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A major turning point was when John Gilligan went to Vietnam and had experienced it all for himself. After, he arrived back in the United States along with twelve others; he was convinced that the war should be ended, as did nine of the returned combatants. In addition, he ran for Senate and won in the year 1968 for the Democratic party. John Gilligan proposed a ,“peace plank”, which would call for a quick end to the Vietnam War. Though, the “peace plank” was voted down by 1,567 to 1,041 Americans; it had mounted a huge protest consisting of hundreds of peace delegates.

In the year 1972, Judith Coburn was kicked out of Vietnam. It was apparent to Judith Coburn that the reasons for this was that American officials or possibly Saigon had not appreciated her reports on what was really happening in Vietnam. It wasn't until December 1979 that she was able to return to Vietnam; however, she could not return as a journalist, so she went with a group of women antiwar activists. Judith Coburn was in the group that was the first to enter Cambodia after Vietnam had overthrown the Khmer Rouge. Judith Coburn spent six weeks with her translator driving from village to village witnessing the devastation these people had endured because of the war.

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