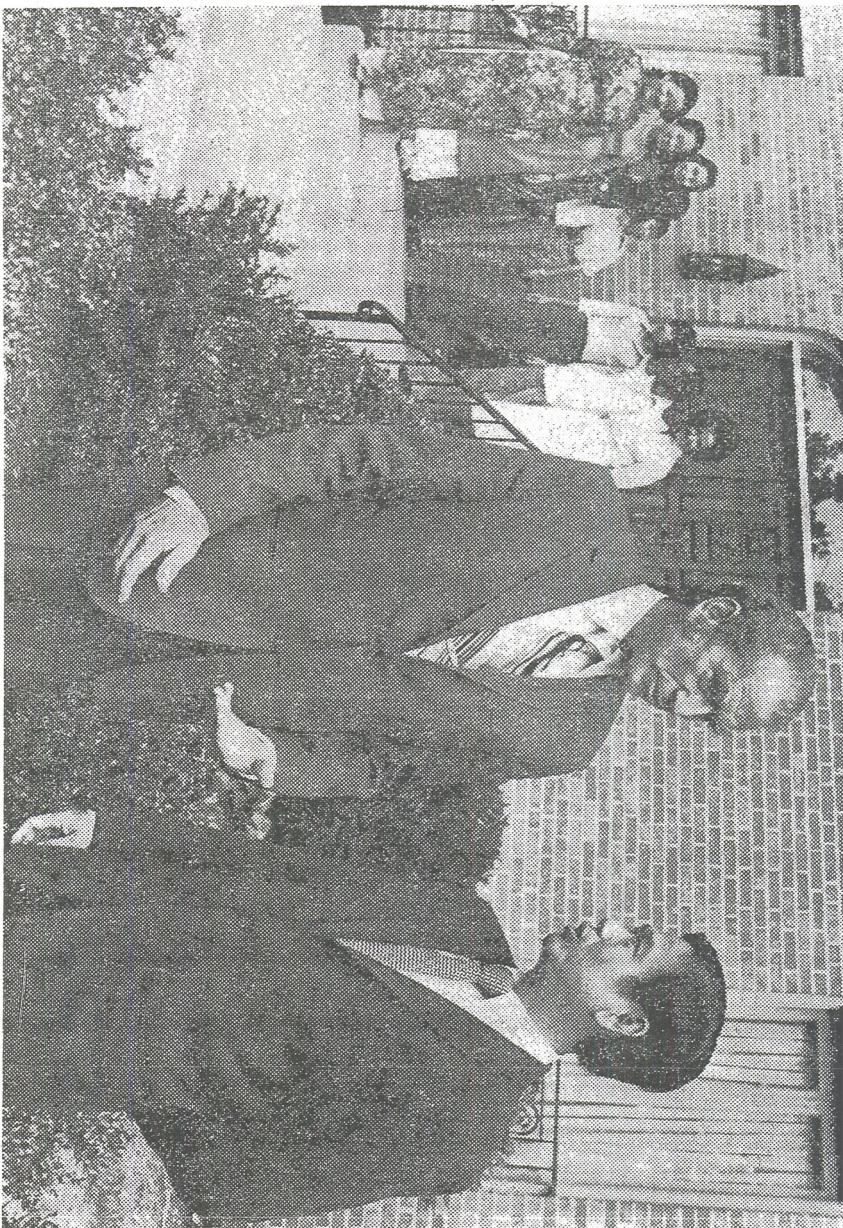


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Elmo Zumwalt chats with Chung Cang at Zumwalt's Arlington home. Mrs. Zumwalt, Cang relatives on steps.

By Harry Nalchayan—The Washington Post

Ex-Viet Navy Chief Aided By Zumwalts

By Jay Mathews

Washington Post Staff Writer

Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt, former commander of the U.S. Navy, and Adm. Chung Cang, former commander of the South Vietnamese navy, had never met before the day last July that Cang and nine relatives arrived on Zumwalt's Arlington County doorstep.

They had heard of each other, and when Zumwalt learned that Cang had left Vietnam with the collapse of the Saigon government, he checked out the 23-year Vietnamese naval veteran with friends and high U.S. navy officials. Corrupt officers in the Vietnamese military were not uncommon, but Zumwalt said he learned Cang "was absolutely honest and deserved to be helped."

So today, exactly five months after the day Cang

See ZUMWALT, C5, Col. 1

To Viets

ZUMWALT, From C1

and 1,800 other Vietnamese navy personnel and dependents escaped Saigon on an old U.S. Coast Guard cutter. The Cang family is living in the huge basement recreation room of Zumwalt's home in the Chain Bridge Forest section of north Arlington.

Zumwalt and his wife, Mouza, somewhat at loose ends since his retirement last year as chief of naval operations, have used dividers to turn their basement into a self-sufficient, three-bedroom home for the Cang. In two weeks Mouza Zumwalt, driving all over Northern Virginia and the District of Columbia, found jobs for all working age members of the Cang family except for the admiral, 49,

and his wife Hue, 44, Adm. Cang said.

Adm. Zumwalt, in the midst of his new career as a writer and lecturer, has peppered friends and acquaintances with letters and phone calls extolling Cang's talents. It is a campaign reminiscent of the now famous Z-grams Zumwalt used to ease restrictions on beards and long hair and stimulate re-enlistments in the Navy.

"Adm. Zumwalt has introduced me to different places and sent my resume to several places," said Cang, who is now enrolled in a five-hour-a-day, six-month course at the Lewis Hotel-Motel School to train himself as a hotel or restaurant manager.

"I think his problem is very similar to the problem I would have if I had to leave the country and find a new job, having never done anything but command ships and men," said Zumwalt, who happens to be currently giving himself a crash-course in Virginia politics with the thought of

running for the U.S. Senate.

"It takes time for him to learn enough technical skills adapt to a new culture and to be able to apply his superior leadership and managerial skills."

"It is difficult to try to forget your past," said Cang, "in order to adjust to the new kind of life here in the U.S. It is difficult to gather enough resources in order to make your living and to support the children so they can continue their educations."

Cang said he arrived in this country with \$4,000 in savings, some clothing, and not much else. To bring in some income, his son Hung, 17, works in a military cafeteria in Arlington; his sister Dat, 41, has a job in a department store warehouse; his nephew Bru, 18, is an aide in a print shop; his niece Huong, 21, is a shampoo girl in a beauty parlor, and his cousin, Van, 40, is a porter in an Arlington apartment house.

"The exciting thing to us has been that the Cang fam-

ily has been willing to start at the bottom of the ladder, when they have come from a situation where they didn't have to," Zumwalt said. Cang said the young people in the family plan to quit their jobs and continue their education once they are all settled in their own home and he has found work.

Zumwalt said he and his wife decided to sponsor the Cang because "I thought I should help the last of the (Vietnamese) navy chiefs" and because they feared the image of corruption tainting all high Vietnamese officials might make it difficult for the Cang to get help elsewhere.

Zumwalt had commanded U.S. naval forces in Vietnam in the late 1960s and become good friends with the Vietnamese admiral who was naval chief then. When Saigon surrendered to the Communists, that man decided to stay behind. "He had aged parents, and nine children there," Zumwalt said.

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