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NPR American Chronicles: The Vietnam War



Synopsis

NPR reports on the Vietnam War, from its origins to the major battles, through the Fall of Saigon, to repercussions of the conflict still felt today.

Book Information

Series: NPR American Chronicles

Audio CD: 225 pages

Publisher: HighBridge Audio; Unabridged,Original radio broadcast; 3.75 hours edition (January 29, 2013)

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,173,955 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #255 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Radio Shows #279 inÂ Books > Books on CD > History > Military #621 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Radio > General Broadcasting

Customer Reviews

Published in 2013 by HighBridge AudioDuration: 3 hours, 40 minutesNPR has collected 24 stories that were originally broadcast over their radio network concerning the Vietnam War. All of the stories are high quality productions. Some are quite moving. All are informative.The collection starts with a look at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. followed by a story about a Washington, D.C. anti-war protest that was broadcast on NPR's very first day (May 3, 1971). As the collection goes along the listener is treated to stories of Red Cross workers, orphans of the war, the analyst that leaked "The Pentagon Papers", two stories by Walter Cronkite, actual tapes of Lyndon Johnson discussing how to present the war to the American people, the My Lai Massacre, refugees who fled the North Vietnamese conquest of South Vietnam, pilots and sailors that saved those refugees, the Kent State shootings and so much more.The collection has a weak spot, however. There is little discussion as to the beginnings of the war and almost nothing said about the rationale behind it. There are multiple stories about protesters and not much about why the war started in the first place.However, the last CD of this three CD set is very moving. It focuses on the end of the war, including audio spliced in from "letters" that were sent home on audiotape describing the chaos of

the evacuation of Saigon as the South Vietnam collapsed in the face of the final push by North Vietnam. Some of the stories are depressing. One is a great testament to the U.S. Navy and its commitment to help as many of the refugees as possible. Perhaps the most moving of these audio letters is from the man whose name is the last name on the Vietnam War Memorial - the literal last man to die in the war (and its little side wars in neighboring countries).

See the previous 4-star reviewer for more details. This is a collection of audio reports from their archives over the years. Thus, the CD is limited to subjects they produced during and after the war. It is interesting and worthy as listen but do not take a definitive review of the war. In addition, there is little from other perspectives such as the US military or South Vietnam or even from the North Vietnam. For the cost, it is a recommend buy but do not run out to buy it now.

a great gift for anyone who is interested in that period of American history; good price, good condition.

Gift for my adult son - he enjoyed it as it is a war his generation doesn't know much about.

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