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As I set down to kick my feet up after a long hard week, month, heck year at work, I remember my kids have sports, running in 10,000 different directions, my wife has a honey do list as long as I am tall, no time to relax, homework is due and that is just a little taste of my crazy life, I could complain and go on and on for days! Then I set down and dive into these books, I find myself realizing that I am taking advantage of a life that is so easy and simple. I am reminded of the soldiers who did not sleep, eat or get to see their families, who were injured and suffered to protect our country and give me this right to set back and relax for the five minutes I have, I take my hat off and respect all the many men or woman who died protecting us, right, wrong or indifferent.

I chose the story by Roger Donlon " we were babes in arms in every way". This story in particular grabbed me a little more than the others for a lot of reasons, but the main reason being that Roger Donlon was the first American in the Vietnam War to receive the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration in the United States can confer, a green beret captain and commander, a highly trained killer but his love and compassion still bleed through, not only towards his country and fellow comrades but for human life in general, if it was the Vietnamese or Nung mercenaries the kindness in his heart still shined through like the sun in Vietnam. He was there to train and keep peace to the best of his ability. He also showed a lot of feeling and respect for our former war veterans and took it upon himself to do what he could to physically keep them safe and out of harms way. I honestly believe this war hero was deeply affected emotionally and physically, but still very credible in the story he tells, he is a humble man, does not regard himself as the hero he is but as a average man in a harsh world doing what he is supposed to do as an American soldier.

The story I chose for part two was by Vo Nguyen Giap " the most atrocious conflict in human history". This story stood out to me as far as the arrogance of Vo Nguyen Giap. A lot of the quotes he made about how they conquered the Americans in war seemed to be very opinionated, but not factual in a highly negative way

against the American military intelligence. There is one quote in particular that expresses what I am trying to say " History is not made with ifs, but if American leaders had been wiser I think we could have been spared the war. In my opinion, the Vietnam war was not in the American interest." The biggest percentage of this story was not about the experiences he went threw or learned in this war, but instead it was on how the Vietnamese and its leader where so much more advanced in the logic and strategies of war. Then in the same breath talks on how un educated we are in warfare. I personally believe that Vietnam was the worst blood bath of a war than any other war in history. It has permanently effected so many people and there families. So I take it personal when anyone slanders the intelligence of the Americans or the Vietnamese in this war. All in all it is very sad for both parties.

The story by Vo Nguyen Giap had a lot of negativity towards the American Military, but on the other hand u can also look at how this man started his military training from books and his own life experiences. When he was eighteen, Giap was sentenced to three years in prison, his wife died in a French prison during World War II. Even with all these life setbacks, his dedication and love for his country rose above all. Giap recruited and trained thirty four men for a anticolonial army. By the time Giap and his army had a glorious victory against the French, his army had over three hundred thousand highly trained men. As u can see his dedication to his country has led him to great achievements along with being the most prominent surviving members of the revolutionary generation.

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