

# Vietnam Colloquy Outline

## I. Historical Background

### A. History of Indochina

Reading: *A Brief History of Vietnam*, Pages 1-8 (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting);

Sources: *Vietnam: A History*, Stanley Karnow; *History of Vietnam*, <Wikipedia.org>; *The Vietnam War* (Episode One), Ken Burns & Lynn Novick

### B. America's Gradual Entry

#### The U.S. Worldview

Readings: *The Quiet American*, Graham Greene; *US Cold War Mindset* (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Sources: *Ending the Vietnam War*, Henry Kissinger; *The Ugly American*, Eugene Burdick and William Lederer

#### Presidential Decision-Making: Undisclosed Escalation and Deceit

Reading: *A Brief History of Vietnam*, Pages 9-11; Synopsis of *Dereliction of Duty* by H.R. McMaster (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Personal Perspective: *Tonkin and Teenagers*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Songs: *Blowin' In the Wind*, Bob Dylan; *Hard Rain's Gonna Fall*, Bob Dylan; *Lyndon Johnson Told the Nation*, Tom Paxton; *If You're Going to San Francisco*, Scott McKenzie

Sources: *Dereliction of Duty*, H.R. McMaster; *The Best & the Brightest*, David Halberstam; *A Bright Shining Lie*, Neil Sheehan; *Vietnam: A History*, Stanley Karnow; *The Vietnam War* (Episodes Two & Three), Ken Burns & Lynn Novick

## II. America Goes All In

## A. The Draft

The Deferment System (Who got drafted and who didn't.)

Readings: *The Draft*; *Three Presidents and the Draft*; *Conscientious Objectors: Ali and the Supreme Court* (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Sources: <Snopes.com>; <Wikipedia.org>; *New York Times*; *Clay v. United States*, 403 U.S. 698 (1971); *The Brethren: Inside the Supreme Court*, Bob Woodward & Scott Armstrong

Personal Perspective: *Induction*, O'Shea Memoir; *Just Say You're Gay*, Letter from a Friend (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings);

The Demography of the Armed Forces: Poor man's war? Black man's war? Draftee's war?

Reading: *Demography of the U.S. Armed Forces in Vietnam* (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Play: *Hair*, Gerome Ragni

Songs: *Alice's Restaurant Massacree*, Arlo Guthrie; *Fortunate Son*, Creedence Clearwater Revival; *Draft Dodger Rag*, Phil Ochs;

Sources: <history-world.org/Vietnam\_war>; <americanwarlibrary.com/Vietnam>; *The New York Times*; *The Vietnam War* (Episode Eight), Ken Burns & Lynn Novick

## B. Antiwar Protests

Personal Perspective: *Three Antiwar Protests*, O'Shea Memoir; *Keep Protesting*, Letter from a Friend in Vietnam (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings);

Sources/Readings: *Armies of the Night*, Norman Mailer; *The Vietnam War* (Episode Three), Ken Burns & Lynn Novick

Songs: *Feel Like I'm Fixin' to Die*, Country Joe & the Fish; *Ohio*, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; *Give Peace a Chance*, John Lennon; *War*, Edwin Starr; *I Ain't Marchin' Anymore*, Phil Ochs; *I Should Be Proud*, Martha & the Vandellas; *Okie from Muskogee*, Merle Haggard; *Galveston*, Glen Campbell; *Vietnam*, Jimmy Cliff

### C. Reporting of the War

Reading: *Media Coverage of the War* (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Sources: *Bright Shining Lie*, Neil Sheehan; *The Big Story*, Peter Braestrup; *The Post*, Steven Spielberg; the Associated Press; <Wikipedia.org>

## III. You're in the Army Now

### A. Training: Basic and Beyond

Personal Perspective: *Welcome to Ft. Jackson; Spirit of the Bayonet; Post-Grad Platoon*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Sources: *Full Metal Jacket*, Stanley Kubrick; *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*, David Rabe

### B. In Country

Personal Perspective: *Coming In Country*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

### C. Non-Combat

Personal Perspective: *Burning Shit and Drinking Beer; Rock 'n' Roll War*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Film: *Good Morning Vietnam*, Barry Levinson

Songs: *Piece of My Heart*, Janis Joplin; *Time of the Season*, the Zombies; *Dock of the Bay*, Otis Redding; *Foxy Lady*, Jimi Hendricks; *Crimson and Clover*, Tommy James and the Shondells; *Atlantis*, Donovan

### D. Combat

Personal Perspective: *Combat Zone*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Postings)

Reading: *Dispatches*, Michael Herr

Film: *Platoon*, Oliver Stone

Songs: *Ballad of the Green Berets*, Barry Sadler; *We Gotta Get Out of This Place*, The Animals;

Sources: *The Sorrow of War*, Bao Ninh; *Apocalypse Now*, Francis Ford Coppola;

## IV. Aftermath

### A. Coming Home

Personal Perspective: *Coming Home*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Songs: *Here Comes the Sun*, the Beatles; *What's Going On*, Marvin Gaye

Sources: *The Deer Hunter*, Michael Cimino; *Born on the Fourth of July*, Oliver Stone; *Sticks and Bones*, David Rabe; *Falling Through the Earth*, Danielle Trussoni

### B. The War Ends

Reading: *Nixon's "Peace with Honor"* (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Personal Perspective: *Post-Script 1985*, O'Shea Memoir (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Sources: *Ending the Vietnam War*, Henry Kissinger; *Ending the Vietnam War: The Vietnamese Communists' Perspective*, Cheng Guan Ang

### C. Why Did We Fight?

Reading: *3 Vietnam Narratives* (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Sources: *The Military Art of People's War*, Vo Nguyen Giap (1970); *Bright Shining Lie*, Neil Sheehan; *The New York Times*

### D. Did We Learn Anything?

Reading: *Was It Worth It? Did We Learn Anything?* (Colloquy Downeast Website Posting)

Sources: <History.com>; <Wikipedia.org>; *The Vietnam War* (Episode Ten), Ken Burns & Lynn Novick