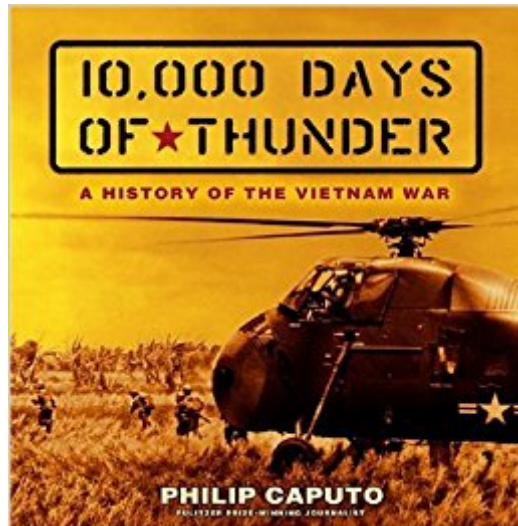




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10,000 Days Of Thunder: A History Of The Vietnam War



Synopsis

It was the war that lasted ten thousand days. The war that inspired scores of songs. The war that sparked dozens of riots. And in this stirring chronicle, Pulitzer Prize- winning journalist Philip Caputo writes about our country's most controversial war -- the Vietnam War -- for young readers. From the first stirrings of unrest in Vietnam under French colonial rule, to American intervention, to the battle at Hamburger Hill, to the Tet Offensive, to the fall of Saigon, 10,000 Days of Thunder explores the war that changed the lives of a generation of Americans and that still reverberates with us today. Included within 10,000 Days of Thunder are personal anecdotes from soldiers and civilians, as well as profiles and accounts of the actions of many historical luminaries, both American and Vietnamese, involved in the Vietnam War, such as Richard M. Nixon, General William C. Westmoreland, Ho Chi Minh, Joe Galloway, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Lyndon B. Johnson, and General Vo Nguyen Giap. Caputo also explores the rise of Communism in Vietnam, the roles that women played on the battlefield, the antiwar movement at home, the participation of Vietnamese villagers in the war, as well as the far-reaching impact of the war's aftermath. Caputo's dynamic narrative is highlighted by stunning photographs and key campaign and battlefield maps, making 10,000 Days of Thunder THE consummate book on the Vietnam War for kids.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1210L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (October 1, 2005)

Language: English

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

10,000 Days of Thunder: A History of the Vietnam War Review This well-written, concise and clear, account of the War in Vietnam is written by a Pulitzer Prize winning author who also a veteran of the war. This volume is richly illustrated with full-page black and white (and some color) photographs on the right, and few maps, with accompanying text, sidebars and smaller photos on the facing page. In most cases each chapter is one full page (a few extending to a second page). They follow a chronological order, while dealing with a single aspect of the war per chapter. After a three-page introduction, the first chapter deals with communism. At first a young reader might wonder what this has to do with the war, but it is an essential backdrop to what follows. The origins of the Vietnam War are covered early in the book, starting with World War II and French colonization, and then going on to the dividing of the country. The bulk of the book deals with the American military buildup, the escalation of the war, various key battles, and the view from the perspective of the American involvement. The growing media coverage, notably that of television reporting, and the increasing opposition to the war, get fair treatment. The author blames the loss of the war on failures by President Johnson, as well as the sensationalized TV reports. The volume wraps up with the Paris Peace talks, the Pentagon Papers and Watergate, the fall of Saigon, the MIA issues, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and a brief discussion of Vietnam after the war (up to 1995). At the end of this volume is a glossary, which will be essential for young readers, except one term I looked up was not listed.

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