

**Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University  
2001 Annual Conference  
“The Advisory Effort and  
the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam  
20-21 April 2001**

**THURSDAY, 19 APRIL 2001**

- Afternoon** Conference participants arrive. Met at LIA by Vietnam Center/VNCAB members and taken to hotels.
- 2:30 p.m. Buses will depart from hotels for briefing/tour of the Vietnam Archive  
*Refer to the transportation schedule in the conference packet*
- 4:00 p.m. End of archive tour.
- 5:00 p.m. (until 6:30 p.m.) Registration desk open at International Cultural Center  
(6<sup>th</sup> & Indiana Avenue)
- 6:00 p.m. Reception**
- 7:00 p.m. Introduction of Dignitaries**  
Dr. James R. Reckner, Director, The Vietnam Center
- Municipal Proclamation**  
Councilman Frank Morrison
- Opening Remarks**  
Dr. John T. Montford, Chancellor, Texas Tech University System
- Description of the Zumwalt Collection at Texas Tech**  
Dr. Ronald B. Frankum, Associate Director (Archives),  
The Vietnam Center
- Message of Thanks to Zumwalt Family**  
Dr. James R. Reckner
- Response by Family Members**
- Opening of Exhibit**
- 8:00 p.m. End of reception. *Bus departs for Lubbock Inn, Hampton Inn/Fairfield Inn.*

**FRIDAY, 20 APRIL 2001**

*Refer to the transportation for bus departure times.*

- 8:00 a.m. [to 5:00 p.m.] Registration desk open at ICC, Room 105

8:00 a.m. Coffee break

**8:30 a.m. Opening of conference**  
Welcoming by President David J. Schmidly

**9:00 a.m. Session ONE : Early Advisory Experiences**  
Session Chair: Dr. Charles Neu  
Dr. Charles Anderson, "US Army Advisors in Vietnam during the 1961-1964 Period."  
Maj. Dave Toczek, USA, USMA West Point, "We will 'Outconventional' The Unconventionalists!: American Doctrine during the Early Advisory Period"  
Colonel Paul Braim, "A Division Advisor, Early and Late in the War"

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break.

**10:45 a.m. Session TWO**  
Session Chair: Dr. David Snead, Texas Tech University  
Col. Robert Bayless, "The South Vietnamese Armed Forces and the Roles/ Outcomes of Advisors  
Ted Mataxis, Jr., "The Army Advisory Experience, 1969-1972  
Dr. James Willbanks, US Army Command & Staff College, "US Advisors and the Battle of An Loc, 1972"

**12:15 p.m. Lunch in Hall of Nations.** Luncheon speaker: Colonel Roger Donlon, USA (Ret) [First Medal of Honor recipient in Vietnam]

**1:45 p.m. Session THREE: Regional Forces/Popular Forces**  
Panel Chair: Dr. Don Walker, Texas Tech University  
Jim Donovan, "CAP and the Popular Forces"  
Neil Olsen, "Advisors to the Regional Forces: Experiences of a Combined Mobile Improvement Team (CMIT) in Lam Dong Province, 1967-1968  
Lt. Col. James Page, USMC (Ret) "The Odyssey of a Marine Co-van (2<sup>nd</sup> ARVN Div., 1969)

3:15 p.m. *Bus will depart ICC for Vietnam Archive for briefing and tour. Bus to remain at Southwest Collections Library until 1600, then return to ICC.*

3:15 p.m. Coffee Break. Coffee, iced tea

**3:30 p.m. Session FOUR:**  
Panel Chair: Dr. James R. Reckner, Texas Tech University  
Brigadier General Ted Mataxis, USA (Ret), American Military University, "The Unknown Tet (1965)"  
Dr. Thinh Dinh Ngo, "A Scientific and Technical Approach to Analyzing Vietnam War Events: The Case of Helicopter Losses in Central Vietnam"

5:00 p.m. End of conference for the day

7:00 p.m. Reception at International Cultural Center

8:00 p.m. Conference Banquet

8:45 p.m. **Keynote speaker: LTC James G. Zumwalt**

9:30 p.m. End of banquet.

## SATURDAY, 21 APRIL 2001

8:00 a.m. [to 4:00 p.m.] Registration desk open at ICC.

8:00 a.m. Coffee, doughnuts available at ICC

**8:30 a.m. Session FIVE**  
 Panel Chair: Dr. Will Gray  
 Julie Pham, "The Relationship between US Advisory and RVNAF Counterparts,  
 as Remembered by Vietnamese Veterans-Emigres"  
 Mary Nguyen, "The Nurse Advisory Experience"  
 Tom Brown, "The Advisory Experience from an Enlisted Perspective"

10:00 a.m. Coffee break.

**10:15 a.m. Session SIX, "The US Advisor v. Gratt & Corruption in RVNAF"**  
 Panel Chair: (1LT, 67-68) Steve Sherman, Special Forces Association  
**Panelists:**  
 (CPT 69-70) John W. Mellon (A-107 Tra Bong, I CTZ),  
 (A-242 Dak Pek, II CTZ)  
 (1LT 68-69) Michael J. Winslow (A-323, Thien Ngon, III CTZ)  
 (CPT 67-70) Henry J. Cook (A-402, Moc Hoa, IV CTZ)

11:45 a.m. Lunch in Hall of Nations. Luncheon Speaker: **Michael Do, Vietnamese Veterans Association** "Give Back Dignity to Those Who Fought the Vietnam War."

**1:15 p.m. Session SEVEN**  
 Panel Chair: Colonel Roger Donlon, USA (Ret)  
 Christopher Ives, Ohio State University, "US Army Special Forces Advisors and  
 the Montagnard Mutiny: Between a Rock and a Hard Place."  
 Tin Nguyen, "The ARVN Experience as viewed through the personal experience  
 of Major General Nguyen Van Hieu"  
 Ken Jacobsen, "Naval Advisors: Who we were, why we did it, and what we  
 learned."

2:45 p.m. Coffee break

**3:00 p.m. Session EIGHT**  
 Group discussion, led by Captain Carl Nelson, USN (Ret), concerning relations  
 between Americans who served as advisors and those who did not.

3:45 p.m. **Conference Conclusion**  
 Dr. James R. Reckner  
 In this session, we seek comment from the audience about conclusions from this  
 conference and ways to better organize and conduct future conferences at Texas  
 Tech University

- 6:00 p.m. Barbecue dinner at Cagel's Steak House. Live music provided by "Blue Prairie"
- 8:30 p.m. Return to hotels