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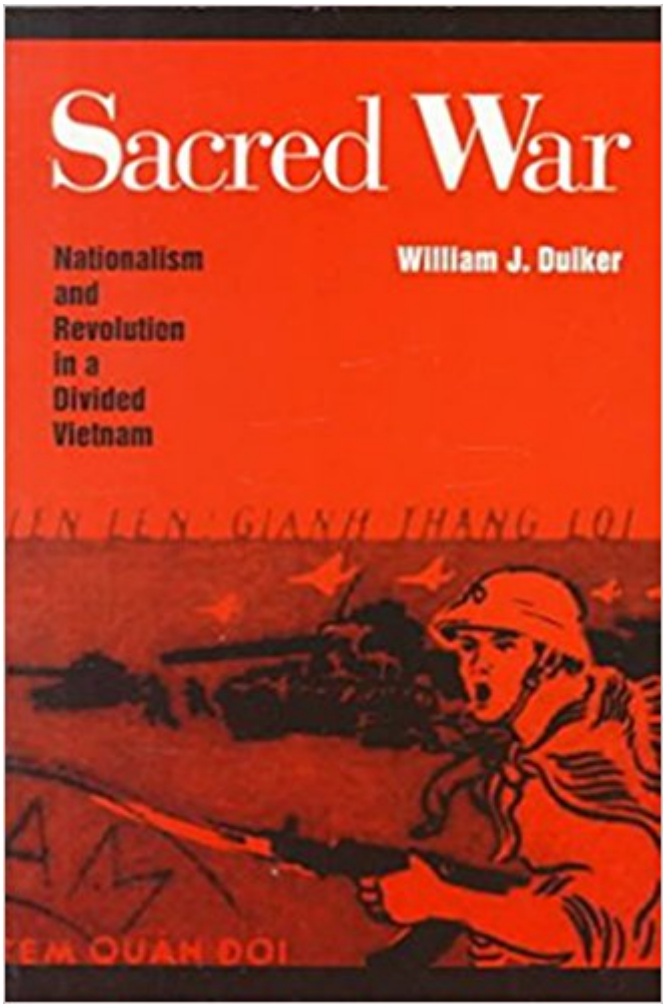
Sacred War: Nationalism And Revolution In A Divided Vietnam



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Synopsis

This supplementary book provides a history of the Vietnam War from the perspective of North Vietnam. Professor Duiker is one of the English speaking world's foremost authorities on this period of Vietnamese history and is a former foreign service officer posted in Vietnam. Based on recent scholarship and evidence, this book includes Vietnamese documents and research available to very few scholars. Quotes are sprinkled throughout the book to show how the Vietnamese felt about the events that were taking place around them, and why they decided to behave the way they did. Written for the general reader, this lively account of "the other side" includes distinctive photographs and sources.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Excellent

This is a great book, combine reading this book with a book or two written by Vietnam authors and you'll have a good picture of the war. Throw in "A Bright And Shining Lie" and you're damn near an expert.

It feels good to own a book that is not being published anymore.

I had to read this book for a college class. It was better than some of the others we read, but still just kind of a so so book.

You won’t find the information you get in "Sacred War" in many other books. Whereas most Vietnam literature concentrates on American decision-making, this book reminds us that there was another side to the Vietnam War. A very detailed account of Vietminh and Viet Cong thinking and insightful as into why we didn’t win the war.

I got this book for my history class and have found it to be very informative and gives more than one point of view on the events it covers. (the only thing I find distracting is that the binding broke down right away - this happened with many other students who got their books from various places). The index is handy and the abbreviations key is helpful.

This book is an attempt to tell the history of the Vietnam War largely from the perspective of the Vietminh if you will. Since the word ’Vietcong,’ or Vietnamese Communist was an American invention. I think this book does a good job of trying to do what it started out to do not be another book that tells how the USA lost the war but how the Vietnamese North and South won it. It of course has weaknesses namely that this book peters out after 1973 and assumes that the ARVN were American lackeys and not very good soldiers when in reality in 1972 the ARVN went toe to toe with the NVA and what little was left of the VC. Finally it fails to describe how and why the USA and the ARVN won the guerrilla phase of the Vietnam War, annihilated the VC and just as a victory comparable to that of Korea was in reach Vietnam was betrayed by a fickle American congress led by Teddy Kennedy who aided and abetted the 14 North Vietnamese Divisions who blitzkrieg-ed there way to victory over our erstwhile ally in 1974-75.

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