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Abstract

In the Western world there has been a general consensus that in the aftermath of Auschwitz and Hiroshima, romanticized masculine images of war and soldiering have reached a turning point. This book challenges the view that the post-1945 era has to a great extent been without romantizations of warriorhood. In the thesis I show that the American combat soldiers in Vietnam were not beyond the influence of masculine warrior values and the Myth of the War Experience. I also show how the American combat soldiers who volunteered for combat in Vietnam confirmed the almost timeless celebration and enchantment of warriorhood as the male confirmation. But they saw their pre-battle expectations and images about warriorhood and combat crushed in...

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The role of America’s Vietnam War in Indochina in the history of the United States of America. During the incident, the first American pilot was shot down and taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese. When Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution on August 7, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson was given broad powers to increase involvement in the war. As mounting opposition towards the war grew, Congress began to take its first actions to deal with that sentiment. On August 16, 1966, the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) initiated investigations to produce evidence to back legislation against Americans suspected of aiding the NLF. “Accountability for war crimes: from Vietnam to Latin America”. Terry Karl testifies as an expert in trials of Latin-American dictators and military leaders who tortured, disappeared and killed their people in the 1970s and 1980s, when those countries were supported by the U.S. government. Karl quoted President George H. W. Bush, who announced proudly after the first Gulf War in 1991, “The specter of Vietnam has been buried forever in the desert sands of the Arabian peninsula.” She noted that we paid for the Korean War with taxes, and the Vietnam War was paid for by inflation, which led to the recession and election of Ronald Reagan in 1980. “These two myths turned ‘Vietnam’ into the cultural basis of the forever war,” Franklin said. Vietnam War: doctor’s diaryLearn about a Vietnamese doctor and her diary of the Vietnam War. Contunico © ZDF Enterprises GmbH, Mainz. Australia; Vietnam WarLearn about Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War. © Behind the News. Vietnam emerged from the war as a potent military power within Southeast Asia, but its agriculture, business, and industry were disrupted, large parts of its countryside were scarred by bombs and defoliation and laced with land mines, and its cities and towns were heavily damaged. Vietnamese boat peopleVietnamese refugees waiting to be taken aboard the USS Blue Ridge during a rescue operation 350 miles (563 km) northeast of Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, 1984. Phil Eggman/U.S. Department of Defense.