

Due date: Saturday, 28 November 2009, 09:10 PM

Last edited: Saturday, 28 November 2009, 09:02 PM (562 words)

I think for me, the story that told it point blank was the shortest story in this section. It was by Philip Jones Griffiths (pg 294) You're not safe in those cities. We brought people into the cities to protect them. We told the people already there that they are safe in the cities. Then Tet happened and not only did the VC kill people in the cities we destroyed whole areas of the cities to kill the VC. Unfortunately by destroying whole areas we killed a lot of civilians to get a few a VC. In Phillips's story he said that if you looked at a map of Saigon in 1968 and asked "where is the highest concentration of pro-American Vietnamese? " it was District Eight. And that was one of districts we destroyed to kill a dozen or so VC. That type of action is a major reason why the South did not trust or really want us there. Why should they fight if we are going to do it for them. The government was corrupt, people were being thrown in jail, tortured, and executed and the we let it happen.

When you watched the video Vietnamizing the War (1968-1973) we tried to get the South Vietnamese Army to take more control in the fighting. We tried to get them to fight for thier country, win battles and look victorious for thier countryman to show unification. It seemed to me that they did not want to fight, and time and time again were handed defeat. Unless the US came to thier rescue. I think that after Tet all that the South wanted was the US dollars and for us to stay as long as possible.

I think that in part 5 the best example of the ending of the war was Frank Snepp's story. He seemed to sum up what happened during the whole war; and that was disblief and nonprepardness. Here you have intel. reports that are telling you what the north is going to do and nobody is reacting. Nobody comes up with a course of action for egress until it is to late to be effective. You have people who are helping us out right to the end and we don't save them. Granted some of the people were just to deep under cover or to far out in the bush to get out but we still left to many good people behind. But hey we got the most corrupt and elite out in time. We should have helped the ARVN out by providing more air support or naval fire to slow down the North. If we would have reacted to earlier attacks in the northern providences it might have made the north rethink trying for Saigon and the south. I understand that we just wanted to get the heck out and be done at that time, but still you do not feed your so called friends to the wolves. The US could have kepted naval support off the coast and B-52's within fairly quick stricking distance of Vietnam. Every time the north made a move south you hit them back hard. Maybe the south could have kept a DMZ and had thier own free country, That is something that we will never know because we never tried.

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