

We Were Soldiers Once And Young Ia Drang The Battle That Changed The War In Vietnam

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new york times bestseller a powerful and epic story the best account of infantry combat i have
ever read col david hackworth author of about face in november 1965 some 450 men of the
first battalion seventh cavalry under the command of Lt col harold moore were dropped into a
small clearing in the ia drang valley they were immediately surrounded by 2 000 north
vietnamese soldiers three days later only two and a half miles away a sister battalion was
brutally slaughtered together these actions at the landing zones x ray and albany constituted
one of the most savage and significant battles of the vietnam war they were the first major
engagements between the us army and the people s army of vietnam how these americans
persevered sacrificing themselves for their comrades and never giving up creates a vivid
portrait of war at its most devastating and inspiring Lt gen moore and joseph l gallows the only
journalist on the ground throughout the fighting interviewed hundreds of men who fought in
the battle including the north vietnamese commanders their poignant account rises above the
ordeal it chronicles to depict men facing the ultimate challenge dealing with it in ways they
would have once found unimaginable it reveals to us as rarely before man s most heroic and
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miles away a sister battalion was massacred together these actions constitute one of the most savage and significant battles of the vietnam war the americans faced what seemed to be certain destruction moore and joe galloway the authors of this book the only journalist on the ground throughout the fighting interviewed hundreds of men who fought there how these heroes persevered makes a portrait of war at its most devastating and inspiring booksinprint com

examines the 1965 battle of ia drang in the central highlands of south vietnam providing an account of the battle and discussing the implications of this key confrontation

each year the commandant of the u s marine corps selects one book that he believes is both relevant and timeless for reading by all marines the commandant s choice for 1993 is we were soldiers once and young in november 1965 some 450 men of the 1st battalion 7th cavalry under the command of lt col hal moore were dropped by helicopter into a small clearing in the ia drang valley they were immediately surrounded by 2 000 north vietnamese soldiers three days later only two and a half miles away a sister battalion was chopped to pieces together these actions at the landing zones x ray and albany constituted one of the most savage and significant battles of the vietnam war how these men persevered sacrificed themselves for their comrades and never gave up makes a vivid portrait of war at its most inspiring and devastating general moore and joseph galloway the only journalist on the ground throughout the fighting have interviewed hundreds of men who fought there including the north vietnamese commanders this devastating account rises above the specific ordeal it chronicles to present a picture of men facing the ultimate challenge dealing with it in ways they would have found unimaginable only a few hours earlier it reveals to us as rarely before man s most heroic and horrendous endeavor

now in its second edition this comprehensive study of the vietnam war sheds more light on the longest and one of the most controversial conflicts in u s history the vietnam war lasted more than a decade was the longest war in u s history and cost the lives of nearly 60 000 american soldiers as well as millions of vietnamese many of whom were uninvolved civilians the lessons learned from this tragic conflict continue to have great relevance in today s world now in its second edition the encyclopedia of the vietnam war a political social and military history adds an entire additional volume of entries to the already exhaustive first edition making it the most comprehensive reference available about one of the most controversial events in u s history written to provide multidimensional perspectives into the conflict it covers not only the american experience in vietnam but also the entire scope of vietnamese history including the french experience and the indochina war as well as the origins of the conflict how the united states became involved and the extensive aftermath of this prolonged war it also provides the most complete and accurate order of battle ever published based upon data compiled from vietnamese sources this latest release delivers even more of what readers have come to expect from the editorship of spencer c tucker and the military history experts at abc clio

the vietnam war was one of america s longest bloodiest and most controversial wars this volume examines the complexities of this protracted conflict and explains why the lessons learned in vietnam are still highly relevant today vietnam war the essential reference guide provides a compendium of the key people places organizations treaties and events that make up the history of the war explaining its causes how it was conducted and its far reaching consequences written by recognized authorities this ready reference volume provides essential information all in one place and includes a comprehensive list of additional sources for further study the work presents a detailed chronology that outlines the numerous battles and

campaigns throughout the war such as the tet offensive the battle of hamburger hill operation rolling thunder and the battle of hue biographies on lyndon johnson william westmoreland robert mcnamara ngo dinh diem and other major political figures and military leaders provide insight into the individuals who played key roles in the conflict while primary source documents such as president nixon s speech on vietnamization provide invaluable historical context

this volume a collection of eleven original essays by many of the foremost u s military historians focuses on the transition of the army from parade ground to battleground in each of nine wars the united states has fought through careful analysis of organization training and tactical doctrine each essay seeks to explain the strengths and weaknesses evidenced by the outcome of the first significant engagement or campaign of the war the concluding essay sets out to synthesize the findings and to discover whether or not american first battles manifest a characteristic rhythm america s first battles provides a novel and intellectually challenging view of how america has prepared for war and how operations and tactics have changed over time the thrust of the book the emphasis on operational history is at the forefront of scholarly activity in military history this book is part of the modern war studies series

no one who fought there on either side talked seriously about who won and who lost in such a slaughterhouse there are no winners only survivors an american soldier after the battle of ia drang the vietnam war could have been called a comedy of errors if the consequences weren t so deadly and tragic in 1951 while war was raging in korea the united states began signing defense pacts with nations in the pacific intending to create alliances that would contain the spread of communism as the korean war was winding down america joined the southeast asia treaty organization pledging to defend several nations in the region from communist aggression one of those nations was south vietnam before the vietnam war most americans would have been hard pressed to locate vietnam on a map south vietnamese president diem s regime was extremely unpopular and war broke out between communist north vietnam and south vietnam around the end of the 1950s kennedy s administration tried to prop up the south vietnamese with training and assistance but the south vietnamese military was feeble a month before his death kennedy signed a presidential directive withdrawing 1 000 american personnel but shortly after kennedy s assassination new president lyndon b johnson reversed course instead opting to expand american assistance to south vietnam at the start of hostilities the united states hoped to batter the north vietnamese into submission with operation rolling thunder in early 1965 but it was hamstrung by some of the most restrictive rules of engagement ever imposed on a military force the joint chiefs of staff wanted to fight the war to win smashing north vietnam s military capabilities by unleashing the full weight of america s excellent air arm against ho chi minh s resources president lyndon johnson however had other ideas his policy revolved around fear of soviet and chinese involvement in the war though a considerable body of intelligence suggested neither would likely intervene the north vietnamese accepted chinese aid but viewed their large neighbor with extreme suspicion bordering on hostility the soviets for their part did not work well with the chinese either and they endured internal problems of their own at the time later in 1965 the government decided to divert many air assets to supporting a bigger american ground presence in south vietnam admiral u s g sharp noted our rolling thunder bombing program against north vietnam got off to a painfully slow start and inched along in the most gradual increase in intensity at the same time we decided to employ additional ground forces in south vietnam and use them in active combat operations against the enemy thus the fighting in the la drang valley represented the first significant encounters between american soldiers and the north vietnamese fought in november 1965 as a part of the pleiku campaign in vietnam s central highlands these battles

were most notable at the time for involving large scale helicopter assaults supported by b 52 strategic bombers playing tactical support roles they also established a model for the war in vietnam in which the americans made use of rapid air mobility reliance on artillery and close air support while the north vietnamese attempted to engage their enemy at close range with the objective of neutralizing their firepower but it would also serve as a harbinger of what was to come as tactical successes would not bring about strategic advantages for the americans in fact both sides would claim victory by the time fighting was done around ia drang

a highly illustrated account of the ia drang campaign of 1965 a key event in the vietnam war which was immortalized in the film *We Were Soldiers Once and Young*

on the offensive is the eighth volume of the official history of australia s involvement in southeast asian conflicts 1948 1975 and the second of three volumes on australian ground operations in vietnam

unfolding the calley case step by step belknap shows how our system of military justice actually works his dramatic reenactment takes readers through every stage of the trial from pre trial investigations to actual courtroom exchanges among prosecutors defenders witnesses and judges in the process he reveals how a court martial conducted within the public eye transformed a purely legal proceeding into a political debate about the conduct of the war calley

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

demystifying the conflict and educating both students and general readers this clear historical overview ranges from the events that preceded the war to its end in 1975 the book features a discussion of the vietnamese and american ways of life in the viet nam era along with an assortment of primary documents from a diverse selection of u s and vietnamese soldiers and civilians

fully illustrated throughout with maps and photographs this authoritative and entertaining book features examples of the formidable challenges that the u s army encountered in vietnam the book uses specific encounters to explain the american reaction and strategy to attacks by the viet cong in a hostile and demanding environment on land river and air it includes the famous battle of ia drang ambushes on land and on river skirmishes with enemy tanks and the effective use of american airpower utilising helicopters and gunships these accounts are based on official u s army records taken from the daily journals files and after action reports of those who were there

salem press s five volume magill s guide to military history presents a survey of the wars battles peoples groups and civilizations that played an important role in worldwide military history from ancient times to the twenty first century in addition to comprehensive coverage of western military history the encyclopedia examines the major military events personages and civilizations of the entire world from the beginning of military history includes time line of wars and battles wars and battles by geographical area military leaders by geographic area and list of entries by category

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