

Georgia Haskell

(562 words) *below min length*

78/100

While reading Part Four in the Patriots book, I found a turning point in Larry Colburn's story. He was crewman on a scout helicopter. Their job was to go look for the enemy and leave a smoke signal and the gunships would take care of them. They also kidnapped draft age males for interrogation. On the day of the My Lai mission, they were flying over the village looking for vietcong and would leave green smoke signals to let the Americans know someone was wounded and in need of medical attention. They realized later that the soldiers were just killing the wounded along with everyone else in the village. They were killing everyone and there was no enemy in sight. The helicopter pilot landed and approached a captain; telling him there were civilians trapped and asked how to get them out. (The captain replied with a grenade. The pilot had his two crew members aim at the forwarding soldiers) until he could get the civilians out with the help of a gunship. This story is a turning point in that the mind set of large groups of Americans had changed and the brutality of the war had reached new heights. This wasn't just one sick man that happened to be a soldier in the war. This was a large group of American soldiers that were doing unimaginable things. I think this is probably an effect of what they had suffered through for so long and the frustrations overall of the war itself, however there is no excuse. This signifies a turning point in the actions, thoughts, and moral standards of the soldiers in the war. (There was a clear division among those people who had moral standards still and those who did not.) It was also a personal turning point for Larry Colburn who saw his fellow soldiers, in his words, "butchering" innocent people.

lacking depth of analysis.

The example I chose for an "Ending" was Steve Sherlock's story. He was pro war until he actually got there and then he saw first-hand how wrong our being there was. That with his compassion for the Vietnamese as people, and how he was willing to stick up for them even at the cost of his career; led him to get involved with the Vietnam Veterans against the War. The VVAW held an all Veteran protest in Washington D.C in 1971. Their purpose was to "focus public attention on the fact that veterans who actually fought in Vietnam, and had been decorated for it, were opposed to the war and that it wasn't unpatriotic to be fighting against a wrong and harmful policy". The point when these men threw their medals away in the protest was huge. It signified how seriously they cared about ending the war. This probably was very symbolic for them personally as well. Helping them let go of the things that they had done in Vietnam that went

against how they felt, but they did anyway because it was their job. They were also saying to the politicians that these medals would not cover up or sugar coat the real atrocities that were happening anymore. This huge protest symbolized the end of support for the war among the people, not just anti-war protesters, but also veterans and families who lost someone.

) all
soldiers
did not
feel the
same way.

Pls generalize

Much better than
your first paper,
but still lacked
development & clarity.

You had more words available
to explain things more thoroughly.