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There were a lot of great stories in the Appy book in both parts four and five. Most everyone will agree that the turning point in the war was after the Tet Offensive. This bombing brought the war to the American people and could not be denied. The turning point story I chose is by Clark Dougan. To most this story probably doesn't hold a lot of significance, but to me his story showed the distant reality of the war that most Americans seemed to have. Growing up Dougan talked about a young man in his home room class that mentioned he would go to war. Like many middle class, poorly educated young men, their fate was Vietnam. Dougan talked about how he would go to college instead.

The gap of those who were drafted is expressed in his story and runs deep in a lot of the young men who were drafted. The young man who went to Vietnam and Dougan weren't close more like acquaintances, but it's amazing how barely knowing someone can make such a huge impact on you. The death of the 19 year old boy that Dougan went to school with brought the distant war to his front step.

I saw this story as a great representation of the turning point in the war because the "average American" who didn't go to war (Dougan) was finally struck by the reality that there was a war going on and something needed to be done. When a tragedy, like the death of someone from your home town occurs, it gives you a different outlook on yourself like; where you are in life, where you've been and the difference in choices you've made. The 19 year old boy who died could have been Dougan and that realization was demonstrated well in his story. Dougan's turning point (realization of the war) is a scaled down version of how death affects people.

In the video and the Herring book, they both talked about how Tet brought the reality of the war to the American people. The story by Dougan is just that; a small town affected by the war because one of their own was killed. The media like mentioned in other sources really brought the gruesome war to reality, the headline in the paper for this boy's death was "He was only 19- Did you know him?"

From part five, the ending the story I selected is one from a soldier; George Evans. His experience isn't heroic in the sense that he helped save many people's lives and helped end the war. His story could be seen as unpatriotic and arrogant. Evans grew up surrounded by military influence by his father and WWII veterans. He joined the air force by the influence of his best friend. Toward the end of Evans' tour in Vietnam, he was sloppy. He was disrespectful toward those higher up and refused to groom himself. After command leaders changed in the hospital he was working at the new commander wanted to teach Evans a lesson. He wanted Evans to cut his hair, wear the proper uniform and obey the military way of life. Evans refused and even became mouthy toward the commander. He refused to obey orders and was court-martial. Typically when something like this occurs in the military, punishment would occur fairly quickly, but Evans was allowed to go on R and R. Once going through his trial, he barely received a slap on the wrist, being simply fined \$74. Evans could have been knocked down in rank, lost pay, been un-honorably discharged or put in the Brig. This leniency in punishment to me showed how the war was beginning to end and America realized we needed to get out because we were wrong. Everyone seemed to be run down from the war that punishment wasn't high on the priority list anymore. The negotiations in Paris and hopeful troop withdrawal were much more important. The fine that Evans was issued, seemed almost like the judge was agreeing with what Evans did, but the law is the law and some sort of "punishment" had to be done.

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