



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
**The Vietnam Center™**

**Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand and the Vietnam War**

Conference Agenda  
March 13-14, 2009  
Holiday Inn Park Plaza, Lubbock, TX

**Thursday March 12, 2009**

1200 – 1700 – Open Registration at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza

1730 – Reception – Cash Bar with heavy hors d'oeuvres – Holiday Inn Park Plaza

**Friday March 13, 2009**

0730 – Coffee Service

0800 – Opening Remarks

- ◆ Opening Remarks: Dr. Guy Bailey, President, Texas Tech University (tentative)
- ◆ Administrative Comments: Dr. Stephen Maxner, Director, The Vietnam Center

**0830 – Session 1 – Panel Discussion:**

**Understanding the War in Southeast Asia through the declassified works of Thomas Ahern**

Chair: Dr. Clayton Laurie, Historian, Center for the Study of Intelligence

- ◆ Dr. Jeffrey Race, Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Bangkok, Thailand
- ◆ Col. Andrew Finlayson, Independent Researcher/Military Analyst
- ◆ Mr. Merle Pribbenow, Independent Researcher/Retired Intelligence Officer
- ◆ Dr. Timothy N. Castle, Historian, Center for the Study of Intelligence

1000 – Coffee Break

### **1030 – Session 2 – Vietnamese perspectives on the War in Laos and Cambodia**

- ◆ *North Vietnam – Pathet Lao Alliance During The Vietnam War: (Vietnam’s Official Perspectives)*  
Mr. Chau Huy Ngoc, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
- ◆ *The Relationship Between Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam and the Vietnam War*  
Dr. Nguyen Thanh Long, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City
- ◆ *The Cambodian Incursion In 1970*  
Ms. Diu Huong, Graduate Student, Ohio University, Athens

1200 – Lunch

1245 – Lunch Speaker

***Mr. Jim Parker: CODENAME MULE, A CIA Case Office in Laos***

Introduction: Stephen Maxner, PhD, Texas Tech University

### **1345 – Session 3 – The CIA, Air America, and the War in Laos**

- ◆ *Laos – The Critical Years From 1956-1959 – A First-Hand Account*  
Mr. Rufus Phillips, CIA, Laos
- ◆ *The History Of Air America In Laos*  
Mr. Allen Cates, Air America, Laos

1500 – Coffee Break

### **1530 – Session 4 – Controversy and the War in Laos**

Chair: Stephen Maxner, PhD, Texas Tech University

- ◆ *The Politics of Heroin Revisited: The CIA, War On Drugs And Secret Wars In Laos And Thailand*  
Dr. Jeremy Kuzmarov, Bucknell University
- ◆ *Werner Herzog’s Vision of Dieter in Laos*  
Mr. Rob Weiner, Texas Tech University

1645 – End of first day presentations

1800 – Buses leave for dinner

1830 – Barbeque Dinner at 4-Bar-K Ranch

2000 – Buses return to hotel

**Saturday March 14, 2009**

0800 – Coffee Service

**0830 – Session 5 – The War in Laos**

- ◆ *A Tipping Point For The United States In Laos: Operation Triangle, 1964*  
Dr. John Prados, National Security Archive
- ◆ *Phouvong and Kong Mi: Creating Communist and Non-Communist Ethnic Brao Spaces along The Laos-Cambodia Border*  
Dr. Ian G. Baird, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver
- ◆ *Laos and the International Commission for Supervision and Control: A Canadian Perspective*  
Dr. Michael Carroll, SDF Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Calgary

**1000 – Coffee Break**

**1030 – Session 6 – Postwar Laos**

- ◆ *Investment-Based Development In Northwest Lao PDR: A Lingering Postwar Landscape*  
Mr. Michael B. Dwyer, University of California, Berkeley
- ◆ *UXO and Postwar Laos*  
Mr. Marcus Rhineland, Independent Researcher and Filmmaker

**1200 – Lunch with Speaker TBA**

**1400 – Session 7 – The War in Cambodia**

- ◆ *The Lao Accord and its impacts on Cambodia, Thailand and US objectives in SE Asia (1962-1963)*  
Dr. Geoffrey Shaw
- ◆ *Sihanouk Between The Cat And The Dragon: Cambodia From 1963-1964*  
Mr. Steve Sherman, Independent Researcher
- ◆ *Viet-Nam War And Its Aftermath: U.S. Invasion Of Cambodia*  
Mr. Tan D. Thach, Independent Researcher

**1500 – Coffee Break**

**1530 – Session 8 – The War in Thailand**

- ◆ *USAID Report: Architectural Notes In Vietnam, 1974. Campus Designs For South Vietnam: The Influence Of Thailand's Thammasat University And Other Southeast Asian Models Of Educational Architecture*  
Dr. Tom Reich, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
  
- ◆ *Did Thailand Send Mercenaries To Fight In South Vietnam? A New Challenge To An Old Label*  
Dr. Richard A. Ruth, United States Naval Academy
  
- ◆ *Domino By Design: Thai-U.S. Relations During The Vietnam War*  
Sudina Paungpetch, Texas A&M University

**1700 – Closing Remarks**

**1715 – End of second day presentations**

1800 – Reception with Cash Bar and light hors d'oeuvres – Holiday Inn

1900 – Banquet with Speaker – TBA

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Please note that this year our conference banquet will take place on Saturday evening – **not** Friday.