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Patriots, The Vietnam War Remembered

Assignment 1,Part 1

The story that had the greatest impact on me was the story of Tran Thi Gung. In 1962, the "Puppet Soldiers" of the South Vietnamese shot her father for being Viet Cong. She was only 16 at the time. I'm sure, if some one came into my house and shot my father. I would want revenge as well. At seventeen she was politically driven into the war. I can't imagine seeing a young girl packing an assault rifle and living underground most of the time. The American soldiers most likely had no idea they would be shooting at young girls when they arrived in Vietnam. The things that this girl did and the things that she saw at such a young age. Even after getting hit and spending time underground in the hospital the determination and courage she showed amazed me. Her recounts of her years fighting to me seem to be very credible despite her being a Viet Cong gorilla,

Assignment 1,Part 2

The most disappointing story I believe was the story of Le Lieu Browne, she worked for the South Vietnamese government as a proofreader for the south's journalist. Her father disappeared when she was young, she did not have the fight inside her, as did Tran Thi Gung in a previous story. Her father was also killed but by the South Vietnamese. Her story or stories did not tell of the fierce fighting and rebellions that were going on, She seemed to be just an office worker to me that worked for the president, at the time I'm sure she lived well, As she was working directly with the president of South Vietnam. I feel she was protected in the most part from all of the bloodshed. I don't feel that she was very credible because of her place of work at the time. She did not live in the fear of death as most of the population did.

In the parts of which I have read, I believe that the lessons learned in hind sight to me was to let the people of Vietnam rule themselves, At the time in the 1960's the fear of communize caused a lot of unnecessary deaths. At the e time with so many countries where involved and how America flip flopped to who ever they though could stop Communizium. The potential for hope? Whose hope The U.S.'s hope or the people of Vietnam?

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