



Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War

By William M. Hammond

Download now

Read Online ➔

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond

For many Americans during the Vietnam era, the war on the home front seemed nearly as wrenching and hardfought as the one in Southeast Asia. Its primary battlefield was the news media, its primary casualty the truth. But as William Hammond reveals, animosity between government and media wasn't always the rule; what happened between the two during the Vietnam War was symptomatic of the nation's experiences in general. As the "light at the end of the tunnel" dimmed, relations between them grew ever darker.

Reporting Vietnam is an abridgment and updating of Hammond's massive two-volume work issued by the Government Printing Office. Based on classified and recently declassified government documents—including Nixon's national security files—as well as on extensive interviews and surveys of press war coverage, it tells how government and media first shared a common vision of American involvement in Vietnam. It then reveals how, as the war dragged on, upbeat government press releases were consistently challenged by journalists' reports from the field and finally how, as public sentiment shifted against the war, Presidents Johnson and Nixon each tried to manage the news media, sparking a heated exchange of recriminations.

Hammond strongly challenges the assertions of many military leaders that the media lost the war by swaying public opinion. He takes readers through the twists and turns of official public affairs policy as it tries to respond to a worsening domestic political environment and recurring adverse "media episodes." Along the way, he makes important observations about the penchant of American officials for placing appearance ahead of substance and about policy making in general.

Although Richard Nixon once said of the Vietnam war, "Our worst enemy seems to be the press," Hammond clearly shows that his real enemies were the contradictions and flawed assumptions that he and LBJ had created. *Reporting Vietnam* brings a critical study to a wider audience and is both a major contribution to an ongoing debate and a cautionary guide for future conflicts.

 [**Download** Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War ...pdf](#)

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War

By William M. Hammond

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond

For many Americans during the Vietnam era, the war on the home front seemed nearly as wrenching and hardfought as the one in Southeast Asia. Its primary battlefield was the news media, its primary casualty the truth. But as William Hammond reveals, animosity between government and media wasn't always the rule; what happened between the two during the Vietnam War was symptomatic of the nation's experiences in general. As the "light at the end of the tunnel" dimmed, relations between them grew ever darker.

Reporting Vietnam is an abridgment and updating of Hammond's massive two-volume work issued by the Government Printing Office. Based on classified and recently declassified government documents—including Nixon's national security files—as well as on extensive interviews and surveys of press war coverage, it tells how government and media first shared a common vision of American involvement in Vietnam. It then reveals how, as the war dragged on, upbeat government press releases were consistently challenged by journalists' reports from the field and finally how, as public sentiment shifted against the war, Presidents Johnson and Nixon each tried to manage the news media, sparking a heated exchange of recriminations.

Hammond strongly challenges the assertions of many military leaders that the media lost the war by swaying public opinion. He takes readers through the twists and turns of official public affairs policy as it tries to respond to a worsening domestic political environment and recurring adverse "media episodes." Along the way, he makes important observations about the penchant of American officials for placing appearance ahead of substance and about policy making in general.

Although Richard Nixon once said of the Vietnam war, "Our worst enemy seems to be the press," Hammond clearly shows that his real enemies were the contradictions and flawed assumptions that he and LBJ had created. *Reporting Vietnam* brings a critical study to a wider audience and is both a major contribution to an ongoing debate and a cautionary guide for future conflicts.

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1008740 in Books
- Brand: University Press of Kansas
- Published on: 1998-10-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .84" w x 5.98" l, 1.14 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 376 pages

 [Download Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Chess lovers will relish every move and countermove in this exhaustive unearthing of the machinations between the military and the press during the Vietnam War. Hammond, senior historian with the U.S. Army's Center of Military History, depicts the tension between the armed services and the media as a game of strategy, with the Pentagon trying to impose order on a bevy of reporters, only to find that the journalists got the scoop anyway. The author points out that the military's efforts to control the way the war was perceived were determined at times not by the public's need to know but by the political fortunes of the president and presiding military officer. Drawing on a thorough examination of military documents and newspaper and broadcast reports, Hammond explains how the press allowed the military to bring back tear gas for use in the war; how various news organizations contradicted themselves and one another in describing the war's unfolding; and how much of the American public came to feel that the war was a hopeless effort. The book would have been stronger had the author done more to personalize the reporters. From the Baltimore Sun's daring John Carroll to the AP's resourceful Peter Arnett (who even today finds himself embroiled in controversy), the reporters are left faceless for the most part, because in the battle between Pentagon and Fourth Estate, Hammond focuses mostly on institutions, not individuals. Still, the author has turned his academic search into a highly readable account of one-upsmanship and high-stakes jockeying. Illustrations not seen by PW.

Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Few issues have aroused more controversy than the role of the news media during the Vietnam War. Hammond demystifies the subject in a book that is scrupulously researched, authoritative, and, above all, readable."—**Stanley Karnow**, author of *Vietnam: A History* "*Reporting Vietnam* is a classic journalism history and an essential work in helping understand America's most controversial foreign conflict. It is not only the definitive account of Vietnam war reporting, but also an engrossing read."—**Peter Arnett**, CNN correspondent and author of *Live from the Battlefield* "By far the best study of the press and armed services yet written."—**Stephen E. Ambrose**, author of *Citizen Soldiers*

From the Back Cover

Winner of the Richard W. Leopold Prize

"Few issues have aroused more controversy than the role of the news media during the Vietnam War. Hammond demystifies the subject in a book that is scrupulously researched, authoritative, and, above all, readable."--Stanley Karnow, author of *Vietnam: A History*

"By far the best study of the press and armed services yet written."--Stephen E. Ambrose, author of *Citizen Soldiers*

"Hammond depicts the tension between the armed services and the media as a game of strategy, one-upmanship, and high-stakes jockeying. Drawing on a thorough examination of military documents and newspaper and broadcast reports, he explains how the press allowed the military to bring back tear gas for use in the war, how various news organizations contradicted themselves and one another in describing the war's unfolding, and how much of the American public came to feel that the war was a hopeless effort."--*Publishers Weekly*

"*Reporting Vietnam* is a classic journalism history and an essential work in helping understand America's most controversial foreign conflict. It is not only the definitive account of Vietnam war reporting, but also an engrossing read."--Peter Arnett, CNN correspondent and author of *Live from the Battlefield*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dorcas Starling:

The feeling that you get from *Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War* may be the more deep you excavating the information that hide inside words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to comprehend but *Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War* giving you buzz feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the idea because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. That book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having that *Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War* instantly.

Samual Larkin:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their reader with their story or their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the information about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write with their book. One of them is this *Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War*.

Johnnie Nystrom:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their sparettime with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your free time/ holiday? May be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the book untitled *Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War* can be fine book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Kenneth Hill:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon.

You can see that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to your account is Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War this book consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how can the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. That is why this book appropriate all of you.

Download and Read Online Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond #LEJ219F50AQ

Read Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond for online ebook

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond books to read online.

Online Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond ebook PDF download

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond Doc

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond Mobipocket

Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond EPub

LEJ219F50AQ: Reporting Vietnam: Media and Military at War By William M. Hammond