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History 195

Assignment 1

Part 1

In the first part of *Patriots*, the story from Roger Donlon had the greatest impact on me. It first grabbed my attention when I read about how he was the first American in the Vietnam War to receive the Medal of Honor.

Yet, I was continuously engaged throughout the entire story. I was able to picture his words very clearly and vividly. This detail was sketched into my mind, and gave me the ability to have strong emotions while reading. There were multiple times when I had disgust written all over my face and tears filling the corner of my eyes. I felt that this speaker was extremely passionate, frank and bloody honest. Although I'm sure there are many things that Donlon left out of each individual story, I believe him to be honorable and trustworthy. I feel that each soldier at war is unquestionably more creditable than anyone who was not in the war, and I don't believe the soldiers ever forget their time during active duty. Most veterans suffer from PTSD, and can never get rid of gruesome images, even if it was forty years ago.

only 2 sentences of analysis of crest. b. 7. 4?
And you conclude having PTSD ADDS to helplessness?

Part 2

One specific part in Malcolm Browne's short story greatly disappointed me. After traveling through the jungle to Dam Doi, Browne explained that "the Viet Cong had taken twelve or thirteen of the people they'd executed and laid them out like the spokes of a wheel around a flagpole and on the flagpole they had raised the red, yellow, and blue Viet Cong flag" (p68). This disgusting atrocity happened each time after a massacre. No matter if you stand for war or criticize it, I do not believe that anyone should think this obscene reoccurrence is morally or politically acceptable. In addition, Browne talked about how that Americans weren't slaughtering prisoners (that he was aware of), but I'm sure it was happening in some cases; which makes me extremely disappointed in our troops.

How was there

to cite sources for your claim

In contrast, there was also a positive lesson in Malcolm Browne's story that really touched me. In celebration of Christmas Eve, drunk American troops fired mortars into the sky that seemed warlike. Surprisingly, the enemy began firing tracers out of the Viet Cong tunnel complex into the sky, rather than aiming at the Special Forces camp. Although we were at war, this rare instance showed that both sides shared a bond during this joyous holiday. This should always be remembered in history as an indication of hope for the future.

Part 1 - analysis issue - more time/words were required to clearly explain your meaning.

Part 2 - story choices were fine, but again some comments were made and conclusions reached that were not well supported