

Does Olsen's bluntness equate to honesty?

created a "Thunderbird Lounge", a place for the pilots to drink and share stories. It doesn't disappoint me that in a time of struggle American soldiers found a way to keep themselves happy. The aspect that disappoints me is that this particular soldier wishes that there hadn't been an order only allowing them to fire after being fired upon. In such a horrible ordeal, I find it difficult to understand how anyone could welcome acts of violence on people they do not know or understand. I feel as though Richard Olsen's view of the Vietnam War was very skewed, and that perhaps he only saw things the way he wanted to see them. I believe that it was the thinking like this that prevented us from finding peace with Vietnam any earlier. The story of Henry Prunier is one that I believe there to be a silver lining on a dark cloud. His story is not one of particular sadness. He spent some time in Vietnam, providing Vietnamese with American weapons and training them on how to use them. He was in Vietnam before America was at war with them. He even met and received a gift from Ho Chi Minh. At the end of his story, he speaks about how he doesn't believe the war should have ever happened, and how he was a silent antiwar person. I find his story shows just how much potential there was for the Americans to not go into a war with Vietnam. He understands that the Vietnamese are people just like us, and that there truly was no reason for the U.S. to make them the enemy, when they could have just as easily been the allies. Ngo Vinh Long was an exceptional South Vietnamese student, who fully supported Ngo Dinh Diem's government. That was until, working as a mapmaker for the American military he saw all the horrors that were currently being ignored by that government. He witnessed agrovilles and public executions, and eventually resigned from his position. After becoming involved in many protests, he had to flee to country to avoid prison. He applied to Harvard and was accepted, so he relocated to the United States. Though his story did not have the happy ending that most would hope for, I found what he did to be courageous. Most people will not change their lives and stand up for what they believe in. He did, and I think that goes to show that anyone is capable of seeing what is right. Even though, it took a quarter of a century for the Americans to change their stance on the war with Vietnam.

not well explained

- lack of proof for this claim

proof? how so?

- I'm not sure this is why the US left Vietnam.

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Olsen story needed better analysis,
as did much of Part 2.

You made some claims not supported with evidence.
Instead of 2 stories (Prunier & Long)
just choose one & do a better analysis.