



RICHARD NIXON AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: THE HISTORY OF NIXON AND VIETNAM

A NATIONAL DISCUSSION HOSTED BY
**THE RICHARD NIXON LIBRARY & BIRTHPLACE
and WHITTIER COLLEGE**

April 28 & 29 ★ 2005

January 19, 2005

Thomas Blanton
National Security Archive
The George Washington University
Suite 701, Gelman Library
2130 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Blanton,

As you know, the Richard Nixon Library & Birthplace and Whittier College are co-sponsoring an academic conference, "Richard Nixon as Commander-in-Chief: The History of Nixon and Vietnam," on April 28-29 in Yorba Linda and Whittier. We are writing to thank you for agreeing to participate and to provide additional information about the conference. Thanks to your participation we believe this conference will establish the historical talking points for future scholars interested in Richard Nixon and his Vietnam policies.

"Richard Nixon as Commander-in-Chief" is an historic collaboration between two institutions and communities closely associated with President Nixon. Both the College and Library recognize that there is still much to learn about the 37th President and the war which was a central event of his Presidency. As the National Archives and Records Administration prepares to move the late President's White House records to Yorba Linda, we hope the conference will trigger additional interest in the rich Nixon record and, as a result, yield new scholarship on the Nixon Presidency.

As for conference details, we will provide our keynote speakers and panelists with round-trip coach transportation and hotel accommodations for the nights of April 27-29. We will make reservations in your name at the Fullerton Marriott, which is about 10 minutes from the Library. Please make your own airline reservations. We will reimburse you upon submission of receipts. If possible, we suggest that you fly into John Wayne Airport in Orange County rather than LAX. For JetBlue and American passengers, we also recommend Long Beach Airport. Whichever airport you use, we'll provide ground transportation to and from the airport as well as between the hotel and both conference venues. Please e-mail us on your reservations once they are made so ground transportation can be coordinated.

Conference Coordination Office
18001 Yorba Linda Blvd. ★ Yorba Linda ★ California 92886
714/993-5075 ★ nixonlibrary.org

Please plan to arrive at the Fullerton Marriott by 5:30 pm on April 27 so you can join your hosts and fellow participants at a reception and dinner at the Fullerton Marriott. This will give everyone a chance to get acquainted and also give us a chance to give you additional details about the conference.

As soon as possible, please e-mail your current biographical information and a current photograph to Anthony Curtis at anthony@nixonlibrary.org. Please include your contact phone numbers, including cell, and your e-mail address.

As for your talk, we clustered you together under a broad theme but one that enables you to talk about your own work (new, on-going, or a variation of something older). We recommend that you contact your fellow panelists to share ideas, outlines, or the talk itself (if you write it out fully), so that there is not too much overlap. Notice there is no commentator; our feeling is that we want to generate discussion among the panelists and with the audience as soon as possible. You should plan to speak for 15 minutes and then we will open it up for conversation. The moderator will play an important role here, generating questions, steering the conversation, and soliciting questions from the audience.

For questions regarding the conference, please contact Professor Laura McEnaney at lmcananey@whittier.edu, Greg Cumming, Director of Archives Programs at greg@nixonlibrary.org, or either of us.

We look forward to being with you in April.

Sincerely,



Susan D. Gotsch
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty
Whittier College



(The Rev.) John H. Taylor
Executive Director
Richard Nixon Library & Birthplace Foundation