

Assignment 1

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History of the Vietnam War

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PART ONE:

In the readings George Watkins stands out more than the other contributors of the war, because he tells his part of the war without emotion where a lot of emotion could be applied. Which, allows the reader to think of his story open mindedly and not from the view point of political party. Watkins began his story from the beginning when he knew he would be drafted, but honestly didn't know why he was going to war or what this war was about. He was severally injured, didn't know why exactly he was fighting, but he still went to serve his country. While serving the United States he stepped on a pressure-detonated mine and lost both his legs and eyes. His story is trustworthy, because he tells us the parts of the story everyone might not want to hear, like his eyes being hurt and looking like scrambled eggs. If he wanted his story to be more polished and not as true he would have left out significant parts like the eyes, not knowing the cause of the war, and not really knowing how to work the M-60 machine gun. His wounds will always be carried with him and the names of his fallen brothers will forever be etched on the wall, no amount of time can makes those memories fade. from him? for us?

PART TWO:

Ngo Vinh Long lived a heroic life standing up for what he believed in, but was forced out of his country due to being chased by his enemy. His father was beaten to the point of near death, for what he believed in, and by people who intruded his country. Fortunately the love for his son and country kept him alive, his son mentioned that he refused to die. Long was highly intelligent and learned Chinese and French. His country admired him for graduating when only about five percent of the people graduated high school (and invited him to public events, and rewarded him with cola). Long traveled Vietnam and had to witness the devastation happening in the country. People were starving, their crops weren't burnt, and forced to move from their homes. Long was disgusted by this and stopped his work to help the people. He fixed them food for three weeks until they got somewhat better. That's when he began to write to the U.S. embassy and Saigon government, but didn't receive any help. That is so sad that the United States couldn't help the people, and their excuse was that's how they will defeat the communist people.

(Long's story is believable and without exaggeration) because he starts out his story with all this love of the United States and kept that faith in them even when his father warned him of their intentions in Vietnam. It was when he saw that the United States was in the war for politics and not to truly help the Vietnam get back on their feet he lost hope. When he saw the heads of his people being chopped off by the enemy, because they thought the people of Vietnam were communist, the reader can almost feel the pain he felt by witnessing the harm of his people. In the end of Long's reflection on his past the reader begins to feel proud of Long for making his voice heard. Perhaps, even got a smile on their faces when Long noted "I made myself a nuisance to the government." When Long finally got out of his country he didn't stop protesting and even warned the people that if the United States invaded Vietnam there would be a long war. The United States probably

timing? I thought they were already there.

wished that they listened to his cries for help. - one man?

Malcom Browne, a strong man who has seen more than anyone wants to see. His story is especially sad, because what he saw and interpreted couldn't always be posted in his work due to the politics of the war. He had to write about the Dam Doi, and they were often attacked and their villages were burnt down and the people were also attacked just so the enemy could practice. He then witnessed twelve or thirteen of the people they killed and had put them around a flag pole with flag flown by the Viet Cong. Being a reporter is hard, because he had to write the story the American's wanted to hear and when he got out of line he would get a call telling him he had to rewrite his story. The part that makes the reader the most sick is an incident in 1963 when a Buddhist went on an anti-war protest. Browne knew that there were rumors going around about a ritual suicide, but didn't think that it would happen like this. He saw a bunch of monks and nuns gathering around and before he knew it there was chanting and then an old monk came out had gasoline poured over him and lit himself on fire. (His story is reliable) due to the fact the stuff has seen cannot be made up. While reading his story the reader automatically feels sick to their stomach and heartache for the people. Not to mention, the next story in the book was his wife Le Lieu Browne and she kept his stories in line too. ? huh?

Who is "the enemy" you?
keep mentioning?
(problem)

Part 1 again

Part 1 is much too brief
& not clear.

Watkins is emotionless & says scrambled eggs...
... therefore his story is believable? Huh?

* very awkward sentences made
readability difficult

Part 2

Very strange logic throughout. Historical timing
& events are NOT clear at all.

Definite grammar & proofreading problems

2 negative stories? Re-read the instructions