

# Perfume Dreams Reflections On The Vietnamese Diaspora

Meeting the Vietnamese Looking Back on the Vietnam War New Perceptions of the Vietnam War Perfume Dreams On the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's White Book Concerning Viet Nam-China Relations Understanding Vietnam From Enemy to Friend The Vietnam War The War That Never Ends: New Perspectives on the Vietnam War The Tragedy of the Vietnam War The United States and the Vietnam War: Leadership and diplomacy in the Vietnam War Military Justice in Vietnam The Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese Communists The Vietnam War Files The Vietnam War Vietnamese Tradition on Trial, 1920-1945 The Vietnam Reader The Vietnamese Revolution Making Sense of the Vietnam Wars: Local, National, and Transnational Perspectives Patriots Arndt Schmidt Brenda M. Boyle Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen Andrew Lam Xin hua tong xun she Neil L. Jamieson Tín Búi Edward Miller David L. Anderson, John Ernst Van Nguyen Duong Walter L. Hixson William Thomas Allison Dmitriй Valentinovich MosiДaДkov Jeffrey P. Kimball Mitchell Hall David G. Marr Stewart O'Nan Robert C. Goldston Mark Philip Bradley Christian G. Appy

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essay from the year 2008 in the subject history miscellaneous grade 2 3 university of cape town department of historical studies course hollywood vietnam language english abstract the traumatic experiences of their own troops and the fact that they were fighting against a largely invisible enemy may provide a hint at why u s film makers hardly yielded any space to the depiction of the vietnamese in the first major portrayals of the vietnam war the expectation of a failure at the box office was probably even more decisive the vietnamese point of view was at first almost completely ignored the representation of the vietnamese was mostly reduced to the fulfilment of merely functional purposes in films like apocalypse now and the deer hunter they are either victimized or demonized while in hamburger hill they may be promoted to the role of formidable enemies but are otherwise left in the dark there is no discernible effort made in these films to take a closer look at either the vietnamese or at their country this changes with barry levinson s good morning vietnam and oliver stone s heaven and earth while the former is based on the experiences of an american in vietnam the latter builds upon two autobiographical books by a vietnamese woman le ly hayslip thus whereas in levinson s film vietnamese people form an integral part for the experiences of the american protagonist oliver stone constructs his entire narrative around the life and character of his vietnamese protagonist le ly hayslip eventually therefore both films convey representations of a culture that the american target audience is not familiar with this paper strives to explore the strategies and techniques that both films employ to this end what are their respective approaches what assumptions do they seem to hold about vietnam and its people which aspects do the films share and where do they differ apart from the central aspects of the country and the people inhabiting it the topics of tradition dignity subversion as well as the role of atrocities will be discussed

more than forty years have passed since the official end of the vietnam war yet the war s legacies endure its history and iconography still provide fodder for film and fiction communities of war refugees have spawned a wide vietnamese diaspora and the united states military remains embroiled in unwinnable wars with eerie echoes of vietnam looking back on the vietnam war brings together scholars from a broad variety of disciplines who offer fresh insights on the war s psychological economic artistic political and environmental impacts each essay examines a different facet of the war from its representation in marvel comic books to the experiences of vietnamese soldiers exposed to agent orange by putting these pieces together the contributors assemble an expansive yet nuanced composite portrait of the war and its global legacies though they come from diverse scholarly backgrounds ranging from anthropology to film studies the

contributors are united in their commitment to original research whether exploring rare archives or engaging in extensive interviews they voice perspectives that have been excluded from standard historical accounts looking back on the vietnam war thus embarks on an interdisciplinary and international investigation to discover what we remember about the war how we remember it and why

the effects of the war outside present day vietnam are ongoing substantial vietnamese communities in countries that participated in the conflict are contributing to renewed interpretations of it this collection of new essays explores changes in perceptions of the war and the vietnamese diaspora examining history politics biography and literature with vietnamese american australian and french scholars providing new insights twelve essays cover south vietnamese leadership and policies women and civilians veterans overseas smaller allies in the war australia accounts by u s australian and south vietnamese servicemen as well as those of indigenous soldiers from the u s and australia memorials and commemorations and the legacy of war on individual lives and government policy

much will be made and rightly so of the eloquent commentary lam s essays provide on vietnam and the vietnamese a fascinating and important book robert olen butler pulitzer prize winning author a pen american beyond margins award winner in his long overdue first collection of essays noted journalist and npr commentator andrew lam explores his lifelong struggle for identity as a viet kieu or a vietnamese national living abroad at age eleven lam the son of a south vietnamese general came to california on the eve of the fall of saigon to communist forces he traded his vietnamese name for a more american one and immersed himself in the allure of the american dream something not clearly defined for him or his family reflecting on the meanings of the vietnam war to the vietnamese people themselves particularly to those in exile lam picks with searing honesty at the roots of his doubleness and his parents longing for a homeland that no longer exists lam shatters the assumptions of readers who have encountered the vietnam experience only through american pop culture he writes with the delicacy and intensity of a poet los angeles times book review andrew lam writes with the honesty of a true journalist and the feeling of a born storyteller on his many journeys between vietnam and the u s he sees first hand the global consequences of war perfume dreams is a meaningful book for our times maxine hong kingston national bestselling author of the woman warrior lam s insights into asian american life are reflected in candid witty anecdotes that reveal much about the difficulties of living in two cultures audrey

magazine

winner of the outstanding academic book american library association 1994

in a question and answer format that simulates an in depth interview bui tin a former colonel in the north vietnamese army shares his insights into many aspects of the vietnam war once a presidential palace guard for ho chi minh and a participant in the decisive battle of the french indochina war at dien bien phu he later served as a frontline commander and war correspondent in the fighting against the united states in 1973 colonel tin was an official spokesman for the north vietnamese delegation that arranged the return of american pows and rode a tank onto the presidential palace grounds in saigon to accept the south vietnamese surrender in september 1990 he left vietnam to reside in paris where he has become a leading critic of the hanoi leadership believing that a dialogue between old enemies is both desirable and necessary for the well being of the two nations bui tin is open minded and candid in his views about the policies and operations of the vietnamese and u s governments in the book he addresses such matters as the performance of u s military forces varying strategies that might have yielded different outcomes and the degree of involvement by the soviet union and communist china along with a thought provoking analysis of the long struggle that eventually brought his side victory but ultimately personal disappointment and alienation to enhance the dialogue some of his views are supported and others are challenged in a stimulating foreword by the emmy award winning writer former secretary of the navy and outspoken vietnam war hero james webb the result is a book that offers a rare glimpse into the mind of an enemy we never fully understood

the vietnam war is an outstanding collection of primarydocuments related to america s conflict in vietnam whichincludes a balance of original american and vietnameseperspectives providing a uniquely varied range of insights intoboth american and vietnamese experiences includes substantial non american content including manyoriginal english translations of vietnamese authored texts whichshowcase the diversity and complexity of vietnamese experiencesduring the war contains original american documents germane to the continuingdebates about the causes consequences and morality of the usintervention incorporates personal histories of individual americans andvietnamese introductory headnotes place each document in context features a range of non textual documents including iconicphotographs and political cartoons

more than three decades after the withdrawal of american troops from southeast asia the vietnam war still resonates in political and cultural discourse and still motivates vibrant historical inquiry in this book the editors present the newest perspectives on the war in vietnam from the homefront to ho chi minh city from the government halls to the hotbeds of activist opposition the seventeen essays compiled by david l anderson and john ernst examine vietnamese as well as american experiences of the grueling conflict breaking new ground on questions relating to gender religion ideology media and public opinion the book sheds new light on the evolving historical meanings of the vietnam war its enduring impact and its potential to influence future political and military decision making in times of peace as well as war dust jacket

what americans call the vietnam war actually began in december 1946 with a struggle between the communists and the french for possession of the country but vietnam s strategic position in southeast asia inevitably led to the involvement of other countries written by an officer in the republic of vietnam armed forces this poignant memoir seeks to clarify the nuances of south vietnam s defeat from the age of 12 van nguyen duong watched as the conflict affected his home family village and friends he discusses not only the day to day hardships of wartime but his postwar forced relocation and eventual imprisonment a special focus is on the anguish caused by the illusive reality of vietnamese independence the political forces at work north and south the hardships suffered by rvnaf soldiers after the 1975 u s withdrawal and the effects of reunification on the vietnamese people are discussed

these six volumes focus on the history and legacies of the vietnam war on the basis of the best scholarly articles the six volumes analyze respectively the origins of the indochina wars military strategy the role of prominent individuals the antiwar movement the lessons of vietnam and representations of the war in popular culture a brief introduction accompanies each volume v1 series introduction

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

the new evidence uncovers a number of behind the scenes plays such as nixon s secret nuclear alert of october 1969 and

sheds more light on nixon s goals in vietnam and his and kissinger s strategies of vietnamization the china card and triangular diplomacy the excerpted documents also reveal significant new information about the purposes of the linebomber bombings nixon s manipulation of the pow issue and the conduct of the secret negotiations in paris as well as other key topics events and issues all of these are effectively framed by kimball whose introductions to each document provide historical context

the vietnam war examines this conflict from its origins up until north vietnam s victory in 1975 historian mitchell k hall s lucid account is an ideal introduction to the key debates surrounding a war that remains controversial and disputed in american scholarship and collective memory the new edition has been fully updated and expanded to include additional material on the preceding french indochina war the american antiwar movement north vietnamese perspectives and motivations and the postwar scholarly debate the text is supported by a documents section and a wide range of study tools including a timeline of events glossaries of key figures and terms and a rich further reading section accompanied by a new bibliographical essay concise yet comprehensive the vietnam war remains the most accessible and stimulating introduction to this crucial 20th century conflict

despite the historical importance of the vietnam war we know very little about what the vietnamese people thought and felt prior to the conflict americans have tended to treat vietnam as an extension of their own hopes and fears successes and failures rather than addressing the vietnamese record in this volume david marr offers the first serious intellectual history of vietnam focusing on the period just prior to full scale revolutionary upheaval and protracted military conflict he argues that changes in political and social consciousness between 1920 and 1945 were a necessary precondition to the mass mobilization and people s war strategies employed subsequently against the french and the americans thus he rejects the prevailing notion that vietnamese success was primarily due to communist techniques of organization however vietnamese tradition on trial goes beyond simply accounting for anyone s victory or defeat to an informed description of intellectual currents in general replying for his information on a previously ignored corpus of books pamphlets periodicals and leaflets the author isolates eight issues of central concern to twentieth century vietnamese the new intelligentsia indubitably the product of a peculiar french colonial milieu yet never divorced from the vietnamese past and always looking to a brilliant vietnamese future spearheaded every debate beginning in 1925

after 1945 vietnamese intellectuals either placed themselves under ruthless battlefield discipline or withdrew to private meditation david marr suggests that the new problems facing vietnamese today make both of these approaches anachronistic whether the vietnam communist party will allow citizens to subject received wisdom to critical debate to formulate new explanations of reality to test those explanations in practice is the essential question lingering at the end of this study

the vietnam reader is a groundbreaking collection of the finest fiction nonfiction poetry drama film still photographs and popular song lyrics depicting the american war in vietnam

making sense of the wars for vietnam has had a long history the question why vietnam dominated american and vietnamese political life for much of the length of the wars and has continued to be asked in the decades since they ended this volume brings together the work of eleven scholars to examine the conceptual and methodological shifts that have marked the contested terrain of vietnam war scholarship editors marilyn young and mark bradley s superb group of renowned contributors spans the generations including those who were active during wartime along with scholars conducting research in vietnamese sources and uncovering new sources in the united states former soviet union china and eastern and western europe ranging in format from top down reconsiderations of critical decision making moments in washington hanoi and saigon to microhistories of the war that explore its meanings from the bottom up these essays comprise the most up to date collection of scholarship on the controversial historiography of the vietnam wars

intense and absorbing if you buy only one book on the vietnam war this is the one you want chicago tribune christian g appy s monumental oral history of the vietnam war is the first work to probe the war s path through both the united states and vietnam these vivid testimonies of 135 men and women span the entire history of the vietnam conflict from its murky origins in the 1940s to the chaotic fall of saigon in 1975 sometimes detached and reflective often raw and emotional they allow us to see and feel what this war meant to people literally on all sides americans and vietnamese generals and grunts policymakers and protesters guerrillas and cia operatives pilots and doctors artists and journalists and a variety of ordinary citizens whose lives were swept up in a cataclysm that killed three million people by turns harrowing inspiring and revelatory patriots is not a chronicle of facts and figures but a vivid human history of the war a

gem of a book as informative and compulsively readable as it is timely the washington post book world

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