

Zumwalt fears Soviet might

by Greg Porter
Staff Writer

Elmo Russell Zumwalt, the youngest and most controversial Chief of Naval Operations came to Chapel Hill last Thursday, preceded by his reputation as a political enigma.

"There is a good deal of indecision," admitted Zumwalt during his turbulent stint at the Navy helm, "as to whether I'm a drooling-fang militarist or a bleeding-heart liberal."

The confusion over Zumwalt's ideology derives from his two most famous political stands — stands so diverse they create a paradox few have fathomed.

The first, Zumwalt's long-heralded humanization and integration of the U.S. Navy, has made him the darling of the press and liberals everywhere. The second, which brought Zumwalt to Chapel Hill, is the admiral's staunch support of greater defense spending on what he considers our rapidly diminishing nuclear deterrent — a stance that has drawn panegyrics and encomiums from conservative quarters.

Zumwalt is a contradiction in terms. He is softspoken, yet his ideas are aggressive, delivered with the confidence of extensive knowledge. Zumwalt is an intellectual, yet his words are simple, unpretentious — powerful. Zumwalt is an admiral of the highest rank; yet in his manner there is neither the pomp of admiralty nor evidence of military hauteur. The admiral lounged in a blue-grey business suit answering questions in a quiet, deliberate style that masked an eager tenacity to convey exactly the right impression in his words.

Zumwalt gave some insight into the volatile mixture of idealism and realism that is responsible for the paradox of his politics as he discussed his move to integrate the U.S. Navy.

"There was no way in my judgment that we could man the navy as a lily-white, racist, sexist navy. We had to make it a microcosm of the country at large just to get it manned. It also happened to be the right thing to do. I was in that comfortable position, I think, of feeling that it was both the right thing from an idealistic standpoint and from a realistic standpoint."

Zumwalt is even more sure that the right thing to do is to increase our nuclear

deterrent.

"There is a common perception in this country that we have the ability to kill the Russians several times over, so why go more. The fact is we don't have enough to kill all the Russians once. If you agree with me that the Russians will inevitably strike first, if you buy that assumption, then with what we have left that survives we can't kill half the Russians. And with every year the number we could kill in a second strike deteriorates rapidly so that by 1980 the Russians will have a capability so awesome that a Stalin could be tempted to strike first. I don't think they will; I think they'll just use that superiority to force us to accommodate them — just as we forced them to accommodate us in the Cuba.

Zumwalt pressed harder. "If the present trend continues, we will have a combination of accuracy and megatonage so small that the Soviets would feel reassured that we couldn't strike first because we lack the capability to destroy their missiles. Theirs are designed deliberately, they tell us in the negotiations, to destroy ours. Faced with this kind of a situation, by 1980, in a first strike, they could destroy essentially all of our bombers, all our missiles on the ground, all of our ships in port, and the only thing we would have left with which we could retaliate would be our relatively inaccurate sea-based missiles."

Zumwalt knows full well the cost of matching the Soviet power in nuclear arms. He knows also the instability of the U.S. economy.

"I strongly favor reducing expenditures for strategic weapons on both sides, but the only way we will ever achieve that is to expand for strategic weapons at a rate sufficient to convince the Russians they had better join us in reducing expenditures. . . . The Russians have been out spending us by 60 per cent for the last 5 or 6 years. And they are overtaking us at an impressive rate. Therefore they feel no incentive to give us equivalence in the strategic deals but rather are insisting on strategic superiority."

In the true military tradition, Zumwalt finds fuel for his arguments in history.

"After every major war, there has been a letting up, a lowering of defenses that has made the next war more likely. The only way one can avoid war is to stay strong enough that the enemy is not tempted to war."

Zumwalt disagreed with recent proposals that all aid to South Vietnam and the Thieu regime be halted.

"40 thousand Americans have lost their lives there, billions of our treasure have been expended," he said.

"Secretary Kissinger gave his solemn word and the nation's word of honor to President Thieu that in exchange for his support of a very undesirable truce, one almost guaranteed to make it difficult for his nation to survive, that the U.S. would continue to provide material aid to match the several billions of dollars worth of aid the North would continue to get from Russia and China. In my view, we would be violating our honor as an ally, letting down 17 million who have thrown in their lot with us, and would disturb the sanctity of our alliance relationships around the world, if we sit and watch South Vietnamese cities overrun, and their leadership murdered as was done in the North when the Communists took over."

Zumwalt was personally against the American involvement in Vietnam. He says that Vietnam was not the place to "start

propping up the dominoes." According to Zumwalt, the U.S. should have let the Vietnam conflict play itself out while preparing to stop the Communists by supporting Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia — countries not already involved in insurgencies.

Zumwalt is further critical that our involvement in Vietnam was unconstitutional.

"The ways in which we became involved in South Vietnam," said Zumwalt, "were not consistent with the principles of a democracy. The people were considerably deceived about the reasons for, and the ways in which, we were becoming involved."

The same secrecy is now lowering the public's awareness of the Soviet threat, said Zumwalt.

"We are claiming great success in detente, but it has been almost totally Soviet success and the reason for it is that we have again, through failure to alert the people to the truth, permitted the euphoria of detente to reduce our defenses to lowest level since 1950."



Staff photo by Alice Boyle

Elmo Zumwalt speaks before a Hill Hall audience Thursday night

Union activities

Phoebe Snow will perform tonight in Memorial Hall at 8 and 10 p.m. Both performances are sold out.

Noel Neill (Lois Lane) will speak Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Superman films are being shown continuously today and Tuesday from 9 to 3 in the Great Hall.

Dr. James Condie, Dean James Cansler, Betsey Jones and Charlie Miller will conduct a housing panel discussion Tuesday, at 8 p.m. in Rooms 213-215 of the Carolina Union.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band will perform Wednesday, at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Admission is \$2.

A Baiting class begins this Wednesday at 7 p.m. and continues every Wednesday evening for six weeks. Offered by the Union Gallery Committee. Mrs. Barbara Semaru will conduct the series. Information and sign-up sheets are available at the Union

desk.

Dr. James Gaskin, Donald Jicha, George Taylor, John Schutz and Joel Schwartz will participate in the Academic Procedures panel discussion Thursday, at 8 p.m. in Rooms 213-215 of the Union.

The Chapel Hill Concert Series presents the Pittsburgh Symphony Chamber Orchestra, Sunday at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall. Admission is \$2.

Heavyweight Champion Fights 1947-74 will be shown at 11 a.m., 12 noon and 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the Union. The films feature Mohammed Ali, Joe Frazier, George Foreman and Sonny Liston in moments of victory and defeat.

Prints by Samuel Reese, an inmate at Missouri State Prison, will be on display in the Music Gallery of the Union through February 28. Jewelry designed by Edie Cohn are on display through February 23 in the Union showcase.

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HOUSING

- question the authorities
- air your grievances
- find out the facts before fall sign-ups

Tuesday - February 18
8 p.m. 213 - 215 UNION

A panel discussion including:

- Dr. Condie, Director of University Housing
- Dr. Cansler, Associate Dean, Student Affairs
- Betsey Jones, RHA Chairperson
- Charlie Miller, Residence Director, Upper Quad

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Crossword Puzzler

Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle

ACROSS	3 Scarflike garment of fur	54 Organs of hearing
1 Stroke	4 Idiot	38 Lassos
4 Bazars	5 Land measure (pl.)	41 Foreigners
9 Youngster	6 Pronoun	55 Japanese sash
12 Southern blackbird	7 Corded cloth	43 Possessive pronoun
8 Remain	8 Alarm bell	45 Second of two
9 Alarm bell	10 Fruit drink	47 Scar
11 Pigeon pea	16 Pieces of baked clay	49 Change
15 One who catches packages	18 Soak	52 Retain
17 Package	20 Sink in middle	
19 Heaps	22 Journeys	
21 Affirmative		
22 Touch		
24 Mournful		
26 Gratuities		
29 Poker stakes		
31 Republican party (init.)		
33 Born		
34 Sun god		
35 Sink in middle		
37 Long, slender fish		
39 A continent (abbr.)		
40 Greek letter		
42 Siamese native		
44 Pertaining to the sun		
46 Of the same material		
48 Music as written		
50 Cronies (colloq.)		
51 Kind		
53 Rain and hail		
55 Responded to command		
58 Experienced		
61 Prohibition		
62 Downy duck		
64 Period of time		
65 Possessive pronoun		
66 Equals		
67 Edge		
DOWN		
1 Moccasin		
2 Collection of facts		

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