

*The Columbia History of the Vietnam War*

*Edited, with an introduction, by David L. Anderson*



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS

NEW YORK

## CONTENTS

*Preface* ix

*Abbreviations* xiii

### *Introduction:*

*The Vietnam War and Its Enduring Historical Relevance*

David L. Anderson 1

### PART I. Chronological Perspectives

#### 1. *Setting the Stage:*

*Vietnamese Revolutionary Nationalism and the First Vietnam War*

Mark Philip Bradley 93

#### 2. *“Dealing with a Government of Madmen”: Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Ngo Dinh Diem*

Richard H. Immerman 120

3. *South Vietnam Under Siege, 1961–1965:  
Kennedy, Johnson, and the Question of Escalation or Disengagement*

Gary R. Hess 143

4. *Lyndon Johnson and the Bombing of Vietnam:  
Politics and Military Choices*

Lloyd C. Gardner 168

5. *Turning Point:  
The Vietnam War's Pivotal Year, November 1967–November 1968*

Robert J. McMahon 191

6. *Richard M. Nixon and the Vietnam War:  
The Paradox of Disengagement with Escalation*

Jeffrey P. Kimball 217

PART II. Topical Perspectives

7. *American Strategy in the Vietnam War*

John Prados 247

8. *The Village War in Vietnam, 1965–1973*

Eric Bergerud 262

9. *Fighting for Family:  
Vietnamese Women and the American War*

Helen E. Anderson 297

10. *Vietnamese Society at War*

Robert K. Brigham 317

11. *“Hey, Hey, LBJ!”:  
American Domestic Politics and the Vietnam War*

Melvin Small 333

12. *Cambodia and Laos in the Vietnam War*

Kenton Clymer 357

PART III. Postwar Perspectives

13. *The Legacy of the Vietnam War*

Robert D. Schulzinger 385

14. *The Vietnam Syndrome*

George C. Herring 409

*Contributors* 431

*Index* 437