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@font-face { font-family: "Cambria"; }p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal, div.MsoNormal { margin: 0in 0in 0.0001pt; font-size: 12pt; font-family: "Times New Roman"; }div.Section1 { page: Section1; }

PART 1:

I did find the Jo Collins story to be most interesting, mainly because it was one of the easiest stories to identify with. But I also found the story of PHAN XUAN SINH to be interesting to me. I was attracted to this story because it is one that showed me a more personal side to the storyteller. When they were talking about when they hit the ship of innocent fisherman, woman and children, it brought me to realize that they needed to be on their toes, and it was a huge mistake on their part. It was one of the stories that most affected me in the first section because there were so many innocent people affected. I think this story was very believable in the way they brought emotion into it, and it almost made me feel like I was there. I don't think the story is one that can really be forgotten, and I found it very believable. It put me in the moment and time, and shows how on many things can go wrong by hearing one hint or clue of someone coming.

PART 2:

As I read through part two of the book, I was having trouble somewhat finding one that I was satisfied in saying I was completely disappointed. Looking back on all of the stories I would say my most disappointment was in the last one, on page 94. I was mainly disappointing in how the US was depicted. I was disappointed in the way that the student commandos could live "above the law." I was also amazed by the way they just through commanders out there knowing that it was going to be a planned failure. To me it is very low to drop those troops, knowing what they are wearing is obviously abnormal to the area, and knowing that they will fail and never come back. I do not understand what the point of it is to drop all these teams knowing that they are just getting set up to fail. Also I was disappointed in the way the Americans told the ones that were getting captured that they are just "working for Americans" (pg 97). In turn that led to the commandos to not be as loyal because they were pretty much just property. Like said as well on page 97, "But the U.S. destroyed their patriotism, turning them into disloyal people, disloyal even to

the Americans.” Instead of staying loyal to their country they turned on it due to the way they were treated and by the way they were told and taught certain things. I think the U.S. could have done a better job in preparing the commandos for the drop and responsibly teaching them, not dropping them like they were sitting ducks out there.

I found certain accounts in the readings that can be in turn positive if looked into it in the right mind. I find that these stories and accounts from these many people that experienced certain things at this time as a good way to learn. It teaches us how gruesome it was and for me gives respect for the people that were there living it and that are able to talk about certain accounts. For example, seeing someone be burned alive, or have their father be taken away and never seen again, or a man be in prison for twenty one years and be able to account for what happened to them and talk about their stories. It would take a lot to talk about something that was so horrible to you, and bring up memories that weren't really the best part of your life. I also think it is something we should look at for the future, almost somewhat like the quote by William L. Burton, “If you do not like the past, change it.” We can learn from these accounts and try and change what we do not like for the future.

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