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HST 195

Part 1

The story in part one of the Patriots book that caught my attention above all the rest

would have to be that of George Watkins. Sure almost every story that is told always has points that

are exaggerated but I find this one most reliable due to the injuries that Watkins sustained. Being a soldier

of the U.S. military and having served overseas I still remember parts of that deployment as if they were

currently still taking place but nothing nearly that traumatic had taken place. I believe that something

as life changing as losing both eyes and both legs is something that would be extremely hard to forget

especially if it was one of the last things that you ever saw. He was a soldier on the front lines and

the event had happened to him personally without receiving medals or in my opinion trying to make

himself look like a hero of some sort. Of course it may be bias on my part for also being a grunt in a

conflict/ war zone but that was the story that I felt myself most connected to.

Part 2

The story that I find the most disappointing would be that of Luyen Nguyen the

“Lost

Commando”. This was a very touching story but what I disliked was how he was treated by the

U.S. military personnel in which he was working with to train the commandos who were dropped

behind enemy lines. Nguyen’s story made him seem like a stand up instructor and the fact that he

went with his team behind enemy lines to eventually get captured even though he was beyond the

rank of the average soldier who went on these missions and knew that these troops sent out there

rarely came back alive showed that his loyalty lied with his men. With all that being said throughout

His story he tells of how all the U.S. personnel’s lack of respect and professionalism towards Nguyen

and his rank.

His story mentions a part where a U.S. Lieutenant- colonel disagreed and criticized him in front

of his troops. Personally I think that shows a serious lack of respect and gratitude towards the local

military that the U.S. was supposed to be fighting side by side with. Another part mention was a couple

of U.S. troops who Nguyen was training had left his class early for lunch and when Nguyen had confronted

them one soldier proceeded to take his weapon off of safety as if he was going to shoot him if he tried to

stop them. Yet another example of how the U.S. believed themselves, regardless of

rank and positional authority, to be above the local military of Vietnam. This story was a disappointment due to all that was mentioned about how the U.S. troops treated their allies.

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