



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
The Vietnam Center

Sixth Triennial Vietnam Symposium

March 13-15, 2008

Draft Agenda

Wednesday, 12 March

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| All day | Participants arrive in Lubbock |
| 12-5 PM | Registration Desk open at Holiday Inn Park Plaza
Location: <i>Fountain Court</i> |
| 7:00 PM | Welcoming reception at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza
Location: <i>Fountain Court</i>
Cash Bar (beer and wine only)
Light Hors d'oeuvres |

Thursday, 13 March

7:30 AM Coffee Service in Fountain Court

8 AM- 5 PM Registration Desk open at Holiday Inn Park Plaza
Location: Fountain Court

8 AM-5 PM Book and Museum displays
Location: Hickory Room

OPENING CEREMONY

8:00 AM Chancellor Kent Hance of Texas Tech University [invited]

Location: Sycamore Room

8:30 AM Session 1 - Plenary

Plenary Session 1: The Media and the Tet Offensive

Moderator: Mr. Richard Pyle, Associated Press

Panelists: Mr. Barry Zorthian, USIA, JUSPAO, Saigon
Mr. Don North, War Correspondent, ABC and NBC News
Dr. William Hammond, Historian, US Army Center of
Military History

Location: Sycamore Room

10:00 AM Coffee Break

10:30 AM Session 2 - Plenary

Plenary Session 2: The Media and the Vietnam War

Moderator: Dr. William Hammond, US Army Center of Military History

Panelists: Mr. Peter Arnett, War Correspondent, Associated Press,
Pulitzer Prize 1966
Mr. Richard Pyle, War Correspondent, Saigon Bureau Chief,
Associated Press
Mr. George Esper, War Correspondent, Associated Press

Location: Sycamore Room

12:00 Lunch

Lunch Speaker:

Reporting the Vietnam War
13 years as a War Correspondent with the Associated Press
Peter Arnett, Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, 1966

Location: Fountain Court

1:30 PM Sessions 3 a-d

Session 3a

Sects, Diem, and the Early Opposition Press in the US

Moderator: Edward Miller, Associate Professor, Dartmouth College

"The French Connection, Part Deux: Sects and Drugs"
Carmen K. Steigman, M.D., M.P.H., Independent Researcher

"Turning Points: Ngo Dinh Diem and the American response to the November 1960 coup d'état attempt."
Ronald B. Frankum, Jr., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

“Early roots of an ‘Opposition Press’: An Examination of the New York Times’
Editorials from the spring of 1965”
Louis Campomenosi, Ph.D., Tulane University

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 3b

OPEN

Location: Redwood Room

Session 3c

Archival Collections and Preservation

Moderated by: Mary Saffell, Associate Director, Vietnam Center

“Conservation and Preservation of Military Records of the Vietnam Era”
Sara J. Holmes, Supervisory Preservation Specialist, National Personnel Records
Center, National Archives and Records Administration

“Following Vietnam from Berkeley: a guide to library and internet resources on
contemporary Vietnam”
Stephen Denney, Library Assistant, University of California at Berkeley

“The Fate of a Canon-less Army: The Imaginative Representations of the
Vietnam War Collection at La Salle University”
John Baky, Director of Libraries, Connelly Library, La Salle University

Location: Aspen Room

Session 3d

Agent Orange and Herbicides in Vietnam and Thailand

“Agent Orange and Dioxin”

Arnold Schechter, MD, MPH, Professor of Environmental Sciences, University of Texas School of Public Health

"The Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences' Health and Scientific Research on Dioxins and Agent Orange: Past, Present, and Future."

David A. Butler, Ph.D., Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences

"Herbicide Use in Thailand - The Relationship to the Rules Of Engagement (ROE) and Use in Vietnam and Laos"

Kurt Priessman, Master Sergeant, USAF (Retired), Independent Researcher

Location: Mahogany Room

3:00 PM Coffee break

3:30 PM Sessions 4 a-d

Session 4a

Pham Xuan An: Unraveling the Mystery of a Perfect Spy

Moderator: Mr. Richard Pyle, War Correspondent, Saigon Bureau Chief, Associated Press

“Imagining Viet Nam: Misunderstanding Pham Xuan An”

Kyle Horst, Independent Researcher

“Will We Ever know The Real Pham Xuan An?”

Larry Berman, Ph.D., Professor, University of California, Davis

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 4b

The Battle for Tan Son Nhut - Tet '68

Moderator: James Willbanks, Ph.D., U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth

“Orientation tour of Tan Son Nhut Air Base”

Bob Laymon, CMSgt, USAF (retired), Independent Researcher

“The Vietcong and PAVN Historical Perspective on the Battle for Tan Son Nhut”

Merle Pribbenow, CIA (retired), Independent Researcher

“Combined US/RVN Defense of Tan Son Nhut”

Bernie DeNisio, Col, USAF (retired), Independent Researcher

Location: Redwood Room

Session 4c

Panel Discussion: “Edward Lansdale’s Vietnam War: Myth, History and the Career of America’s Most Famous Vietnam Intelligence Operative”

Chair: Edward Miller, Associate Professor, Dartmouth College

Panelists: Mr. Rufus Phillips, CIA and USAID (retired) Author of upcoming Book, *Why Vietnam Matters: An Eyewitness Account of Lessons Not Learned* (Naval Institute Press, Fall 2008).
Mr. Jerome French, Department of Defense and USAID (retired)
Mr. Don North, War Correspondent, ABC and NBC News

Location: Aspen Room

Session 4d

LBJ and Nixon: The Impact of Presidential Leadership on the Vietnam War

Moderator: Justin Hart, PhD, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University

“Approaching the Big Muddy: President Lyndon Baines Johnson’s Early Perceptions on the War in Indo-China”

Walter Jones, University of Utah

“1968 and its Aftermath: Why Did the Vietnam War Continue?”

Carolyn Eisenberg, Professor of History, Hofstra University

Location: Mahogany Room

5:00 PM Afternoon sessions complete

5:15 PM 2 buses and vans begin shuttle runs from Holiday Inn Park Plaza to
American State Bank

5:30 PM Civic Reception at American State Bank
Open Bar
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

6:00 PM Beginning of Official Reception

(a) Opening Comments by Mr. W. R. Collier, President, ASB

(b) Comments, Proclamation by Mayor David Miller (Invited)

7:00 PM (Approx) 2 buses and vans begin shuttle runs to Holiday Inn Park
Plaza

Friday, 14 March

- 7:30 AM Coffee Service in Fountain Court
- 8:00 AM (Until 4:30) Registration/Information Desk open at Holiday Inn Park Plaza, in the Fountain Court
- 8:00 AM (Until 4:30) Book and Museum displays: Hickory Room
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8:30 AM Sessions 5 a-d:

Session 5a

Major Battles of the Tet Offensive

Moderator: TBD

“The Ia Drang Valley Battle? Which One?”

Tin Nguyen, Independent Researcher

“Khe Sanh: The Vanishing Enemy”

Bryan G. Urquhart, Independent Researcher

“A New Interpretation of the Battle of Kham Duc, May 10-12, 1968”

Gregory Sanders, Independent Researcher

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 5b

Personal Perspectives: The Army of the Republic of Vietnam

“The Tet Offensive Experience”

Nguyen Le Hieu, Ph.D., Independent Researcher, no affiliation

“Roots of South Vietnamese Nationalism”

Nghia M. Vo. Independent Researcher

“The “Tet” Offensive 1968: Planning, Preparation And The Results”
Hieu Vu, Independent Researcher

Location: Redwood Room

Session 5c

Education and the Vietnam War

Moderator: Justin Hart, PhD, Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University

“Higher Education in Vietnam: USAID Contract in Education, Wisconsin State University-Stevens Point and Republic of Vietnam”

Thomas C. Reich, Assistant Professor University Library, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

“Surrounded by Politics: the American Friends of Vietnam and its Educational Endeavors, 1955-1960”

John Southard, Texas Tech University

“Depictions of War: An Examination of the Vietnam War as presented in in High School Texts”

TiTi Mary Tran, California State University

Location: Aspen Room

Session 5d

The Battle for Hue

“New Insights into the Battle of Hue, Tet 1968”

Erik B. Villard, Ph.D., Historian, U.S. Army Center of Military History

“The Battle of Hue through the Eyes of its NVA Battlefield Commander”

Nguyen Ngoc Bich, Independent Researcher

Location: Mahogany Room

10:00 AM Coffee break

10:30 AM Sessions 6 a-d:

Session 6a

Legal Issues in the Vietnam War

Moderator: Associate Dean Cal Lewis, Texas Tech School of Law

“The Existence of a Nexus? The Military Justice Act of 1968 and the Vietnam War”

Mattei Radu, Independent Researcher, Villanova University

“Article 39(a) Pretrial Sessions Conducted by a True Military Judge”

Daniel H. Benson, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Law (Retired), Texas Tech University School of Law; former Major and Military Judge, Army JAGC

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Location: Sycamore Room

Session 6b

Finding Thuy: What Happened after the Fifth Triennial Vietnam Symposium?

Panelists: Fred Whitehurst, Independent Resercher
Rob Whitehurst, Independent Researcher

Location: Redwood Room

Session 6c

Telling Our Stories: African American Vietnam Veterans

Moderator: Ron E. Armstead, U.S. Navy Vietnam Theater Veteran

Commentator: Garna Christian, Ph.D., Professor of History, University of Houston-Downtown

Panelists: Robert Blackwell, USA, Tyler, TX
Ruben 'Sugar Bear' Johnson, USMC, Cleveland, TX
Charles Johnson, USA, San Antonio, TX

Bennie Nash, III U.S. Navy (Ret.) Viet Nam Era Veteran,
Lubbock, TX

Location: Aspen Room

Session 6d

Tet, the DRV, and the RVN

“General Vo Nguyen Giap and the Evolution of the Plan for the 1968 Tet Offensive”

Merle Pribbenow, Independent Researcher

“Victory Unfulfilled: The Failure of the US/ARVN Alliance in the Wake of Tet”

Andrew Wiest, Ph.D., The University of Southern Mississippi

“The 1968 Tet Offensive”

Vu Quy Ky, Independent Researcher

Location: Mahogany Room

12:00 Lunch

Lunch Speaker:

“Major Debates on the History of the Vietnam War”

Mark Moyar, Ph.D., Kim T. Adamson Chair of Insurgency and Terrorism

U.S. Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia

Location: Fountain Court

1:30 PM Sessions 7 a-d:

Session 7a

Naval Intelligence Liaison Officers in Vietnam

“The NILO Program: Tailoring Naval Intelligence to Fit the War. Tactical and Strategic Intelligence Support in a Coastal, Riverine and Border War.”

Chair: Nick Carbone

Panelists: John Vinson, NILO Tra Cu
Peter Decker, NILO Duc Hoa
Lawrence Serra, NILO Ha Tien

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 7b

More about the Hue Massacre

Panel Chaired by Mr Trinh Quoc Thien

Location: Redwood Room

Session 7c

Saving Lives in Vietnam: Nurses, Aidmen, and Dustoff Pilots

Moderator: TBD

“When I have Your Wounded: The Story of Dust-Off Warfare’s Greatest Life Saver”

Pat Brady, MG, USA (retired), Independent Researcher

“Nurses in Vietnam: Heroic Angels or Reluctant Volunteers”
Ron Milam, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University

“Who Goes First? Prioritizing Casualty Evacuation during the Vietnam War”
Jonathan Hood, Ph.D., Office of the Surgeon General

Location: Aspen Room

Session 7d

Vietnam and Iraq

“Two Long Wars Compared: Vietnam and Iraq”
Martin K. Gordon, Ph.D., Faculty Associate in History, Johns Hopkins University

“Vietnam v. Iraq: A Comparison of the Soldiers' Experience”
Gary J. Heffner, MA, SGT (former) US Army National Guard

“A Comparison of the Emotional and Psychological Adjustment of the Returning Veterans of Vietnam and Iraq”
Bob Worthington, PhD, Lt Col, US Army (retired)

Location: Mahogany Room

3:00 PM Coffee break

SPECIAL BOOK SIGNING IN

Dr. Andrew Wiest, University of Southern Mississippi
Vietnam's Forgotten Army: Heroism and Betrayal in the ARVN (NYU, 2007)

3:30 PM Sessions 8 a-d:

Session 8a

The Hue Massacre of 1968

Moderator: TBD

“The 1968 Massacre at Hue: in Commemoration of the Mau Than Victims on the 40th anniversary 1968-2008”

Nguyen Ly Tuong, Independent Researcher

“The Mau Than Massacre: An Intentionally Forgotten Event of the Vietnam War”

Michael Peavey Do, Captain, Republic of Vietnam Air Force, Independent Researcher

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 8b

Antiwar Protest and Radicalization

“From Protests to the Media: SANE’s Response to Nixon’s Silent Majority in Philadelphia”

Matthew Johnson, Temple University

Location: Redwood Room

Session 8c

Political Warfare and Southern Intellectuals in the Republic of Vietnam

Moderator: TBD

“Southern Vietnamese Intellectuals and the Events of 1968”

Wynn Wilcox, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Western Connecticut State University

“Political Warfare in Republican Vietnam”

Robert A. Silano, Independent Researcher

Location: Aspen Room

Session 8d

“Teaching the Tet Offensive and 1968: A Roundtable Discussion”

Chair: James Willbanks, Ph.D., U.S. Army Command and General Staff College,
Fort Leavenworth

Panelists: William Thomas Allison, Ph.D., Professor of History, Weber State
University
Edwin E. Moïse, Ph.D., Professor of History, Clemson University
Ron Milam, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, Texas Tech
University

Location: Mahogany Room

5:00 PM Afternoon sessions complete

6:30 PM Reception
Cash bar: beer & wine only
Light Hors d'oeuvres

7:30 PM CONFERENCE BANQUET
Recommended attire: Dinner Dress or Business Attire

Location: Fountain Court

8:15 PM Keynote Address

Ambassador Raymond Burghardt
Former US Ambassador to Vietnam
Director, East-West Seminars
East-West Center, Hawaii

9:15 PM (Approx) End of banquet



Saturday, 15 March

7:30 AM Coffee Service in Fountain Court

8:00 AM (Until 4:00) Registration/Information Desk open at Holiday Inn Park Plaza, in the Fountain Court

8:00 AM (Until 4:00) Book and Museum displays in the Hickory Room

8:30 AM Sessions 9 a-d:

Session 9a

Personal Narratives and the Impact of the War

Moderator: TBD

“Memories of Being There”

Ervin Fischer, Veteran, Independent Researcher

“Tet-a-Tet: A Forty-Year Journey”

Ted Engelmann, Veteran, Independent Researcher

“Welcome Home”

Wendy Liles, Daughter of Robert L. Liles, Jr., MAJ, USAF, KIA 1972

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 9b

Special Operations and Missions during and the Vietnam War

Moderator: TBD

“Murphy was even a Sapper: Urban Sappers in Saigon during the Tet Offensive”

James M. Cloninger, Texas Tech University

“Taking the Night Away from Charlie: Quiet Thruster Aircraft in the Vietnam War”

Dale Ross Stith, Founder and President, Quiet Aircraft Association, Inc.

“Osborne’s Congressional Testimony and the Denouncing of the Phoenix Program”

Michael W. Cheek, American University

Location: Redwood Room

Session 9c

Multimedia Presentation:

“Drawing on Experience: A Study and Display of Vietnam Veteran Artists”

Karl Michel, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Art, Piedmont College

Location: Aspen Room

Session 9d

Postwar Issues and Challenges

Moderator: Dr. Kelly Crager, Vietnam Center

“Unexploded Ordnance: Accident Survivors, International Organizations and Visions of the Vietnam War in Quang Tri Province, Central Vietnam”

Jason Perkins, Carleton College

“Connecting the Dots – The Buy Out and Sell Out of Our POWs & MIAs”

H. G. “Don” Mercer, Independent Researcher

“Creation of a Criminal Class: The Denigration of the Vietnam Veteran: 1968-1975”

Ralph Thomas, Independent Researcher

Location:

Location: Mahogany Room

10:00 AM Coffee break

10:30 AM Sessions 10 a-d

Session 10a

The Vietnam War in Literature

Moderator: TBD

“American Dream/American Nightmare”

Michael Lund, Ph.D., Professor, Longwood University, Virginia

“Vietnamese Civilians and the Tet Offensive in Nha Ca's Gai Khan So Cho Hue
[The Funeral Band for Hue]”

Tuan Hoang, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Notre Dame

“Opposing Images of American Combatants and North Vietnamese Communist
Soldiers in Lan Cao's Monkey Bridge”

Quan Manh Ha, Ph.D. Candidate, Texas Tech University

Location: Sycamore Room

Session 10b

US Navy Operations in Vietnam

“The Role of the Navy's Helicopters in Combat Search and Rescue”

Al Billings, CDR, USN (retired), Independent Researcher

“Operation Silver Mace II: Deadly Day on the Duong Keo”

Wade R. Sanders, CAPT, USN (retired), Independent Researcher

Location: Redwood Room

Session 10c

US Soldiers Experiences in Vietnam

Moderator: TBD

“We Was Just Us;” De-racialization on the Front Lines of the Vietnam War”
Gerald F. Goodwin, University of Kentucky

“Combat Assault Into Cambodia and Night Fighting Inside the Wire”
James T. Gillam, Associate Professor, Spelman College

“Reminiscences of the first Neurologist serving U.S. Forces in Vietnam (1965-66)
and his 2005 Private Meeting with General Vo Nguyen Giap in Hanoi”
Robert B. Daroff, M.D., Case Western Reserve University

Location: Aspen Room

Session 10d

POTPOURRI ONE: Bob Hope, The Post Exchange, and A Tale of Two Quagmires...

“‘Thanks for the Memories’: The Bob Hope Christmas Shows in Viet Nam”
Judith R. Johnson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Wichita State University

“PX-land: Thai Adventures in Consumerism and Americanism in South
Vietnam, 1967-72”
Richard A. Ruth, Assistant Professor, United States Naval Academy

“A Review Essay of ‘A Tale of Two Quagmires: Iraq, Vietnam, and the Hard
Lessons of War.’”
Samuel B. Hoff, Ph.D., Delaware State University

Location: Mahogany Room

12:00 Lunch

Speaker: Ambassador Charles Ray
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
Defense Prisoner/Missing Personnel Office
Former US Ambassador to Cambodia

Location: Fountain Court

1:30 PM Session 11

Special Plenary Session

Accounting for our MIAs: The Role of Archival Research

Moderator: Ronald Cima, Senior Analyst for Southeast Asia, Research and Analysis Directorate

“MIA Archival Research in Vietnam: A Historical Perspective”
Guy Bentz, Analyst, Research and Analysis Directorate

“MIA Archival Research in the U.S: Possible Applications of the CDEC Collection to Accounting”
Cynthia Chambers, Ph.D., Analyst, Research and Analysis Directorate

“Unlocking the index to the CDEC Microfilm: Binary computing, information storage, and technological obsolescence”
Mark C. Russell, Ph.D., Historian, Research and Analysis Directorate

Location: Sycamore Room

3:00 PM Coffee Break

3:30 PM Wrap up session

Discussion, Recommendations, and Closing Remarks

Moderator: Steve Maxner, Vietnam Center

Location: Sycamore Room

4:00 PM END OF SYPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS

6:00 PM Buses depart for Cagel's Ranch

6:30 PM West Texas Barbecue Dinner at Cagel's Ranch

8:30 PM Buses leave for Holiday Inn

8:45 PM Fellowship at the Fountain Court Bar, Holiday Inn Park Plaza.