

# The History of the Vietnam War

David L. Anderson

Offers profound new perspective on one of the most controversial events in modern history.

## SELLING POINTS

- Essential reading. Masterfully written by the most prominent authorities on the Vietnam War. - **Shelton Woods, Journal of World History**
- With its sterling lineup of scholars, [this book] provides keen insights into the history of the war in Vietnam that are accessible to a broad readership and informative we grapple with current wars. - **R.V. Lee, Vietnam**
- Winner of the 2017 *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title. *Choice* is a publishing unit of ACRL, a division of American Library Association.

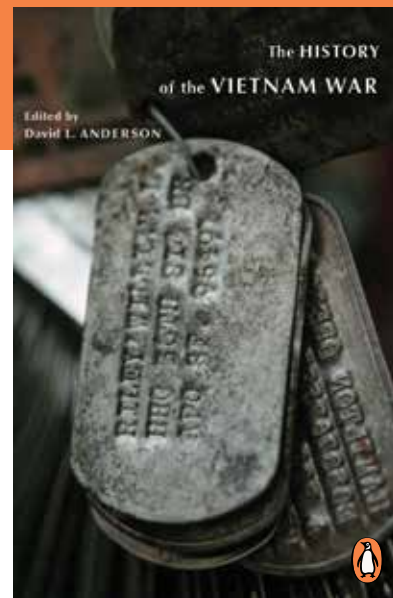
## THE BOOK

Rooted in recent scholarship, *The History of the Vietnam War* offers profound new perspectives on the political, historical, military, and social issues that defined the war and its effect on Vietnam and the United States. Laying the chronological and critical foundations for the volume, David L. Anderson opens with an essay on the Vietnam War's major moments and enduring relevance. Other contributors in this volume discuss topics such as Vietnamese revolutionary nationalism, the Vietminh-led war against French colonialism, Eisenhower's and Kennedy's efforts at nation building in South Vietnam, America's military commitment under Kennedy and Johnson, the motivations behind Johnson's escalation of force, the pivotal period before and after the Tet Offensive, Nixon's paradoxical decision to end U.S. intervention while pursuing a destructive air war, the war's impact on Vietnamese women and urban culture, the domestic tensions created by America's involvement in Vietnam, the spread of the war to Laos and Cambodia, the legacy of the war within Vietnamese and American contexts and a diagnosis of the symptoms of the "Vietnam syndrome" evident in later debates about U.S. foreign policy.

America's experience in Vietnam continues to figure prominently in discussions about strategy and defense, not to mention within discourse on the identity of the United States as a nation. Anderson's expert collection is therefore essential to understanding America's entanglement in the Vietnam War and the conflict's influence on the nation's future interests abroad.

## THE AUTHOR

**David L. Anderson** is professor of history emeritus at California State University, Monterey Bay, and past president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. His books include *Trapped by Success: The Eisenhower Administration* and *Vietnam and The Columbia Guide to the Vietnam War*



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