

Andrew Tignor

1 assignment

Roger Donlon was one of the first Americans in the Vietnam War to receive the Medal of Honor. Reading through Roger's story had such key points in what was happening in Vietnam that most of Americans could not begin to understand in less they were there. He was a Green Beret captain who commanded the Nam Dong Special Forces camps in the mountains of northern South Vietnam. Roger shares with us the amount of danger that there was on a daily bases in his time in the Vietnam War, this makes his story so hard to read because of the amount of pain that it seems to cause him as he recites the past events. It was so hard to think that what this man went through was real but you could tell by the way that Roger choked up and the pain that it was causing him during the interview that his story was not over stated but rather burned in to his mind ever since.

This was a man that has given everything for his country and yet what good was it when he lost so many good friends. Roger had suffered many wounds while trying to rescue some of his fellow comrades. He was a man that made a lot of great sacrifices for other men and his country. This made it so sad to read this story and think about the things that went on overseas in that most horrible place.

Part 2

1. Rufus Phillips was a little disappointing, at the beginning of his story it has some good insight about him but not much about the reason he was in Vietnam. A man that after graduating from Yale joined the C.I.A and then three years later was sent Korea as a lieutenant just did not seem relevant. Even though he was later ordered to go to Vietnam and help out Lansdale a person considered by the U.S as a master of psychological warfare. He was sent to Vietnam with one message save South Vietnam. Even with this in mind reading through Rufus story just did not seem like it was going to help with the war.

Even though the story was a little bland it seemed as Rufus was trying to do his best to do what was right. It just was that by himself he could not

achieve the things that he wanted to in the war. He seemed to be a man that was set on trying to find a better solution.

2. Ngo Vinh Long's was another that was quiet disappointing. The events that he gave in his story were really bland and unexciting. Ngo spent much of his time with his father learning and studying for English schools. He really did not go into anything too serious, he mostly talked about him traveling around Vietnam and mapping it out. This was not an easy task at the time but it was just not all that horrible either.

Although the story was not that exciting, as Ngo got older he traveled to the U.S and studied at Harvard. During his time there he spent it telling people that the War in Vietnam was not going to end the way that they thought it would. It was the most positive part of his story, this was showing people that the war was going to have a very negative impact and there could have been other ways to deal with the situation then going to war.