“1969: Vietnamization and the Year of Transition in the Vietnam War”
Conference Agenda

April 25-27, 2019

**Thursday, April 25**

**All day:** Participants arrive in Lubbock

**12:00 PM - 6:00 PM**
Registration Desk opens at the MCM Elegante Hotel
Location: Conference Registration Area near Hotel Registration Desk

**6:00 PM:** Welcoming Reception
Cash Bar with Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

Special Program: Launch of the Peace & Conflict Series, Texas Tech University Press: Inaugural Volume:

*Crooked Bamboo: A Memoir from Inside the Diem Regime*
by Nguyen Thai

Remarks: Michael Galyean, Ph.D., Provost, Texas Tech University and Ron Milam, Ph.D., Series Editor

Special Guests: Mr. Nguyen Thai, Author; Larry Berman, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of California, Davis; Ed Miller, Ph.D., Dartmouth College; and Justin Simundson, Ph.D., Texas Tech University

Location: Atrium (near pool)
Friday, April 26

7:30 AM: Coffee Service in Conference Area

8 AM-5 PM: Registration Desk opens at MCM Elegante Hotel
Location: Conference Registration Area near the Hotel Registration Desk

8:00 AM: WELCOMING REMARKS

Ron Milam, Ph.D., Executive Director, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Brent Lindquist, Ph.D., Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Texas Tech University

Administrative Remarks
Stephen Maxner, Ph.D., Director, Vietnam Center and Archive, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Location: Petroleum Room

8:30 AM: Plenary Session

Writing the History of the Vietnam War: A Retrospective

Introduction: Justin Hart, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Academic Programs, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

A Discussion Featuring:

Lloyd Gardner, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University

and

George Herring, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Kentucky

Moderated by Pierre Asselin, Ph.D., San Diego State University

Location: Petroleum Room

10:00 AM: Coffee Break
(Beginning of breakout sessions)

10:30 AM:  Session 2

Session 2A

The Strategy of Vietnamization

Commentator/Moderator:  Paul L. Miles, Ph.D., Princeton University

President Thieu’s Strategy for Vietnamization
  George J. Veith, PHD Candidate, Monash University

Choosing “the Long Road”: Melvin Laird, Vietnamization, and the War over Nixon’s Vietnam Strategy
  David Prentice, Ph.D., Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Oklahoma State University

Location:  Petroleum Room

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Session 2B

US Military Operations

Commentator/Moderator:  Gerald Waite, Vietnam Veteran, Research Fellow, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Ball State University

Operation Dewey Canyon: Search-and-Destroy in the Age of Abrams
  Ross Phillips, Texas A&M University

DEWEY CANYON: Its Lessons and Legacy
  Michael Morris, Ph.D. Candidate, Texas A&M University

Vietnamization at Work: A Story from the Mekong Delta
  Ted Engelmann, Vietnam Veteran, Independent Researcher

Location:  University Room

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Session 2C

Vietnamese War Correspondents

Commentator/Moderator: Trong Q. Phan, Ph.D., USAF Civil Service Corps, Independent Scholar
“SURVIVING: The Vietnam War and Its Aftermath!”
Duong Phuc and Vu Thanh Thuy, Vietnam War Correspondents
Location: Cotton Room

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**Session 2D**

Commentator/Moderator: TBD
OPEN TBD
Location: Heritage Room

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12:00 Lunch

Welcoming Remarks: Laura Calkins, Ph.D., Texas Tech University

**Lunch Presentation**

Duong Van Mai Elliott, Author of *RAND in Southeast Asia, A History of the Vietnam War Era* and *The Sacred Willow: Four Generations in the Life of a Vietnamese Family*

Location: Petroleum Room

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1:30 PM: Sessions 3

**Session 3A**

**Film Screening**

Commentator/Moderator: Nancy Bui, Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation

*Film Screening: Vietnamera*ca*

Location: Petroleum Room

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Session 3B

Journalists and War Reporting

Commentator/Moderator: Justin Simundson, Ph.D., Texas Tech University

A Reporter Remembers 1969
Donald Kirk, Vietnam War Correspondent

Normative Role of Journalism in the Republic of Vietnam: The Case of Vietnamization in 1969
Thanh Hoang, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Location: University Room

Session 3C

Vietnam War Allies I

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

Field Marshals of Vientiane: the American Ambassador’s War in the Year of the Rooster, 1969
Jeff Schultz, Luzerne County Community College

Operation Menu - Prelude to the Cambodia Campaign
Mack Payne, Independent Researcher, Vietnam Veteran News Podcast

The Nixon Doctrine and Its Impact on U.S. Relations with Asian Allies (South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines)
Dieu Khue Do, Seoul National University

Location: Cotton Room

Session 3D

The People’s Army of Vietnam and National Liberation Front

Commentator/Moderator: Laura Calkins, Ph.D., Texas Tech University

The National Liberation Front’s Tax and Land Reform Policies in 1969
Cody Billock, San Diego State University
Once More as Before: North Vietnamese Operational and Tactical Methods in the Battle of Ap Dong Bia, 10-20 May 1969
Erik Villard, Ph.D., US Army Center of Military History

Memory and Motivation: A New Past of the Vietnam War
Hai Nguyen, Ph.D., Harvard University

Location: Heritage Room

3:00 PM: Coffee Break

3:30 PM: Sessions 4

Session 4A

Film Discussion

Commentator/Moderator: Nancy Bui, Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation

Film Discussion: Vietnamerica

Location: Petroleum Room

Session 4B

Tour of Duty: Canadians and the Vietnam War

Commentator/Moderator: James Baldwin (MEd), Oral History Project, The Military Museums (Calgary, Alberta)

An Overview of the Project/Exhibit
Rory Cory, Senior TMM Museum Curator

The Oral History Project Highlights
James Baldwin (MEd), Oral History Project, The Military Museums (Calgary, Alberta)

1969 Canadian Veteran Perspectives
Staff Sergeant Mike Male (1967-71), 39th Engineers
Corporal Dana Urban (1968-69), 26th Marines and 2nd CAP

Location: University Room
Session 4C

Special Operations Forces in Vietnam

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

The Green Beret Murder Affair
Stephen Sherman, Vietnam Veteran, Independent Researcher

Colonel Kurtz Was Right: Thái Khắc Chuyên and “The Green Beret Affair”
Kyle Horst, Independent Researcher

A Shot in the Arm: The U.S. Army, Rangers, and Reorganization in 1969
James Sandy, Ph.D., University of Texas at Arlington

Location: Cotton Room

Session 4D

An Overview of 1969 and US Presidential Policy

Commentator/Moderator: Lloyd Gardner, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Rutgers University

1969: An Overview
Carolyn Eisenberg, Ph.D., Hofstra University

President Richard M. Nixon’s New National Security Architecture and the Vietnam War
Ashley Neale, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Kansas

Location: Heritage Room

5:00 PM – End of first day presentations

6:00 PM: Bus Departs MCM Elegante for Banquet
Texas Tech University International Cultural Center Hall of Nations

Reception
Cash bar

6:20 PM: Bus returns to MCM Elegante
6:30 PM:  Final Bus pickup for Banquet

6:45 PM:  Special Vietnam Veteran Recognition Program
Hosted by the Vietnam Center and Archive, Texas Tech University

7:15 PM:  CONFERENCE BANQUET

7:45 PM:  Welcoming Remarks:  Ron Milam, Ph.D., Executive Director, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Keynote Speaker:

Fred Logevall, Ph.D., Harvard University

8:45 PM:  End of banquet

Bus departs ICC for MCM Elegante
Saturday April 27

7:30 AM: Coffee Service in Conference Area

8 AM-5 PM: Registration Desk opens
Location: Conference Registration Area

8:30 AM: Sessions 5

Session 5A

US Air Operations Over Vietnam and Modern Recovery Efforts for Aircrews Listed as “Missing in Action” After More than 50 Years

Commentator/Moderator: Dave Lewis, Colonel, USAF (Retired), Director, Strategic Studies, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Overview of 8560 Aircraft Losses and the Unique Problem of Recovering, or Even Locating, Lost, Single Ship Reconnaissance Flights
Bruce W. Bean, Professor, Michigan State College of Law

Unfinished Business: Locating Semantic Flight - Contemporaneously Re-Flying the Flight Plan of a Missing Reconnaissance Mission in 1968 and (Barely) Surviving
Ron Bracy, Lt. Col. USAF Ret., Former RF-4C Navigator, 28 years active duty, 21 years Reserve and Guard Service as a Chaplain

“Alone, Unarmed, Unafraid” - Flying at Night in Harm’s Way Inside a Bottle of Ink – What May Have Happened to Semantic Flight and its Two-Man Crew
Robert R. S. Barnard, Lt. Col. USAFR, Ret., Aeronautical Engineer, Former Air Force Intelligence Officer with 5 Decades of Air Defense Experience

Location: Petroleum Room

Session 5B

Vietnam War Allies II

Commentator/Moderator: Justin Hart, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Academic Programs, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Cautious Rapprochement amid the Gathering Storm: Norodom Sihanouk and the United States, 1969”.
Raymond Leos, J.D., Pannasastra University of Cambodia
Tet’s Aftermath: A Turning Point in Franco-US Relations
Nguyet Nguyen, American University

The Implications of South Korea’s Response and Conduct in the Vietnamization of the Vietnam War
Hosub Shim, Major, Republic of Korea Army, University of Kansas

Location: University Room
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Session 5C

Home Fronts during the Vietnam War

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

State of Siege Berkeley: A Veteran for Peace on a Martial Campus
Robert Andersen, Vietnam-Era Veteran, Independent Researcher

South Vietnam Higher Education Developed in the Vietnamization Context: A Brief View from Public Universities’ Operation
Thuy Dung Truong, University of Hamburg

“I Gotta Be Me”: How 1969 Songs Indicate Divisions in Vietnam War-Era America
Erin McCoy, Ph.D., University of South Carolina, Beaufort

Location: Cotton Room
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Session 5D

CORDS and the Military Advisory Effort

Commentator/Moderator: Martin Clemis, Ph.D., Valley Forge Military College

Not Just ’Too Little, Too, Late’: CORD’S Lost Horizon, 1969-1970
Marc Gilbert, Ph.D., Hawaii Pacific University

1969: The Central Year for Mobile Advisory Teams (MAT teams) and the U.S. Army’s Advisory Effort in the Vietnam War
Uyen Nguyen, Texas Tech University

Location: Heritage Room

10:00 AM: Coffee break - Conference Registration Area
10:30 AM:  Sessions 6  

**Session 6A**

**The South Vietnamese Economy During Vietnamization: Growing to Meet Challenges**

Commentator/Moderator: Tuong Vu, Ph.D., University of Oregon

*Reform of Collapse: Economic Challenges to the Republic of Vietnam, 1969-73*  
Pham Kim Ngoc, former Minister of the Economy, the RVN

*Coping with Changes and War, Building Foundation for Growth*  
Nguyen Duc Cuong, former Minister of Trade and Industry, the RVN

*1969: The Year the Land-to-the-Tiller Program Was Launched*  
Tran Quang Minh, former Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, the RVN

Location: Petroleum Room

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**Session 6B**

**Vietnamization: Operational Causes and Early Tests for the ARVN**

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

*Hamburger Hill 1969 from Vietnamese Perspectives*  
Hieu Nam Trung Le, Ph.D., Hue University of Sciences

*The First Test of Vietnamization: The Cambodia Operation 1970*  
Phan Nhat Nam, ARVN Veteran, Independent Researcher

Location: University Room

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**Session 6C**

**The Psychology of Killing and the My Lai Massacre**

Commentator/Moderator: Erin McCoy, Ph.D., University of South Carolina, Beaufort
The Psychology of Killing and the Experiences of American Soldiers in the Vietnam War
Olli Siitonen, University of Helsinki

My Lai Massacre Revelation – The Catalyst for Vietnamization
Hung Nguyen, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City
Vietnam and William Doan, Columbia University

Location: Cotton Room

Session 6D

Armor Warfare during the Vietnam War

Commentator/Moderator: Justin Hart, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Academic Programs, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Ben Het: The Vietnam War’s Clash of Steel
Philip Webster, Texas Tech University

My Vietnam War: 1969 + 50
Philip Beidler, Ph.D., University of Alabama

Location: Heritage Room

12:00 Lunch

Welcoming Remarks: Justin Hart, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Academic Programs, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Lunch Presentation

Pierre Asselin, Ph.D., San Diego State University
Understanding the Enemy: Keys to Hanoi’s Victory

Location: Petroleum Room

1:30 PM: Session 7

Session 7A

Vietnamization and South Vietnam’s Security
Commentator/Moderator: Tuong Vu, Ph.D., University of Oregon

**The Impact of Vietnamization and the Strategy for Self-Reliance and Self-Sufficiency**
Hoang Duc Nha, former Presidential Advisor, Minister of Mass Mobilization and Open Arms, the RVN

**The Army of the RVN during Vietnamization: Reflections of a Frontline Soldier**
Bui Quyen, former Lt. Colonel, Deputy Commander of 3rd Airborne Brigade, Airborne Division, ARVN

**The RVN National Police during Vietnamization**
Tran Minh Cong, former Colonel and Commandant of the National Police Academy, the RVN

Location: Petroleum Room
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**Session 7B**

**Uncovering History: A Roundtable Discussion on Latino Men’s Experiences in the Vietnam War**

Commentator/Moderator: Amber Batura, Ph.D., Texas Tech University

Discussion Featuring:
Frank Gutierrez, Vietnam Veteran
Josue Silva, Texas Tech University
Kayla Maples, Texas Tech University

Location: University Room
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**Session 7C**

**The Newest Mission of the USS Midway: Vietnam War and Cold War Onboard Seminars for Teachers**

Commentator/Moderator: Pierre Asselin, Ph.D., San Diego State University

**The Midway Institute for Teachers: Program Origins and Overview**
John F. Burns, M.A., Vietnam Veteran, Director, Midway Institute for Teachers

**Using an Iconic Ship as a Principal Vehicle in Teacher Learning**
Rudolph Shappee, M.A., Vietnam Veteran, Assistant Director, Midway Institute for Teachers
How Teachers Use What They Learn Aboard USS Midway to Improve and Expand their Teaching about the Vietnam War and its Era

Richard del Rio, M.A., Teacher Coordinator, Midway Institute for Teachers

Location: Cotton Room

Session 7D
Commentator/Moderator: TBD

OPEN SESSION - TBD

Location: Heritage Room

3:00 PM: Coffee break - Conference Registration Area

3:30 PM: Session 8

Session 8A
Commentator/Moderator: Martin Clemis, Ph.D., Valley Forge Military College

The Accelerated Pacification Campaign and the Monsoon: Phu Yen Province, 1969
Robert J. Thompson, Ph.D., Army University Press, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

The Challenge of Computing Pacification
Jonathan Askonas, Ph.D., The Catholic University of America

Good Times, Bad Times: Peace Talks, Pacification-Vietnamization, and the War in South Vietnam, 1969
Martin G. Clemis, Ph.D., Valley Forge Military College

Location: Petroleum Room

Session 8B
Vietnam War Allied Operations and Peace Talks
Commentator/Moderator: Ted Engelmann, Vietnam Veteran, Independent Researcher
"True North Strong and Free:" Canadians in Vietnam  
Rebecca McGee, Texas Tech University

Activities of Polish People’s Republic Military Intelligence During Vietnam War  
Jarema Slowiak, Jagiellonian University

1969—The Paris Talks: Not What We Thought  
Lady Borton, Independent Researcher

Location: University Room

Session 8C

The Army of the Republic of Vietnam

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

Experiences of a Vietnamese Infantryman in the First Year of the Vietnamization  
Michael Do, Chairman of the Board of Directors, The Vietnamese American Community of the U.S.A.

Vietnamization/Pacification and the ARVN 5th Infantry Division  
Tin Nguyen, Vietnam Veteran, Independent Researcher

The Effectiveness of Vietnamization  
Trong Q. Phan, Ph.D., Secretary General of the Executive Board of The Vietnamese American Community of the U.S.A.

Location: Cotton Room

Session 8D

Prisoners of War, Refugees, and the National Police of the Republic of Vietnam

Commentator/Moderator: TBD

A Better War? The Treatment of Communist POWs before and after "Vietnamization"  
Marcel Berni, Swiss Military Academy at ETH Zurich

Viet Nam 1969/70: Pacification as a path to No-where  
Gerald Waite, Vietnam Veteran, Research Fellow, Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, Ball State University

Geoff Shaw, Shaw, Ph.D., Independent Scholar, President, The Alexandrian Defense Group

Location: Heritage Room

5:00 PM: Closing Remarks

Stephen Maxner, Ph.D., Director, Vietnam Center and Archive, Institute for Peace and Conflict, Texas Tech University

Location: Cotton Room