

0. AMERICANS IN VIETNAM - Story Preface

1. AMERICANS IN VIETNAM

2. WHY DID THE MISSION CHANGE?

3. LBJ DECIDES TO "GO BIG"

4. CONFLICT ESCALATES

5. HELICOPTER WARFARE

6. 1ST CAV IN COUNTRY

7. WHAT KIND OF WAR?

8. FLAWED POLICY

9. IA DRANG OVERVIEW

10. A FAILED AMBUSH

11. LZ X-RAY

12. BROKEN ARROW

13. DEATH AT LZ ALBANY

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17. HAL MOORE

Why were American troops in Vietnam at all? The story of U.S. involvement in that country begins in the 1950s. Initially providing limited assistance to France, President Eisenhower met with the leader of South Vietnam in 1957. Now free of French control, President Ngo Dinh Diem was seeking more aid for his recently split, newly independent country.

America provided expanded aid when President Kennedy first sent Army and Air Force advisors to South Vietnam in 1961. The U.S. plan was NOT to stay in Vietnam. The initial plan was to simply advise Diem and his military how to ward off their neighbors to the north.

But those plans changed, somewhat, between 1962-1964 and very dramatically in early 1965.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/AMERICANS-IN-VIETNAM-We-Were-Soldiers>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

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Media Stream

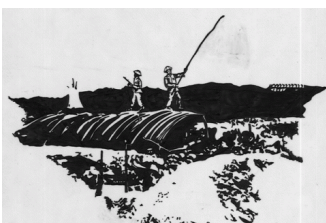


Illustration Depicting Vietnam Free of Outside Intervention

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.

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Ngo Dinh Diem with President Eisenhower

Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives.

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