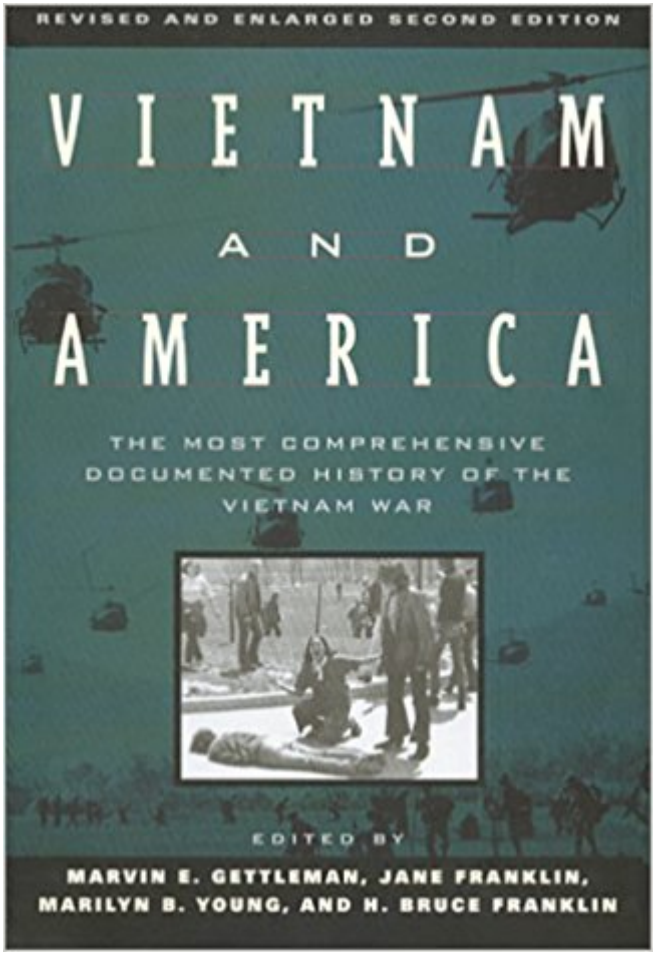
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Vietnam And America: The Most Comprehensive Documented History Of The Vietnam War



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Synopsis

No single event since World War II has marked this countryÃ¢â ¬â„¢s foreign policy and national image as deeply as did the war in Vietnam. Vietnam and America is a complete history of the war, as documented in essays by leading experts and in original source material. With generous selections from the documentary records, the book dispels distortions and illuminates in depth the many facets of the war, from VietnamÃ¢â ¬â„¢s history before the war, to WashingtonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s insider policy making, to troop perspectives, to the impact back on the home front. In essays introducing each major stage of the war, the editors elucidate the issues, foreign policy choices, and consequences of U.S. involvement. Substantial headnotes put each document in historical perspective. This comprehensive anthology is an invaluable reference for anyone who wants to understand the Vietnam War.

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Customer Reviews

Fearful that an "America ignorant and innocent of Vietnam can again freely move against the self-determination of other nations," the editors have compiled here a history of United States involvement in Vietnam that draws equally on original material and surveys. Included are Vietnam’s 1945 Declaration of Independencepart of which paraphrases our ownthe highlights of other key statements, speeches and treaties of the past 40 years, as well as such widely varied selections as Robert Scheer on the "Vietnam lobby" of the ’50s, Seymour Hersh’s account of the My Lai massacre, General Giap’s recollection of the fall of Dien Bien Phu, and several excerpts from the Pentagon Papers. Although the publication of this material in one volume is immensely useful, the

editors' notes are sometimes overbearing, as if the reader isn't trusted to come independently to their conclusionthat U.S. policy in Vietnam should be condemned. NovemberCopyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The editors of this important anthology participated in the ``teach-in'' movement of 1965, which mobilized the academic community against U.S. policy in Vietnam. Patterned after Gettleman's bestselling sourcebook of the period, Vietnam: history, documents, and opinions (1956), this work is chiefly designed to let the facts speak for themselves. Essential documents are reprinted, including the 1973 Paris Peace Accords, the 1954 Geneva Conference Declaration, the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, and excerpts from the Pentagon Papers, together with well-researched notes, introductions, and an abstract preceding each piece. Controversial issues are explored (a whole chapter is devoted to the antiwar movement), but the selections are balanced fairly. Official statements by top political and military leaders on both sides are included. This convenient one-volume compilation of a wide range of largely primary source material is highly recommended for most libraries. Richard W. Grefrath, Univ. of Nevada Lib., RenoCopyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

For anyone who really wants to know what happened over the course of the 10,000 Day War, this work is thorough and comprehensive. It provides a general narrative of the struggle of the Vietnamese people to achieve their independence, and the course of French and then U.S. intervention, interspersed heavily with primary source documentation from every side of the conflict. A must read for the genuine historian and the truly curious alike.

The view is slanted against the Vietnam War but the historical facts are objectively presented and the views provide great insight into the decisions and motives of many of the participants. Anyone who seeks to understand Vietnam should read this.

This was a required reading for one of my classes. It is well written and easy to understand. Great read.

Had a valid collection of documents to use in research!

As advertised

This was a gift. I did look at it when it arrived and it was made very well.

Great read

The collection of essays and official documents comprising this Vietnam history book can be quite a challenge to negotiate, perhaps even for the most serious Vietnam War readers. Personally, I recall reading this book during my (horrible) recovery from having my wisdom teeth removed, which provided the very ironic context for my pushing through the numerous essays, government documents, and accounts presented by the editors. For me, being someone who reads Vietnam War history as a hobby, it was one of those books that I knew was highly valuable while I was reading it, yet this type of enjoyment was often not accompanied by the "can't put it down" type of reading experience.Overall, however, I would say that the richness, diversity, and balance of the material serves to compensate for any deficiencies the book might have in the excitement and engrossment arena. I often find myself referring back to the book while reading other Vietnam works. I would therefore recommend this book, but with the strong caveat that it should only be taken on if one is prepared to move through the heavy, sometimes even "boring" material in order to reap the substantial benefits yielded by this effort.

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