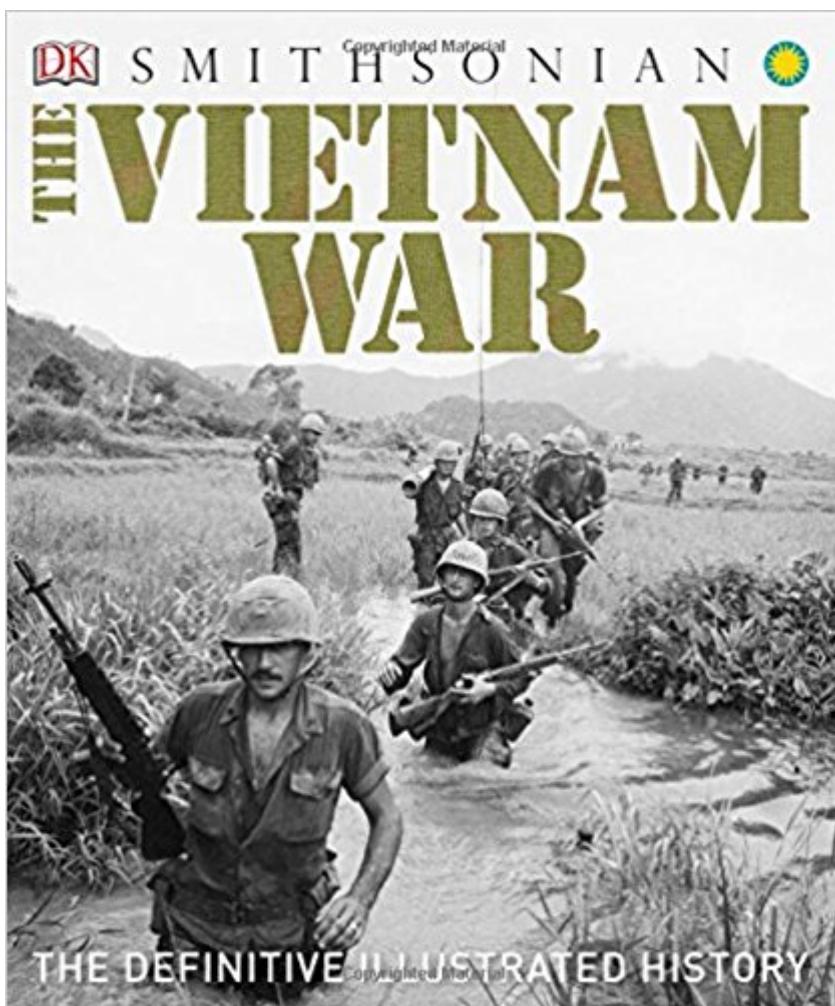


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The Vietnam War: The Definitive Illustrated History



Synopsis

Created in association with the Smithsonian Institution, this authoritative guide chronicles America's fight against Communism in southeast Asia during the 1960s and 1970s, and comprehensively explores the people, politics, events, and lasting effects of the Vietnam War. Honoring those who served in the war at home or abroad, the inside covers of this book feature images of submitted photographs of Vietnam veterans. Filled with more than 500 photographs, *The Vietnam War* tells the story of Vietnam through powerful images; profiles of the war's most influential figures, such as Henry Kissinger and Pol Pot; and a complete overview of the conduct, strategies, and events in this controversial war, including Ho Chi Minh's rise to power, the Geneva conference, America's intervention, and the Christmas bombings. Gallery spreads feature collections of infantry weapons, artillery, aircraft, and armored vehicles, and diagrams and maps show exactly where battles and key moments happened. A divisive and destructive event, the Vietnam War was the world's first televised war, and photographs from its front lines powerfully convey war's complex reality. Taking a global perspective, *The Vietnam War* remembers the people who served and features full spreads about prisoners of war, anti-war protest movements, and the significance of the war for black Americans as they struggled for civil rights. A powerful gift for the military enthusiast, *The Vietnam War* is a stirring visual record of the suffering, sacrifice, and heroism in America's longest and bloodiest conflict of the 20th century.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before March 1959 "Our people have broken the chains that have fettered them for nearly a century and have won independence for Vietnam." [View larger](#)

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[Revolt and Resistance](#) Formerly an

independent country, Vietnam was colonized by France in the 1880s. Resistance to this foreign domination was initially organized by Vietnam's traditional governing elite. [From Independence to War](#) The French were at first able to restrict the Viet Minh guerrillas to remote border areas, but the communist victory in China in 1949 gave the Viet Minh the support of a powerful neighbor. [South Vietnam on the Brink](#) 40 percent of the South Vietnamese population was estimated to be under the control or predominant influence of the Viet Cong in March 1964.

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[Rat in the Hole](#) Pistol in hand,

Sergeant Ronald Payne emerges from a Viet Cong tunnel in the so-called Hobo Woods, South Vietnam, on January 21, 1967. During his mission underground, Payne discovered detailed maps and plans belonging to Viet Cong guerrillas. [US Gear and Weaponry](#) American uniforms changed significantly during the course of the conflict, with the introduction of lightweight, quick drying materials suitable for combat in tropical zones. US forces were equipped with a range of standardized small arms. [Evacuation](#) The final act of US involvement in Vietnam badly damaged the country's global image. America was left humiliated in defeat, as frantic helicopter evacuations left desperate Vietnamese civilians behind.

Very good illustrated synopsis of the Vietnam War. Excellent for high school and college history courses.

It was a gift to a friend who is an Army Vet & spent a year there..he LOVES the book & especially the photos !!!

Very detailed book with lots of illustrations that help explain the ways of the Vietnam war.

Great history book

Beautiful book with lots of amazing pictures.

Great price

Great book thank you

Smithsonian The definitive illustrated History of the Vietnam war truly delivers. The introduction explains important events that led to the colonization of France in Vietnam to their final expulsion in 1959, with entry of the United States. into the long conflict, and to the United States exit. The book offers a snapshot of key players from all camps engaged, with a chronological listing of the major battles - and some lesser known, (the only American military confrontation with Khmer Rouge) etc. There are familiar, timeless, and profoundly moving war photographs, including photographs of military equipment, weapons and uniforms of the warring factions. If there is a single volume for anyone interested in this still little understood war, this book would be it. This book will fascinate a novice reader and give them comprehensive knowledge, and could perhaps motivate some reader to delve deeper into the details of the Vietnam War, and to pursue other books that cover individual events and battles, such as The Last Valley: Dien Bien Phu and the French Defeat in Vietnam, by Martin Windrow. This single volume will satisfy military history enthusiasts at almost every level of interest. It's a beautiful hardcover book with dust jacket that would be appropriate for libraries, colleges, and private collections.

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