officers of the organization visited TTU to discuss their project. The VAHF is committed to preserving the history of Vietnamese-American immigration experience. In doing so, the group hopes to encourage pride in their heritage for future generations of Vietnamese-Americans. The VAHF also seeks to highlight contributions made to American society by Vietnamese-Americans.

The VAHF grew out of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association (FVPPA). Founded by Ms. Khuc Minh Tho in 1977, the FVPPA sought the release of re-education camp detainees and assisted released prisoners in applying for the U.S.'s Orderly Departure Program. The group also provided resettlement support to Vietnamese immigrants. The organization disbanded in 1999, but in October 2004, members of the FVPPA reorganized and became the Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation. The new organization shifted its goals to the preservation of cultural knowledge of Vietnamese-Americans. The first step in this mission is the preservation of the archive of office records and Orderly Departure Program application files created by the FVPPA.

In December of 2004, representatives of the VAHF, including President Nancy Bui, and Dr. Duc Y Nguyen, Vice President of Financial Resource Development, traveled to Lubbock to meet with Dr. James Reckner, Steve Maxner, Mary Saffell, and other Vietnam Archive employees, to discuss their organization's mission and activities. During this meeting, representatives of each organization came to an initial agreement to make the Vietnam Archive the official repository for the papers of Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation, to include the papers of the FVPPA. At the Vietnam Center's 5th Triennial Vietnam Symposium in March 2005 representatives of both groups signed a memorandum of understanding and made plans to transfer the VAHF/FVPPA papers from Austin to Lubbock.

The shipment of seven pallets of archival material arrived at the archive on June 3. An initial survey of the collection revealed at least two major record series: FVPPA Administrative Files and Applications for the Orderly Departure Program. The Administrative Files Series contains financial records, correspondence, and other documents relating to the operations and activities of the FVPPA, which included lobbying Congress and other government officials in the State Department and White House on behalf of Vietnamese re-education camp detainees and refugees.

The Applications series consists of applications for the Orderly Departure Program from the late 1980s and early 1990s. In an attempt to stem illegal and dangerous departures from Vietnam by boat or overland through Cambodia, the Orderly Departure Program was started in 1979 to provide safe and legal immigration to the United States for Vietnamese citizens and their families. Beginning in 1988, special considerations were made for recently released re-education camp detainees, and the FVPPA worked extensively with that group of applicants. Each application file contains a "Political Prisoners Registration Form," and supporting documentation such as birth and marriage certificates, diplomas, employment records, internment records, photographs, letters, and information on applicants' U.S. sponsors.

Vietnam Archive staff members are currently pursuing grant funding to hire a project archivist and support staff to process the 127 linear foot collection. When the collection is open to the public, it will be an important source of information to researchers, students, and others on the immigration experience of Vietnamese-Americans and their cultural and social contributions to the United States. ●



Above: Justin Saffell leads the way as Thomas Reynolds moves boxes of the VAHF Collection from the loading dock at the Vietnam Archive.

Below: Mary Saffell examines an Orderly Departure Program application file in the VAHF archive while Thomas Reynolds moves boxes to shelf location at the Vietnam Archive. (Photos by Kyla Osborne on June 3, 2005)

Vietnam Archive receives anti-war collection

by Mary Saffell

The Vietnam Archive recently added to its collection a donation of archival material from Terry DuBose, former Texas state coordinator of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW). The material was donated after an August 3 briefing and tour of the archive. The collection includes posters, leaflets, books, newspaper clippings, photographs, correspondence, artwork, t-shirts, buttons, military administrative documents, and a photocopy of Mr. DuBose's FBI file. The donated papers and artifacts document Mr. DuBose's military service in Vietnam, his activism with the VVAW, and his participation in the Vietnam Center's 2005 Triennial Vietnam Symposium. Mr. DuBose is currently an Associate Professor and the Director of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He is the editor of the medical textbook *Fetal Sonography*, published in 1996. Through his continuing involvement with VVAW, he is encouraging other members of that organization to donate archival materials to the Vietnam Archive.

The Vietnam Graffiti Project: Preserving Unique Materials from Troop Transport Ships

By Justin Saffell, Systems Administrator

In March 2005, the Vietnam Archive was contacted by Mr. Art Beltrone with an interesting proposal. A few years earlier, Beltrone had the opportunity to board a decommissioned troop transport, the *USNS General Nelson M. Walker*, at the time a part of the James River Reserve Fleet in Virginia. While aboard the ship, Mr. Beltrone noticed that many of the canvas bunk bottoms the troops slept on contained a variety of written artwork and comments. With the permission of the Maritime Administration (MARAD), Beltrone collected a number of these canvases and, together with his wife, published a book entitled *Vietnam Graffiti*. During his research for the book, he tracked down a number of the men who had written on the canvases and conducted oral histories with them. These reminiscences, as well as numerous photos from the time, were also included in the book. Additionally, Mr. Beltrone provided canvases to a number of libraries and museums, including the Smithsonian and the Library of Congress.

Earlier this year, Mr. Beltrone learned of two more troopships that were part of the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet in Benicia, California: the *USNS General John Pope* and the *USNS General Edwin D. Patrick*. Having heard of the Vietnam Archive through a number of sources, Beltrone contacted Associate Director Steve Maxner about the possibility of a joint project. The archive jumped at the opportunity to collect these rare and unique materials, and a partnership was formed. In April, husband and wife archivist team Justin and Mary Saffell traveled to California to join the Beltrones and a retired veteran and former employee of the Reserve Fleet, Craig Spotts, to explore the ships. Once aboard, they found a plethora of graffiti marked canvases, as well as an unexpected treasure of Vietnam War era documents. Having only two days available, the team focused their efforts on the canvases and collected approximately 190, as well as a handful of documents, to bring back to the archive.

After returning to Texas and seeing the incredible array of salvaged materials, as well as pictures of what had been left behind, the archive decided to send a larger team back to the ships. In May, the Saffells, along with archive employees Ty and Victoria Lovelady and Thomas Reynolds, returned for three more days on the ships. This time, they focused on the documents and like materials left in the ships. "It was like they had docked the ship in 1970, intending to return, but never did," Justin Saffell stated. During this trip, the



The *Pope* (second from left) and the *Patrick* (third from left)

team collected approximately 60 linear feet of documents as well as another 80 canvases from the *Pope*. Additionally, the team spent a morning on the second ship, the *Patrick*, which they had been unable to visit during the first trip. The *Patrick* did not have canvas bunk bottoms, but they were able to find 9 feet of documents and a remarkable set of nautical charts.

In July, Craig Spotts returned to the *Pope* with members of his Veteran's Association, gathering up another 100 canvases for the archive. Currently all of these materials are in the archive and are being processed. Pictures of the canvases are already available through the Virtual Vietnam Archive. Additionally, the archive is developing a unique website for the Vietnam Graffiti Project (www.vietnam.ttu.edu/graffiti/). This site will include information on the project, the ships, and a search page specifically for the canvases. Here curators from museums and historical collections around the country will be able to browse the available canvases and request loans of them for display in their museums. The archive also plans a traveling exhibit of the materials. Please visit the Virtual Archive to glimpse the minds of young Americans as they spent nearly three weeks traversing the Pacific Ocean. They left in their wake a modest but remarkable record of their thoughts, hopes, fears, and dreams. ●



From left: Ty Lovelady, Victoria Lovelady, and Mary Saffell work to remove a canvas bunk bottom



Bundles of canvases removed from bunks

Know someone who should receive this newsletter?

Send us a name and address and we will contact them.



Additions to the Oral History Project

Interviews Conducted by Laura Calkins August 2004-June 2005

August 2004

Charles Julianne – USN — Charles Julianne enlisted in the Navy in 1952. In 1956 he entered the Naval Reserves, and was commissioned in 1963. Charles was posted in 1965-67 to NAS Virginia Beach VA, where he worked to get A-6 squadron personnel ‘dental ready’ for service in Vietnam. In 1967 Charles was assigned to the *USS Tutuila* and deployed to Vietnam, first based at An Thoi and later at Vung Tau.. OH 374.

September 2004

Larry Schiff – USAF — Lawrence (‘Larry’) Schiff joined the Air Force in 1957 and served in several administrative postings before going to the US Embassy, Manila, the Philippines (1963-65). In Vietnam Larry was assigned to the 459th Troop Carrier Squadron at Qui Nhon and at Phu Cat (1966-1967). Larry also served at Clark AFB, the Philippines (1967-69) before leaving the Air Force in 1969. OH 404.

Herbert Schandler – USA – Herbert Schandler graduated from the US Military Academy in 1952. He served in combat roles in Korea and became a special forces expert in Europe. He was deployed to Vietnam in 1965 as Executive Officer, 2d Bn, 2d Infantry. He then moved to MACV where he worked in the Revolutionary Development Division. Herbert worked at the Pentagon for two years, specializing in Vietnam affairs, and returned to Vietnam in 1969 in command of the 3d Bn/187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. He retired in 1975. OH 409.

October 2004

John Yuill – USAF – John Yuill enlisted in the US Air Force in 1953, and was selected as a navigator for the Ferry Command in 1955. John later went to pilot training, and flew USAF aircraft for the Strategic Air Command. In 1970 he flew C-130s in South Vietnam, and in 1972 he flew Linebacker II missions over North Vietnam. He was shot down on 22 December 1972 and incarcerated in the Hao Lo Prison in Hanoi. He was released in March 1973. OH 433.

March 2005

Dana Mansfield – USA – Dana Mansfield enlisted in the US Army in 1966, and served in Vietnam with the 272nd Military Police Company in Nha Trang, where he was involved in interdiction of local black market activities. He returned to the US in April 1968, and completed his service as a guard at the stockade at Ft Monmouth NJ in June 1969. OH 419.

Jim Hall – USAF – Jim Hall was drafted into the Army in 1940, serving in the Artillery until 1942 when he transferred to the US Army Air Force. He flew B-17s over Japan, and was discharged from active duty in 1945. Recalled in March 1950, Jim worked with the Air Force Special Weapons Group at Albuquerque NM 1952-57

and with the Technical Applications Center 1958-68. In Southeast Asia Jim served with Task Force Alpha in Thailand 1968-69 and at the 7th Airborne Command and Control Center at Udorn and Khorat, 1971-72. OH 425.

May 2005

Janice J. Carney – USA – Janice enlisted in the US Army in 1969 and arrived in Vietnam in July 1970. She was originally assigned to the 666th Transportation Corps near Phu Bai, but moved to the 39th Transportation Bn, becoming the battalion mail clerk and courier and participating in Lam Son 719. OH 426.

June 2005

Robert Taylor Rhea – USN – Robert Taylor Rhea was selected for submarine training during World War II. He joined the *USS Haddo* at Guam in August 1945. The ship entered Tokyo Bay for the ceremonies marking Japan’s surrender. Rhea and other officers from the *Haddo* walked through Yokohama and central Tokyo on 2 September 1945. OH 428.

William LeGro – USA – William ‘Bill’ LeGro fought in the Infantry in the Pacific during World War II, and served in Germany and Korea. In 1964-65 he was in the Army’s Deputy COS/Operations office, specializing in Southeast Asia. He served as G-2 of the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam 1966-67, and then as Director of Asian Studies at the Army War College, 1969-71. Again in South Vietnam from 1972, he served as a senior staff officer at MACV and then with the US Defence Attache’s Office in Saigon, until the evacuation on 29 April 1975. Bill later worked as a specialist on POW/MIA affairs, including with the US Senate Select Committee. OH 431.

Patricia A. Warner – USN – Patricia Warner was commissioned in the Navy Nurse Corps in 1958. She was assigned to Naval hospitals in the US, Guam, and Japan and was a Navy Nurse recruiter before serving in Vietnam aboard the hospital ship the *USS Sanctuary* (AH-17). OH 430.

William Giles – USA – William ‘Bill’ Giles was studying pharmacy at the University of Illinois when he was drafted. He entered the Army in 1967, was trained as a medic, and arrived in Vietnam in September 1967. He served with the 12th Evac Hospital at Cu Chi as an emergency room medic, including during the Tet Offensive. OH 432.

Interviews Conducted by Richard Verrone August 2004-June 2005

August 2004

Van “Mike” Davidson - (U.S. Army) Van Michael Davidson, originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1971, from 1974 to 1981, in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1971 to 1973 and again from 1981 until 1996. In South Vietnam, Mike served as an Advisor to the ARVN 9th Armor Division in July 1970 and then as IV Corps Information Officer for MACV in Can Tho from July 1970 until June 1971. He returned to the U.S. in 1971 and



Additions to the Oral History Project

went on to obtain a law degree from the University of Mississippi and practice law for the U.S. Army and in the private sector. OH 375

Tony Gleaton – (U.S. Marine Corps) Tony Gleaton, originally from Detroit, Michigan, served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1967 until 1970. While based at Camp Hansen in Okinawa before deploying to South Vietnam, Tony volunteered to go to Khe Sanh in the middle of the siege. Upon exiting the aircraft upon landing, he was wounded by a mortar and evacuated to Japan for recovery. Once recovered, Tony went to the RVN in May 1968 and served first as the Battalion commander's radioman for 1st Battalion, 1st Marines in I Corps until July and then as a ground Forward Air Controller attached to Alpha Company, 1/4 Marines, until November 1968 when he left Vietnam. Today, Tony is a world renowned photographer whose books and exhibits have helped expose the world of the minority peoples of the western United States and the people of Mexico and Central and South America. OH 377

September 2004

Sandra Craig – (Civilian) Sandra L. Craig, originally from Tampa, Florida, is the wife of former U.S. Navy pilot Captain Ken Craig. Ken flew over 300 combat missions in A-4E Skyhawks and A-6A Intruders over South Vietnam, North Vietnam, and Laos on three different cruises in 1966, 1971, and 1972. Sandy grew up in Jacksonville, FL, and married Ken in 1963. She, along with their two children, moved with him to his various posts in the United States and Europe. Sandy was very active in the Naval wives groups associated with Ken's assignments and especially with the squadrons VA-81, VA-72, VA-115, and VA-95, which Ken commanded between 1976 and 1979. She and Ken have retired in Virginia Beach, Virginia. OH 373

December 2004

Anthony LaRusso – (U.S. Army) Tony LaRusso, originally from Buffalo, NY, served in the U.S. Army from 1962 until 1964 and in South Vietnam from April 1963 until April 1964. He was with the 330th Transportation Co. stationed in Vung Tau and repaired rotors on helicopters and propellers on fixed wing aircraft. OH 417

March 2005

Winston S. Churchill, III – (Civilian) Winston S. Churchill, III, grandson and namesake of the former British Prime Minister, served in the British Parliament from 1970, when he entered as the youngest Conservative Party member, until 1997. During his 27 years as MP, he was appointed as Front-bench spokesman on Defense by Margaret Thatcher in 1976 and was for many years a member of the Defense Select Committee of the House of Commons. Churchill is an author, speaker, and was for many years a journalist and war-correspondent, reporting conflicts in Yemen, the Congo, Angola, Borneo, Vietnam, the Middle East and Biafra. In 1968 he became Roving Foreign Correspondent for The Times of London. Churchill was in South Vietnam from mid-January to mid-February 1966 as a correspondent for Look magazine and the British press, taking part in combat-missions with the United States Air Force. Churchill reported on events throughout the country to include American,

South Vietnamese, New Zealand and Australian operations. In this brief interview, Mr. Churchill describes his assignment to Vietnam and a few of his experiences with the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, and ANZAC troops. OH 421

Stephen W. Dant – (U.S. Army) Steve Dant, originally from Indianapolis, IN, enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1969 and served until 1971. He was in South Vietnam in 1970 and 1971 and served the first part of his tour with Co. C, 5/46, 198th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division as a rifleman and the second part of his tour in Chu Lai with Headquarters Co., 198th LIB, Americal, as a driver for the Battalion S-3. OH 418

David Eichhorn – (U.S. Army) David Eichhorn, originally from Caldwell, OH, was drafted into the U.S. Army in early 1970 and served until 1971. He was in South Vietnam from August 1970 until August 1971 as a Platoon and Aid Station Medic with the 3/21, 196th LIB, Americal Division. OH 420

April 2005

David W. Taylor – (U.S. Army) Dave Taylor, originally from Philadelphia, PA, served in the U.S. Army between 1967 and 1971 and in the U.S. Army Reserve between 1972 and 1993. In South Vietnam Dave was an Infantry Officer with C Co., 5/46, 198th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division from February until June 1969. On June 3, 1969, he was wounded in action (for a second time) and evacuated to Japan and eventually back to the U.S. OH 422

Joseph J. Welsh – (U.S. Army) Joey "Brasso" Welsh, originally from Philadelphia, PA, served in the U.S. Army between 1966 and 1969, 1976 and 1978, and 1979 and 1996. In Southeast Asia he served with the 1st Battalion, 101st Airborne in 1967 and 1968 and with Co. E (Long Range Patrol) 20th Inf. (A) in 1968. OH 423

May 2005

Calixto A. Cabrera – (U.S. Marine Corps) Calixto Cabrera, originally from Isabella, Puerto Rico, enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1965 and served until 1971 with one brief break in service in 1969. He was in South Vietnam during his first tour as a machine gunner/Team Leader with Lima Co., 3/5, 1st Marine Division operating in I Corps. In his second tour Calixto served with Alpha Co., 1/7, 1st MD as a rifleman, Squad Leader, and de facto Platoon Leader again in I Corps. Calixto is the recipient of a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and three Purple Hearts. OH 424

June 2005

Martin Goslar – (U.S. Army) Martin Goslar enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968 and served from 1968 until 1993. In South Vietnam in 1969 and 1970, Martin worked for Military Assistance Command-Vietnam as a Senior Infantry Advisor and Mobile Team Leader for Advisory Team 41, Kontum Province, in II Corps. OH 427

John R. Milam – (U.S. Army) Ron Milam enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1968 and served until 1971. He was in South Vietnam from May



Additions to the Archive

1970 until May 1971 in Phu Nhon District, Pleiku Province (II Corps), working for Military Assistance Command-Vietnam as a Senior Advisor for Mobile Advisory Team 38. Ron worked exclusively with Montagnard tribes training People's Self Defense Forces (PSDFs) to defend villages from the Viet Cong and NVA attacks. Dr. Milam is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Texas Tech University. OH 429

Patrick J. Curry – (U.S. Army) Pat Curry, originally from Temple, Texas, served in the U.S. Army from 1966 until 1991 and retired a Lieutenant Colonel. Pat served in South Vietnam with the OH 434

2005 Archive Additions

Margarethe Cammermeyer Collection

"Serving in Silence" is Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer's autobiography and includes her struggle against the U.S. Government's official policy of banning homosexuals from military service, World Report, prepared by the Information Office, USARV and IIFV, 2 February to 30 March 1968.

Dominick Cirincione Collection

Books: "Giap: The Victor in Vietnam" by Peter Macdonald, "Afterburner: Naval Aviators and the Vietnam War" by John Darrell Sherwood, 2004; "Requiem: By the Photographers Who Died in Vietnam and Indochina," edited by Horst Faas and Tim Page, 1997; "Offerings at the Wall: Artifacts from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Collection," VHS tapes: "The Big Chill," "Bloodsport," "Good Morning Vietnam," "Distant Thunder," "Flatliners," DVD from PBS Home Video: "Watergate Plus 30: Shadow of History," various other books and book catalogs, original and photocopied articles, and a travel brochure for Southeast Asia; Zenith Press book catalog and photocopied newspaper article from June-July 2005; and the Kipling Letter from 17 and 24 June 2005; Photocopied articles from the 27 August 2005 edition of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram documenting the war in Iraq. Some articles demonstrate parallels between Iraq and Vietnam.

Harold Winer Collection

Printed email forward: "Remembering Okinawa" by Victor Davis Hanson.

Jonathan Duchette Collection

Two reels of 8mm film labeled "Chuck Segars, Vietnam War."

Allen Binckley Collection

Several books donated to the Vietnam Archive by Allen Binckley.

Ted Engelmann Collection

Books concerning Agent Orange issues, written by Jean R Williams of Australia; Book: "The Forgotten Ones: A Photographic Documentation of the Last Vietnamese Boat People in the Philippines" by Brian Doan; "Unequal Partners: ROK-US Relations During the Vietnam War" by Kyudok Hong - a dissertation in fulfillment for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of Government and International Studies at the University of South Carolina, 1991.

James Evans Collection

Photographs and computer printed photographs of artwork created by James B. Evans; Computer printed copy of a V-mail from Horace Wayne Newberry to Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Wansley concerning the birth of James B. Evans in 1944.

Lam Le Trinh Collection

March 2005 issue of the French and English language periodical, "Human Rights/Droits De L'Homme."

Tin Nguyen Collection

Book: "General Hieu, ARVN: A Hidden Military Gem."

Quang X. Pham Collection

Advance uncorrected proof copy of "A Sense of Duty: My Father, My American Duty" by Quang X. Pham - describes Quang Pham's life as a Vietnamese refugee who became a U. S. Marine and who was reunited with his father after his father had spent over a decade in a Communist re-education camp in Vietnam.

Joseph Do Padre Collection

A travel book for Southeast Asia, a 1969 yearbook for the 1st Infantry Division, a scrapbook for the 1st Infantry Division, a short biography of Joseph Do Padre, and an Award of the Army Commendation Medal documents Joseph Do Padre's service with the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam from 1966-1967 and 1968-1969.

Lawrence Schiff Collection

Typed captions for film donated to the Vietnam Archive by Lawrence Schiff (1250VI1461 - 1250VI1462).

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Cold War International History Project Collection

"Working Paper #45 - Poland and Vietnam, 1963: New Evidence on Secret Communist Diplomacy and the 'Maneli Affair'" by Margaret K. Gnoinska.

William (Bud) Skinner Collection

Transcript of an Oral History of General Duane H. Cassidy, Commander in Chief of United States Transportation Command and Military Airlift Command, conducted by the United States Air Force, October 1998.

Amir A. Samardar Collection

Proposals on the Ceasefire received by the International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) from the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG), 13 July 1973; Ceasefire Violation Complaint received from the Republic of Vietnam (RVN); Order for Investigation of Ceasefire Violations; Standard Operational Procedure regarding ICCS Communications Message Form and Procedures; Correspondence Management of the ICCS Secretariat; Canadian Security Classification adopted for the ICCS; After "Observation" Report on the CALTEX Fuel Depot by the Dispatched Team from the Imperial Iranian Military Contingent to the ICCS (translated from Farsi to English by Amir A. Samardar); Photographs taken after the explosion at the CALTEX Fuel Depot; a 1:250,000 scale map of the area around Saigon.



Additions to the Archive

Ruth Coder Fitzgerald Collection

Correspondence; photocopied and original articles; internet printouts; photographs; artifacts; newsletters; periodicals; VHS tapes; a music CD; "The U.S. Congress Handbook for the 106th Congress" - documents the Vietnam War In Memory Memorial Plaque Project which was responsible for lobbying for the placement of a plaque at the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial honoring veterans who died after the Vietnam War as a result of their service. Examples include cancer due to Agent Orange exposure, suicide due to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and other various maladies. The plaque was dedicated at the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial on 10 November 2004.

Robert Vaughan Collection

"Brandywine's War: Back in Country" by Robert Vaughan is a satirical novel about the Vietnam War; Two CD-ROMs with photographs from Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base.

The Air America Association Collection

"The Ballad of Earthquake McGoon" and a photocopied article from the September 2004 issue of Trinity Triumph about Brigadier General Richard E. Fisher, former Assistant President of Air America and head of CIA covert operations in Southeast Asia; Program and guest list for the Air America Association Reunion in Reno, Nevada, 1-5 June 2005; Presentation of the Insignia of Knights of the Legion of Honor to Seven CAT Pilots at Dien Bien Phu - Remarks by H. E. Jean-David Levitte, Ambassador of France to the United States, 24 February 2005; Photocopy of Article of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of Air America Club, Inc., 27 August 1990; and a photocopy of the Certificate of Amendment for Air America Association, Inc., 7 September 1990; and two Air America Logs, October-December 2004 and April-June 2005.

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWC) Collection

Printed copies and CD-ROM consisting of a Military Assistance Training Advisor (MATA) Handbook from January 1966 and MATA Programs of Instruction.

Noel Parsons Collection

Books and a CD-ROM donated by Noel Parsons, Director of Texas Tech University Press - Books include: "Hit My Smoke! Forward Air Controllers in Southeast Asia and Classified Secret: Controlling Airstrikes in the Clandestine War in Laos" by Jan Churchill and "Air Commando Chronicles: Untold Tales from Vietnam, Latin America, and Back Again" by Robert L. Gleason. The CD-ROM is: "Glints of A Shining World: A Gerald Cannon Hickey Reader," published by RADIX Press.

Hoi Bach Dang Collection

Ten copies of the 30 April 2005 issue of "Luot Song."

Richard Burks Verrone Collection

Three periodicals, newspaper articles concerning the Vietnam Center and Archive from March-April 2005, and a card from James B. Evans to Richard B. Verrone; Article from the 13 May 2005 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal: "Americans in Vietnam include the

Opportunistic, the Returnees" - discusses Americans who have chosen to live and work in Vietnam; 17, 27, and 31 May issues of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal contain articles dealing with Vietnam War-related issues; A letter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer to the Vietnam Archive; A letter from Jim Cloninger to Steve Maxner, Richard Verrone, Laura Calkins, and Ty Lovelady of the Vietnam Archive; A 2005 newsletter from Millbrook High School in Raleigh, North Carolina; Materials collected by Richard Verrone during the Ripcord Reunion in Des Moines, Iowa, 6-8 October 2004, the Rural Affairs Reunion in Westminster, California, 10-12 June 2005, and the Americal Division Veterans Association Reunion in Kansas City, Missouri, 16-19 June 2005; An English-Vietnamese dictionary purchased by Verrone in Vietnam circa 1998; Two copies of an article in the 11 July 2005 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal: "Archivists Assemble Artifacts of War at Southwest Collection" and a periodical and newsletter donated to the Vietnam Archive by Richard Verrone; Articles, internet printouts, a copy of the April 2005 issue of "Vietnam Magazine," and "The Century" with Peter Jennings on audiotape; Photocopied article by Joseph Galloway: "War Is Sacrifice, as We Knew;" an internet article from MSNBC.com: "Sen. Hagel Sees Echoes of Vietnam in Iraq."

Amish Patel Collection

DVD - "The Living Room War" by Amish Patel.

Sinh T. Phan Collection

Vietnamese books donated to the Vietnam Archive by Sinh T. Phan.

John T. Brown III Collection

Copies of a Casualty Report pertaining to an attack on the 526th Collection Classification and Salvage (CC&S) Company at Phu Tai on 9 April 1968.

Herman Gilster Collection

Book: "Vietnam Diary: From Inside Air Force Headquarters" by Herman L. Gilster.

The Federation of Republic of Vietnam Navy and Merchant Marines (Tong Hoi Hai Quan Hang Hai Viet Nam) Associations Collection

Book written in Vietnamese: "Hai Su: Tuyen Tap."

The Moving Wall Collection

Items left at the Moving Wall during its visit to the Texas Tech campus in Lubbock, Texas on 1-7 April 2005: 37 small United States flags, 35 of which were left by Lynn Steele; A letter written by Lynn Steele to his cousin, Larry Allen Johnson, who was killed in Vietnam; Letters left for George Anthony Chapman and Kenneth James Cotter; A name rubbing of Lee Roy Herron; Two cloth flowers; A lapel pin with the inscription, "The Land that God Forgot."

Richard C. Harder Collection

Photocopied documents pertaining to the 12th Evacuation Hospital, including: An Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the 12th Evacuation Hospital, 1 February 1970; Letter of Instruction for the 12th Evacuation Hospital, October 1970; An After Action Report for the Inactivation of the 12th Evacuation Hospital, 15 December 1970; Photocopy of the Officer Roster for the 12th Evacuation



Additions to the Archive

Hospital as of 8 May 1967.

Robert Whitehurst Collection

CD-ROM and printed copy of Robert Whitehurst's translation of diaries written by a female North Vietnamese doctor named Dang Thuy Tram and email correspondence concerning Ted Englemann's discovery of Dan Thuy Tram's family in Vietnam. Dang Thuy Tram practiced medicine in the Duc Pho District of Quang Ngai Province with the North Vietnamese Army from 1967 to 1970. The original diaries are housed in the Vietnam Archive within the Frederic Whitehurst Collection (Collection #1364).

Edwin L. Oswald Collection

Newspaper article from the Houston Chronicle: "The Things I Left Behind" by Dai Huynh - concerns Huynh Thi Phuong-Dai's visit to Vietnam, thirty years after she and her family escaped following the fall of Saigon.

John E. Stallman Collection

A VHS tape containing film footage of the evacuation of Saigon, 29 April 1975; Magazine and newspaper articles concerning the Vietnam War; Book: "Viet Nam in Flames" by Nguyen Man Dan and Nguyen Ngoc Hanh.

Gerald Sampont Collection

Printed images of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Point Slocum WPB-82813 on patrol near Cat Lo, Vietnam and correspondence from Gerald Sampont discussing the U.S. Coast Guard's role in Vietnam.

USNS General John Pope Collection

The collection contains 271 graffiti-marked canvas bunk bottoms and 65 feet of archival documents collected from the USNS General John Pope and the USNS General Edwin Patrick, troop transport ships used in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, currently moored with the MARAD Reserve Fleet in Suisun Bay, Benicia, California.

Theron (Buddy) Sims Collection

Slides document Theron "Buddy" Sims tours of duty at Bien Hoa, November 1968 - November 1969 and Thailand, April - October 1972; Essay: "Gray Haired Warrior of the Desert Sky: A Pilot's Story" by Allan Dobras - discusses Theron "Buddy" Sims career as a pilot in the United States Air Force.

Brie Moynihan Collection

Book: "The Passing of the Night: My Seven Years as a Prisoner of the North Vietnamese" by General Robinson Risner - describes Risner's time as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam from 1965 to 1973. The book was signed by General Risner and Brie Moynihan; CD-ROM containing photographs from Brie Moynihan's High School Vietnam Project.

Ngo The Vinh Collection

Books by Ngo The Vinh: "The Green Belt" - documents a Vietnamese newspaper reporter traveling through the Central Highlands during the late 1960s who observed differences and disputes between the Vietnamese and the Montagnards and "The Battle of Saigon;" Book written in Vietnamese by Ngo The Vinh: "Cuu Long Can Dong Bien

Dong Day Song."

Julius Graw Collection

United States Navy photo book: "Project New Life" from the U.S. Naval Base at Subic Bay, Philippines.

Curtis S. Englehorn Collection

Correspondence, news clippings, and photographs document Curtis S. Englehorn's tour of duty with the 3rd Combined Action Group in Vietnam, 1969-1970.

James M. Hall, Jr. Collection

Autobiographical essays written by James Hall, Jr.; Articles about Jane Fonda and the Vietnam War from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 24 April 2005; Articles from Air Force Magazine, May 2005.

Jesse H. Oppenheimer Collection

Articles, bumper stickers, and photocopied correspondence between Jesse Oppenheimer and officials in the United States from 1966-1974 concerning Oppenheimer's opposition to American involvement in the Vietnam War.

Edward H. Douglas Collection

Book: "Setup: What the Air Force Did in Vietnam and Why" by Earl H. Tilford, Jr. and the December 2004 and March 2005 issues of "Air Commando Association Quarterly" Newsletter.

Roy R. Francis Collection

Slides document Roy R. Francis' tour of duty in Vietnam with the 9th Infantry Division from December 1966 through November 1967.

Lindy Poling Collection

Newsletters

R. Del Vecchio Collection

Advance copy of "Whitewash/Blackwash: Myths of the Viet Nam War" by Bill Laurie and R. J. De Vecchio.

Lex McAulay Collection

Signed copy of the book "Blue Lanyard: Red Banner" by Lex McAulay - documents Operation CRIMP in January 1966 when U.S. and Australia forces captured an underground Viet Cong containing munitions and over 100,000 documents.

Ron George Collection

Book: "Airspeed, Altitude, and a Sense of Humor: The Adventures of a Jet Tanker Pilot" by Ron George (Ronnie Ridley George).

Tom Sebens Collection

Newspaper articles concerning the deployment of the USS Richard B. Anderson to Vietnam in 1966; The cruisebook for the USS Richard B. Anderson 1964-1965; The May 1965 issue of All Hands magazine containing a letter written by Tom Sebens; and a navy shell fragment from Roi-Namur in the northern end of Kwajalein Lagoon document Tom Sebens tour of duty on the USS Richard B. Anderson, 1964-1965; MP 40 and 44 weapons and Montagnard artifacts.



Additions to the Archive

William Foulke Collection

Slides and accompanying essay written by Foulke: "The Worst Film in Vietnam" Essays: "DASPO Buys Tyler Mounts" and "DASPO Produces 13th COSCOM Orientation Movie." Five slides and an accompanying essay: "MACV Army 'A' Photo Team Films 9th Infantry Division Adoption Story;" Essays by Foulke: "MACV Army 'A' Photo Team's First Release (Candy Distribution)," and "DASPO Films Drug Addict Detox Facility."

Dudley F. Waters Collection

Slides and photographs document Dudley F. Waters' tour of duty in Vietnam as a C-7A Caribou pilot serving with the 535th Tactical Airlift Squadron (TAS) in the United States Air Force from March 1967 to March 1968.

Shirley Johnson Collection

Correspondence between Shirley Johnson and family members and other individuals documents her husband, Congressman Sam Johnson, seven years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam and newspapers collected by Mrs. Johnson.

Richard Hamilton Collection

Printed email concerning the death John Musgrove, a friend of Richard Hamilton, who was killed in Vietnam in 1965 and how his death affected his family; Newspaper article from the 30 May 2005 issue of The Tampa Tribune discusses the death John Musgrove; A printed email in response to the article.

Jesse Walton Collection

DVD and VHS copies of Marc Eberle's German language documentary film on Germans in the French Foreign Legion who fought at Dien Bien Phu in 1954.

David L. Smith Collection

Military administrative documents, slides, photographs, and negatives documenting David L. Smith's service in the United States Air Force from 1951-1955.

Stephen F. Maxner Collection

16 May 2005 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal with featuring an article on the Vietnam Graffiti Project at Texas Tech University and the 17 May 2005 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal featuring an article on General Robinson Risner's (a former American POW in Vietnam) visit to Lubbock, Texas; Article from the Star Tribune on 4 July 2005: "Special Report: Reality Gets in the Way of Loyalty to General" by Tony Kennedy and Paul McEnroe - documents allegations that Vang Pao has extorted money from Laos refugees living all across the United States; Article from the 11 July 2005 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal: "Archivists Assemble Artifacts of War at Southwest Collection."

Joy Wilkerson Collection

Handwritten letter from John L. Sherwood to Joy Wilkerson, 12 February 1969.

Kenneth L. Baker Collection

A letter from Kenneth L. Baker to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. K.

Baker, May 9, 1970.

Leon Robinson Collection

Seven VHS tapes from the ABC documentary series: "Service with Honor;" Commemorative coins honoring U.S. Veterans; The May 2005 issue of "VFW" magazine.

Karl Michel Collection

Copy of Karl Frederick Michel's 2001 Dissertation from The University of Georgia: "Drawing on Experience: A Study of Eighteen Artists from the National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum Collection."

Le Huynh Hoang Collection

Books of Vietnamese poetry written by Phuong Trieu.

Bill Hager Collection

Copy of Bill Hager's presentation at the Vietnam Center's 5th Triennial Symposium: "Image vs. Reality: Swift Boat Vets Versus the Reality of VVAW - Image Manipulation for Political and Personal Gain."

James Winn Collection

Artifacts, original and photocopied newspaper clippings, photographs, military administrative documents, certificates, and aviator flight log books document James Winn's career in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Vernon D. Barrett Collection

Audio reel, Chieu Hoi leaflet, immunization certificate, certificate of appreciation, photocopied DD-214, photographs, and artifacts document Vernon D. Barrett's tour of duty in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division, 1968-1969.

Dao Quang My Collection

Book written in Vietnamese: "Thieu Phu Dien" - documents the social history of Vietnamese refugees in Denmark.

Kenneth R. Bowra Collection

Items emailed to the Vietnam Archive by Major General Kenneth R. Bowra including scanned photographs and a letter about "grunts" coming home.

Joseph Hennessy Collection

Book: "Shannon Die...Never" by Joseph Hennessy; A photocopied letter; A newspaper clipping.

Le Mai Linh Collection

Four books written in Vietnamese and a photocopied article from the 29 April 2005 issue of "The Gioi Moi" written by Le Mai Linh.

Duane Keele Collection

Air America Reunion scrapbooks from the following years: 1984-1986, 1987, 1995, and 2000.

Due to the lack of space in this issue and the high volume of donations, additional contributions to the archive will be listed in the next issue of the *Friends* newsletter.



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