

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title:

Chron File - December 1993 #2 [9]

Staff Office-Individual:

Defense Policy-Bell, Robert

Original OA/ID Number:

48

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31	3	3	1	V

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10102

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

December 30, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: ROBERT G. BELL *RGB*

SUBJECT: Zumwalt/Giap Project on Agent Orange

Per Nancy's request, I talked to Hershel Gober about Admiral Zumwalt's interest in conducting a joint project with former North Vietnamese General Giap involving medical research and assistance to children born in Vietnam whose parents had been exposed to defoliants such as Agent Orange. As Dick Schifter notes at Tab A, "Bud would not want to get involved unless this makes sense to the Administration."

Hershel viewed the proposal very cautiously. He believes that there is a potential here, unless carefully handled, to provoke criticism from veterans groups who are opposed to normalization absent as full an accounting as is possible with regard to the POW/MIA issue. Hershel worries that the involvement of General Giap could raise particular hackles and that the project could be seen as another step toward normalization.

That having been said, Hershel felt there is a way that this could be pursued if Admiral Zumwalt wants to go forward:

- First, find out exactly what kind of assistance (if any) the project would be seeking from the U.S. Government.
- Second, keep the project strictly within the existing U.S. humanitarian assistance program.
- Third, establish the Vietnamese side of this partnership with scientific authorities rather than General Giap.

Concurrence: Richard Schifter, *RS* Kent Wiedemann *RWB* and Alan Kreczko *RAB*
(in draft) (in draft)

RECOMMENDATION

That Dick Schifter call Admiral Zumwalt and suggest he meet with Hershel Gober to discuss the project.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab A Comments from Wiedemann
Tab B Comments from Alan Kreczko
Tab C Schifter to Lake Memo Dated December 14, 1993,
w/Attachments

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006

By *RL* NARA, Date *10/3/2016*

2016-0152-F

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 3, 1994

Comments from Kent Wiedemann:

Bob,

I think we also need to consider whether U.S.G. involvement may provide a hook for eventual Vietnamese claims for indemnities over Agent Orange. Hence, I recommend Kreczko take a look.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006

By VL NARA, Date 10/3/2016

7016-0152-5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 11, 1994

Comments from A. Kreczko:

Bob,

I think this is okay. We have in past rejected all Vietnamese claims for reparations. I assume that will continue. If we were to charge and accept liability, this work could affect amount Vietnam claimed, by tying birth defects to our actions. I don't see that unlikely possibility as reason not to go ahead with humanitarian work.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VZ NARA, Date 10/2/2016

716-6152-F

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

12/21

To Bob Bell-

Pls discuss with Hershel
+ do note for Sandy + TC.

Hershel's # in Ark is

501.367.5768-

thxs

ms

12/15 580

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

December 14, 1993

*Nancy -
Would you
ask Herchel about
this and do
give me a
note. Thanks.
(2)*

NOTE FOR ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT: Joint Medical Research Project with Vietnam

Admiral Zumwalt has shared with me the enclosed letter, which proposes that he join with General Giap on medical research projects focusing particularly on Agent Orange. Bud would not want to get involved unless this makes sense to the Administration.

As you may know, Bud Zumwalt is an FOB from Renaissance. Before serving as Chief of Naval Operations he commanded the naval forces in Vietnam. He is now very active in the Agent Orange effort. Sandy arranged for him to see Deputy Secretary Gober at the Veterans Department. I believe that working with Bud on Vietnam-related issues could be both substantively and politically advantageous.

Please let me know what you think.

Attachment
As stated

Dick L.

*Might be useful
to know what
Josef Herchel
think*

(C)

*Please check.
PZ*

Consultex, S.A. ConsultAmerica, Inc.

157 Route du Grand Lancy
1213 Onex, Geneva,
Switzerland
Tel: (41-22) 792 16 59
Fax: (41-22) 793 39 15

Kutuzovsky Prospect 33
Entrance 14, Suite 181
121165 Moscow, Russia
Tel: (7-095) 249 9604
Fax: (7-095) 249 9537

13070 Addison Road
Roswell, Georgia 30075
U.S.A.
Tel: (1-404) 587 5121
Fax: (1-404) 594 9232

18 Oakhill
Burpham, Surrey
United Kingdom
Tel: (44-483) 883 243
Fax: (44-483) 883 245

TELEFAX

Total Number of Pages Including This One: 5

Date: 9 December 1993
From: Andy Sundberg
To: Admiral Elmo Zumwalt (Fax: (703) 528 5795)
Copy: Hon. Bill Alexander (Fax: (703) 237 2287)
Subject: Proposed Joint Project with General Vo Nguyen Giap

Dear Bud,

Several weeks ago we spoke about my meeting in Hanoi with General Vo Nguyen Giap, and about the suggestion that you and he might find some mutually interesting projects to develop together in the future, in particular in the area of medical research and assistance to children born in Vietnam to families where one or both parent had been exposed to defoliants.

I have just returned from another trip to Vietnam and I had occasion to meet with General Giap again. I told him of our conversation, and of your willingness to meet him and to pursue the possibility of some joint projects in the health field. General Giap was very responsive, and said that he would be very happy to meet with you, and hopes that you might be willing to come to Vietnam for this purpose. I then asked him if he would have any interest in visiting the United States for the same purpose, and to my surprise he replied: "Why not!". It is up to you, therefore, to recommend the location as you prefer.

Enclosed are two letters that I received from Prof. Ha Hoc Trac, President of the Vietnam Fund for Supporting Technological Creations (VIFOTEC), a non-profit, non-governmental organization of which General Giap is the honorary Chairman, and who will serve to coordinate the meeting(s) on behalf of General Giap. The letters are self explanatory. I am also sending under separate cover a copy of the VIFOTEC brochure that Prof. Trac asked that I forward to you.

Please let me know how you would like to proceed with this. I would be happy to continue working with you to develop and implement projects together with General Giap, and from other conversations two weeks ago I can assure you that Prof. Dang Huu, the Vietnamese Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment (MOSTE), and Prof.

Nguyen Van Hieu, the head of the National Center for Scientific Research of Vietnam would also be enthusiastic supporters of any and all such initiatives.

I have met all of these gentlemen on a number of occasions as I have been serving for the last three years as a UN adviser to the Minister of Science and Technology on the reorientation of the science and technology endowments of Vietnam to make them more responsive to the demand sectors as the country continues its conversion toward a true market economy.

You and General Giap would appear to be natural partners. You both have vast experience, polymath virtuosity, and reputations for innovation and entrepreneurship that extend far beyond your military successes. How appropriate, therefore, would be your joint collaboration in humanitarian endeavors.

General Giap remarked in August that his major concern now was to work with others to develop a new and more laudatory "Dream about the future that we can share with our children". I replied that this was not only an admirable and necessary endeavor of behalf of the children of Vietnam, but equally and ubiquitously a challenge worthy of the efforts of all individuals of good will everywhere, including the United States.

Kindest regards and very best wishes.

Andy Sundberg



Encl: Copy of Letter from Prof. Trac to Adm. Zumwalt
 Copy of Letter from Prof. Trac to Andy Sundberg
 Letter of Appeal from General Giap for VIFOTEC



QUY HO TRỢ SANG TẠO KỸ THUẬT VIỆT NAM

VIETNAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS

- VIFOTEC -

53 - Nguyen Du Str., HANOI, VIETNAM.

P.O. Box: 412 - HANOI, VIETNAM

Tel: 226419

TIx : 412287 UKKNVT

Fax: 84-42-26059

ATTN: Admiral Elmo Zumwalt,

Date: November 19, 1993

Re: Joint American- Vietnamese Projects In Health.

Dear Admiral Elmo Zumwalt,

It is most happy for us to learn of your name together with your kind intentions. Mr. Andrew Sundberg has told us of your interest in various fields of medical research, including areas that are of particular relevance to problems that we are now addressing in Vietnam. As you may have known already, many Vietnamese young people now are suffering from dreadful consequences left in Vietnam by the last wars. It is therefore very important and humanitarian to look for solutions in order to help these unfortunate victims of wars. In particular, we are very interested in research theory that concerns children born with various birth defects or who suffer from various forms of cancers due to a number of different causes.

We enthusiastically welcome your intention to carry out Joint American-Vietnamese Projects in Health with VIFOTEC and also the opportunity to discuss how we could work together in future. We would be willing for such a meeting to take place in Vietnam where Gen. Vo Nguyen Glap could directly participate. Or should you prefer such a meeting could take place in the United States or some other location.

Please let us know of your suggestion of how we should take the next steps. We would also welcome some further information about the type of research you are now pursuing in the medical field that you feel could be appropriate for a joint project with us.

We enclose A Brochure of VIFOTEC and The Outlines of Projects to be carried out by VIFOTEC for your consideration and look forward to your precious support in near future.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Ha Hoc Trac



QUY HỖ TRỢ SÁNG TẠO KỸ THUẬT VIỆT NAM

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- VIFOTEC -

53 - Nguyen Du Str., HANOI, VIETNAM.

P.O. Box: 412 - HANOI, VIETNAM

Tel: 226419

TIX : 412287 UKKNVT

Fax: 84-42-26059

ATTN: Mr. Andrew P. Sundberg.

November 19, 1993

GENEVA. CONSULTEX/ CUSTOMERS.

Re.: Joint American- Vietnamese Projects in Health.

Dear Mr. Andrew P. Sundberg.

Thank you for your fax dated October 19, 1993 addressing to Gen. Vo Nguyen Glap and referring to the possibility of Joint American- Vietnamese Projects in Health. Please accept my sincere appreciation for your precious assistance in this matter.

I have learnt that you are coming back to the United States within the next few days and therefore would like to take this opportunity to ask you for a favour. As mentioned in your fax of October 19, 1993, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt awaits our suggestion of a time and place for an initial meeting for discussing various project concepts in future, would you be so kind enough to act on our behalf to send the letter enclosed herewith to Admiral Elmo Zumwalt in order to avoid the possibility of letter missing.

It is most generous and thoughtful of you to take so much interest in our future cooperation and I once more warmly appreciate your assistance.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Pro. Ha Hoc Trac
President of VIFOTEC

**APPEAL FROM THE HONORARY PRESIDENT
OF THE VIET NAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS
(VIFOTEC)
GENERAL VO NGUYEN GIAP**

**VIFOTEC's address: 53 Nguyen Du, HANOI - VIETNAM. Tel: 226419-252731/Ext: 205, TLX: 412287 UKKNVT.
Fax: 84-42-25059. Account in foreign currencies: 220 130.370 325 VIETCOMBANK TW.**

**To Vietnam and Foreign Organisations and Individuals
To International Organisations**

In pursuance to the Science and Technology policy of the State in the Renovation process and Open-door policy of Viet Nam, recently, the Central Council of the Union of Scientific and Technological Associations of Viet Nam, in collaboration with the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour, the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Youth Union and other Organisations and Individuals have founded the VIETNAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS (VIFOTEC). (By Decision No 1215 of November 17th, 1992 of VUSTA's President).

VIFOTEC is a Non-Governmental Organisation aimed at rallying and encouraging technological talents in all economic sectors, all social strata, (Intellectuals, workers, peasants, students, pupils...) of different ages, especially among youth, to innovate and apply sciences and new technology into production and social life. Such activities bear a most profound economic - social significance, contributing to the improvement of the people's conditions of living; to the building of a rich, prosperous, civilised society; of a Viet Nam in peace, wishing to be friend and cooperate with all peoples of the world.

With the above-mentioned goal, I call on all Organisations, and Individuals inside and outside the country, International Organisations, Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations, Patriotic Overseas Vietnamese, Scientists of good-will from all countries, to provide support, assistance and cooperation in building the VIET NAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS (VIFOTEC), through all appropriate forms and methods.

With deep thanks for your cooperation with VIFOTEC. It is my strong belief that your support for VIFOTEC will be highly appreciated and used in the most effective way.

Hanoi, February 6th, 1993

**HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE VIETNAM
FUND FOR SUPPORTING
TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS (VIFOTEC)**



VO NGUYEN GIAP

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10102

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

December 30, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM:

ROBERT G. BELL *RGB*

SUBJECT:

Zumwalt/Giap Project on Agent Orange

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- First, find out exactly what kind of assistance (if any) the project would be seeking from the U.S. Government.
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Concurrence: Richard Schifter, *RS* Kent Wiedemann *KWB* and Alan Kreczko *RaB*
(in draft) (in draft)

RECOMMENDATION

That Dick Schifter call Admiral Zumwalt and suggest he meet with Hershel Gober to discuss the project.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab A Comments from Wiedemann

Tab B Comments from Alan Kreczko

Tab C Schifter to Lake Memo Dated December 14, 1993,
w/Attachments

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526

White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006

By *12* NARA, Date *10/3/2016*

2016-052-F

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 3, 1994

Comments from Kent Wiedemann:

Bob,

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E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VZ NARA, Date 10/3/2016
2016-052-F

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VL NARA, Date 10/3/2006
7016-052 -f

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

12/21

TO Bob Bell-

Pls discuss with Hershel
+ do note for Sandy + TC.

Hershel's # in Ark is

501.367.5768-

thxs

ms

12/15 520

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

December 14, 1993

*Nancy -
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(2)*

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Dict L.

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(C)*

*Please check.
JR*

Consultex, S.A. ConsultAmerica, Inc.

157 Route du Grand Lancy
1213 Onex, Geneva,
Switzerland
Tel: (41-22) 792 16 59
Fax: (41-22) 793 39 15

Kutuzovsky Prospect 33
Entrance 14, Suite 181
121165 Moscow, Russia
Tel: (7-095) 249 9604
Fax: (7-095) 249 9537

13070 Addison Road
Roswell, Georgia 30075
U.S.A.
Tel: (1-404) 587 5121
Fax: (1-404) 594 9232

18 Oakhill
Burpham, Surrey
United Kingdom
Tel: (44-483) 503 243
Fax: (44-483) 583 243

TELEFAX

Total Number of Pages Including This One: 5

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Kindest regards and very best wishes.

Andy Sundberg



Encl: Copy of Letter from Prof. Trac to Adm. Zumwalt
 Copy of Letter from Prof. Trac to Andy Sundberg
 Letter of Appeal from General Giap for VIFOTEC



QUY HO TRU SANG TAO KY THUAT VIET NAM

VIETNAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS

- VIFOTEC -

53 - Nguyen Du Str., HANOI, VIETNAM.

P.O. Box: 412 - HANOI, VIETNAM

Tel: 226419

TIX : 412287 UKKNVT

Fax: 84-42-26059

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Kind regards and best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Ha Hoc Trac



QUỸ HỖ TRỢ SÁNG TẠO KỸ THUẬT VIỆT NAM
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- VIFOTEC -

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TIX : 412287 UKKNVT
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Sincerely.

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President of VIFOTEC

**APPEAL FROM THE HONORARY PRESIDENT
OF THE VIET NAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS
(VIFOTEC)
GENERAL VO NGUYEN GIAP**

**VIFOTEC's address: 53 Nguyen Du, HANOI - VIETNAM. Tel: 226419-252731/Ext: 205, TLX: 412287 UKKNVT.
Fax: 84-42-26059. Account in foreign currencies: 220 130.370 325 VIETCOMBANK TW.**

**To Vietnam and Foreign Organisations and Individuals
To International Organisations**

In pursuance to the Science and Technology policy of the State in the Renovation process and Open-door policy of Viet Nam, recently, the Central Council of the Union of Scientific and Technological Associations of Viet Nam, in collaboration with the Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour, the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Youth Union and other Organisations and Individuals have founded the VIETNAM FUND FOR SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS (VIFOTEC). (By Decision N^o 1215 of November 17th, 1992 of VUSTA's President).

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With deep thanks for your cooperation with VIFOTEC. It is my strong belief that your support for VIFOTEC will be highly appreciated and used in the most effective way.

Hanoi, February 6th, 1993

**HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE VIETNAM
FUND FOR SUPPORTING
TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIONS (VIFOTEC)**



VO NGUYEN GIAP