



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

The Vietnam Center and Archive

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Director

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The Vietnam Center and Archive

“Monuments are important for those who served and sacrificed, but it is the archives that will provide meaningful answers today and for future generations.”

-Dr. James Reckner, Founding Director, Vietnam Center and Archive





Vietnam Center and Archive Background

- Founded by Vietnam Veterans
 - *Founders still participate and serve on Local Advisory Board*
- Officially established by the TTU Board of Regents in May, 1989
- Unit of the Office of International Affairs
- Guidance from Vietnam veterans and scholars
- National Advisory Council
 - *Includes veterans and scholars of national prominence such as General William Westmoreland, Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Ambassador William Colby, Ambassador Pete Peterson, Dr. Larry Berman, Dr. Keith Taylor, and others...*



Vietnam Center and Archive Mission:

To support and encourage research and education regarding all aspects of the Vietnam War and the American experience in Southeast Asia; promoting a greater understanding of this experience as well as the peoples and cultures of Southeast Asia.





The Vietnam Archive

- Mission is to gather and preserve documents that detail all aspects of the US-Vietnam experience from the 19th Century to the present:
 - Archival Collections
 - *Over 2500 collections*
 - *Approximately 300 donated annually*
 - Oral History Project
 - *More than 800 interviews*
 - Vietnam Library
 - *More than 15,000 volumes*
 - Virtual Vietnam Archive
 - *More than 3 million pages online*
 - *Add approximately 15,000-20,000 pages monthly*



Virtual Vietnam Archive

Total Pages	3,165,224
Number of Records	476,123
Documents	314,914
Photos and Slides	121,810
Periodical Articles Indexed	14,711
Newsletters	6,350
Microfilm and Microfiche	4,348
Moving Images	3,012
Audio Recordings	2,525
Museum Objects	4,312
Finding Aids	1,971
Oral History Interviews	803
Newspapers	1,016
Electronic Media	522





JPAC Search for MIAs



Riverine Warfare in Vietnam and Iraq

Unanticipated Impacts

- Assistance to US Government with search for MIAs
 - DPMO and JPAC use Virtual Archive and Vietnam Center resources to aid in the recovery of American remains
- Assistance to VA for veterans' claims processing
- Assistance to USAJFKSWC for Military Advisor Training Program
- Assistance to NECC for Riverine Warfare Doctrine in Iraq
- Assistance to DOD for “lessons learned” for current conflicts



The Vietnam Center and Archive

Other Vietnam Center Missions



The Vietnam Center and Archive

Vietnam Center and Archive Functions and Operations

- Encourage related scholarship through organizing and hosting conferences and symposia, academic, educational, and cultural exchanges, and the publishing of scholarly research
- Promote education through exhibits, classroom instruction, educational programs, and internal publications
- Manage TTU interactions with Vietnamese government and Higher Education Institutions
- Scientific, humanitarian, academic projects in Vietnam and Cambodia
- Support and collaborate with TTU faculty and students to include exchanges and study abroad programs



The Vietnam Center and Archive

Conferences 2010-2011

- March 4-5, 2010 – Vietnam Center Conference
 - *Counterinsurgency from Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan*
 - *Co-hosted with Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies*
 - *SAIS Campus in Washington, DC*
- July 2010 – Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam
 - *Conference to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the Normalization of Relations between the US and Vietnam*
 - *Co-hosted with US Embassy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
 - *Candid examination of past 15 years of normalized relations and what to expect for next 15 years*
- September 2010 National Security Colloquium
- March 2011 – 7th Triennial Vietnam Center Symposium in Lubbock, TX
 - *Examine historical and contemporary issues regarding the US, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand*



The Vietnam Center and Archive

Center Programs in Vietnam

- Memoranda of Understanding with more than 25 universities and community colleges
- Joint Academic Degree Programs
- Scholarship programs in Vietnam and Cambodia
 - 100+ Scholarships distributed in Vietnam and Cambodia every year
 - \$100-\$125 to cover tuition and fees (VN) or living expenses for 6 months (RUPP)
 - Distributed based on academic promise, gender parity, and financial need
 - Exclusively from private donations to Vietnam Center
- Research projects:
 - Leather reprocessing
 - Texas Cotton Project
 - Texas Trade Development
- Student / Faculty Trips to Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos



The Vietnam Center and Archive

Recent Accomplishments: Focus on Reconciliation

- Participant in US Embassy (Hanoi) Task Force on Higher Education in Vietnam
- Coordination with Ministry of Education and Training in Vietnam and other organizations to coordinate Vietnamese student fellowships
- Close work with the National Archives of Vietnam (State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam)
- Growing and supporting joint academic programs between TTU and Vietnamese university programs





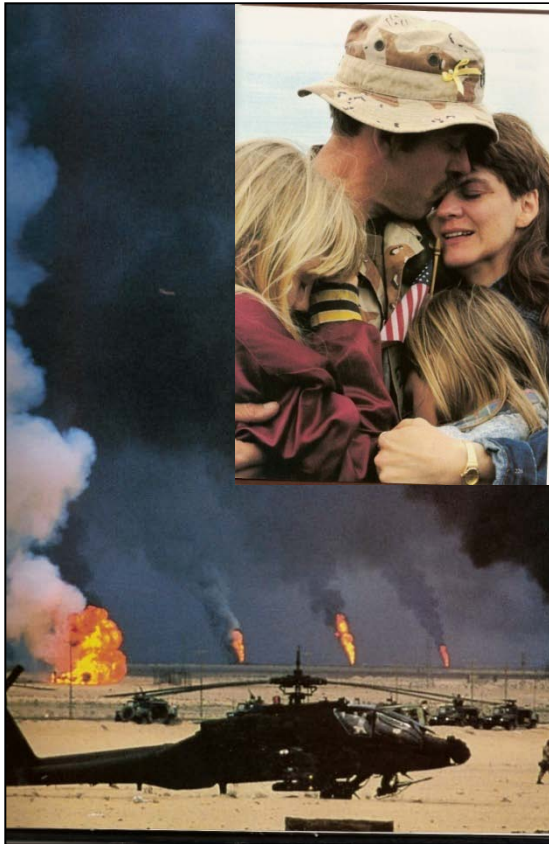
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Toward the Future



Post-Vietnam War Archive Mission:

To encourage, promote, support and enhance the long term study of all aspects of America's diplomatic and military experiences from 1975 to the present. Initial focus is on the collection and preservation of historical materials related to these experiences. Through this, the encouragement of a widespread better understanding of America's global and strategic policies will be achieved.





The Vietnam Center and Archive



New Facility

- Concept approved by Board of Regents
- Includes plans for a National Museum of the Vietnam War
- Will house Vietnam Center, Archive, and Museum plus meeting facilities for veterans reunions and conferences and symposia.
- Working with TTU Institutional Advancement on fund-raising



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