

# A Grand Delusion Americas Descent Into Vietnam

A Grand Delusion: America's Descent Into Vietnam Indonesian Chinese Descent In Indonesia's Economy And Political Stability Vietnam Road to Disaster Great Power, Great Responsibility Vietnam's Year of the Rat The Cambodian Campaign The Liberals' Moment The Golden Peninsula Political Economy in Vietnam Victory in Vietnam The Vietnam War in History, Literature, and Film Spies and Commandos Nixon's Vietnam War Vietnam Law & Legal Forum Military Justice in Vietnam Daily Report Chinese Law and Government Annual Celebration of Rice Cultivation in Vietnam Present Tense Robert Mann DR. Ir. Justian Suhandinata, SE John Prados Brian Van DeMark Michael Poznansky Ronald Bruce Frankum, Jr. John M. Shaw Bruce Miroff Charles F. Keyes Kathleen Gough Military History Institute of Vietnam Mark J. Taylor Kenneth J. Conboy Jeffrey P. Kimball William Thomas Allison Nguen-Khac-Kham Michael Schaller

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a grand delusion is the first comprehensive single volume american political history of the vietnam war spanning the years 1945 to 1975 it is the definitive story of the well meaning but often misguided american political leaders whose unquestioning adherence to the crusading anti communist cold war dogma of the 1950 s and 1960 s led the nation into its tragic misadventure in vietnam at the center of this narrative are seven political leaders dwight eisenhower john f kennedy lyndon johnson richard nixon j william fulbright mike mansfield and george mcgovern during their careers each occupied center stage in the nation s debate over u s policy in vietnam this is a piercing analysis of political currents and an epic tragedy filled with fascinating characters and antagonisms and beliefs that divided the nation

for decades chinese indonesians have been in numerous harsh spotlights in their own country starting from supposedly simple things like obtaining official documents to be legal

citizens of indonesia their only homeland now where they can be harassed and cornered which not seldom can extend to the extremes where they are made as victims and scapegoat particularly when issues related to racism arise similar to other ethnic groups they also live in different economic classes some are very wealthy some are rich some live in the middle class economy some dwell in their simple lives some are poor and some try to survive their abject poverty in the urban areas they are seen to live a good life some are very rich or even extremely prosperous most of these people are businessmen ranging from a colossal size to a mere small business however reality also shows that many chinese indonesians in the suburb areas live an uncertain day to day life and some are even extremely poor fishermen in tangerang north sumatra riau bangka or pedicab drivers unskilled labor angkot a small public minibus drivers domestic maids office boys and blue collar workers in west kalimantan sambas and singkawang and bangka are factual examples of the grueling lives that they have to carry on striving in spite of all the facts people often forget or even intentionally ignore the facts that many chinese indonesians have also made positive contributions to their country in many different aspects such as economy sports culture science or political sectors to name a few these facts also need to be understood and enlightened to fellow countrymen in order to portray a more balanced objective view and non discriminatory judgment which in turn can prevent hatred dislike and other unfavorable prejudice against indonesian citizens of chinese descent due to the past inaccurate stereotype and labeling this book tries to present an objective portrait of chinese indonesians and their roles within their own beloved country and state with the very same goal of all proud indonesian countrymen to create a stronger unity and integrity of indonesia a country that highly values pluralism and the unity in diversity principle through the distinguished pancasila philosophy

the first major synthesis of the war since 2001 drawing upon a host of newly declassified documents presidential tapes and overlooked foreign sources to give the most comprehensive look to date of the war that still haunts america

this book is sure to appeal to those still searching for vietnam war answers that even mcnamara johnson and their best and brightest advisers never found publishers weekly starred review many books have been written on the tragic decisions regarding vietnam made by the young stars of the kennedy and johnson administrations yet despite millions of words of analysis and reflection no historian has been able to explain why such decent brilliant and previously successful men stumbled so badly that changes with road to disaster historian brian vandemark draws upon decades of archival research his own interviews with many of those involved and a wealth of previously unheard recordings by robert mcnamara and clark clifford who served as defense secretaries for kennedy and johnson yet beyond that road to disaster is also the first history of the war to look at the cataclysmic decisions of those in the kennedy and johnson administrations through the prism of recent research in cognitive science psychology and organizational theory to explain why the best and the brightest became trapped in situations that suffocated

creative thinking and willingness to dissent why they found change so hard and why they were so blind to their own errors an epic history of america s march to quagmire road to disaster is a landmark in scholarship and a book of immense importance the most thoughtful and judicious one volume history of the war and the american political leaders who presided over the difficult and painful decisions that shaped this history the book will stand for the foreseeable future as the best study of the tragic mistakes that led to so much suffering robert dallek 1 new york times bestselling author

in great power great responsibility michael poznansky explores how the liberal international order established after world war ii has influenced us foreign policy from 1945 to the present proponents argue that its impact has been profound producing a system that has been more rule bound and beneficial than any previous order critics charge that it has failed to prevent the us itself from consistently violating rules and norms poznansky contends that the answer lies in between with america s approach to compliance a function of two primary factors the intensity of competition over international order and the burden of complying with the liberal order s core tenets drawing on nine case studies the book sheds important light on the future of us foreign policy in an era where american unipolarity has ended and great power rivalry has returned

vietnam s year of the rat explores the lunar new year 1960 and the dynamic relationship between two competing groups vying for control in the republic of vietnam one group led by united states ambassador elbridge durbrow worked toward directing vietnam towards an american style democracy that focused on forcing reforms within the saigon government the other group headed by republic of vietnam president ngo đình diệm attempted to navigate the demands of durbrow and the state department and to confront internal opposition and an emerging external threat while trying to further the goals of the republic the result was a series of failed opportunities by both sides to resolve the differences of the two complementary if conflicting strategies vietnam s year of the rat offers an alternative to the now standard historiography for this period of the study in the vietnam war by providing a vietnamese viewpoint into the story of that long and tragic war

when american and south vietnamese forces led by general creighton abrams launched an attack into neutral cambodia in 1970 the invasion ignited a firestorm of violent antiwar protests throughout the united states dealing yet another blow to nixon s troubled presidency but as john shaw shows the campaign also proved to be a major military success most histories of the vietnam war either give the cambodian invasion short shrift or merely criticize it for its political fallout thus neglecting one of the campaign s key dimensions approaching the subject from a distinctly military perspective shaw shows how this carefully planned and executed offensive provided essential support for nixon s decent interval and peace with honor strategies by eliminating north vietnamese sanctuaries and supply bases located less than a hundred miles from saigon and by pushing communist troops off the vietnamese border despite the political cloud under which the operation was

conducted shaw argues that it was not only the best of available choices but one of the most successful operations of the entire war sustaining light casualties while protecting american troop withdrawal and buying time for nixon s pacification and vietnamization strategies he also shows how the united states took full advantage of fortuitous events such as the overthrow of cambodia s prince sihanouk the redeployment of north vietnamese forces and the late arrival of spring monsoons although critics of the operation have protested that the north vietnamese never did attack out of cambodia shaw makes a persuasive case that the near border threat was very real and imminent in the end he contends the campaign effectively precluded any major north vietnamese military operations for over a year based on exhaustive research and a deep analysis of the invasion s objectives planning organization and operations shaw s shrewd study encourages a newfound respect for one of america s genuine military successes during the war

revisits the largely forgotten story of how the mcgovern campaign represented the zenith of sixties style liberalism and how its historic defeat still haunts democrats to this day and in the process identifies what democrats must do before they can reassume their role as agents of progressive change

the golden peninsula culture and adaptation in mainland southeast asia has long been recognized as the best all around introduction to the diverse cultural traditions found in burma thailand laos cambodia and vietnam first published in 1977 it continues to offer useful insights to students and travelers to the region in five well defined and succinct chapters professor keyes a leading specialist in the field offers a jargon free copiously annotated synthesis of knowledge about the cultural history of tribal theravada buddhist and vietnamese societies he combines analysis of traditional cultural practices with examination of cultural conflict in the colonial and post colonial periods the book remains unique in providing a detailed examination of urban life as well as of life in rural communities

the first english language translation of the definitive chronicle of the vietnamese military s view of the vietnam war published for the first time in the united states

an innovative treatment of key episodes of the vietnam war clarifies the relationships among history literature and film mark taylor offers an interdisciplinary approach to the vietnam war a popular but complex subject that has been variously discussed by historians filmmakers and novelists after outlining the chronology of events during the vietnam war taylor examines five crucial events including the my lai massacre the siege at khe sanh and the homecoming of veterans to explore how truth is told in the various tellings texts and films examined include the green berets jfk john newman s jfk and vietnam dispatches the peers report the deerhunter in the lake of the woods and the rambo films

during the vietnam war the u s sought to undermine hanoi s subversion of the saigon

regime by sending vietnamese operatives behind enemy lines all the commandos were killed or captured with many reporting false information this book traces the rise and demise of this secret operation

the signing of the paris agreement in 1973 ended not only america s vietnam war but also richard nixon s best laid plans after years of secret negotiations threats of massive bombing and secret diplomacy designed to shatter strained communist alliances the president had to settle for a peace that fell far short of his original aims

a concise look at how military justice during the vietnam war served the dual purpose of punishing u s solders crimes and infractions while also serving the important role of promoting core american values democracy and rule of law to the vietnamese

respected for its coverage of foreign policy and domestic politics present tense also provides a thorough examination of social and cultural history this edition includes a greater focus on the 1970s and 1980s and increased coverage of recent immigration

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