

VIETNAM CLASS, JANUARY 14, 1986

*Cuel +  
Pete Segerhammer  
lay-time friends*

- Announcements:
- (1) Other ways of getting to Washington, D.C.
  - (2) TRACERS, in Los Angeles
  - (3) be sure to talk with TAs
  - (4) mid-term exam scheduled for February 13
  - (5) outstanding speakers coming in next several days...

QUESTIONS: How many had close relatives (older brothers uncles, etc.) in the war?

How many had fathers in the war?

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LAST TIME: chronicle of 1950s, 1960s and 1970s

review a bit....

Several points: (1) Clark Clifford's point -- wanted to strike quickly to prevent the spread of communism

- tremendous fear of communism
- Senator Joseph McCarthy  
Communist infiltration of Hollywood  
film community
- Fred Schwartz Christian Anti-  
Communist Crusade

(2) the 1960s -- religiously and theologically speaking,  
a TIME OF HOPE

Rabbi Fackenheim....

The Theology of Hope////

Kingdom of God on Earth/mixed with  
Great Society....

a part of this feeling: NO MORE WAR...

No More Hunger, No More Poverty, No More  
Economic Injustice....

No More Racial Inequality....

NO MORE WAR....

(because the next war would be a nuclear war...  
or could be.....)

(3) several elements came together....

and some were compatible, and some were not...

e.g. how do you reconcile intense fear of communism  
with "NO MORE WAR...."

very difficult...

several examples of what happened:

(a) a lot of what was hoped for got sidetracked  
by the Vietnam War

specific example: the Civil Rights Movement  
Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke out against the  
Vietnam War...many of his supporters were  
opposed to this... WHY? because this  
would take attention and energy away  
from the Civil Rights movement...

point: items on the national agenda were de-emphasized  
placed on the back burner...given a lower  
priority...because of the Vietnam War

(b) a number of the issues became fused....

how? well, antagonism against authorities  
for resisting civil rights was combined with  
bad feeling toward authorities for waging  
the WAR...

1970 -- President Nixon ordered the bombing of  
Cambodia...

Sussex Court -- picked up paper..."I'm glad  
he did it... it's like with those hairy  
students; you have to get tough; you have  
to draw the line somewhere..."

ON CAMPUS: Signs and placards and protest  
marchers: "BOYCOTT CLASSES TO SHOW YOUR  
DISAPPROVAL OF NIXON'S BOMBING OF CAMBODIA"

-- FREE SPEECH MOVEMENT begins in Berkeley...  
protest minority hiring practices of  
Oakland TRIBUNE... Senator William Knowland..  
quickly spread to anti-authority...  
and anti-government... because  
with focus on the war....

(c) The society marches according to different orders.  
orders....

FEAR OF COMMUNISM VS. FEAR OF WAR....

FEAR OF ARMAGEDDON VS. LONGING FOR PARADISE.

CONSEQUENCE: A SERIOUSLY DIVIDED SOCIETY.....

---THE REAL RISE OF CONSERVATISM....

Barry Goldwater ran and lost in 1964...  
 RONALD REAGAN was the real winner...  
 from the 1964 campaign...

-- similar to Governor Maria Cuomo in 1984...  
 gave the speech that everyone remembers...

KEVIN PHILLIPS

wrote a book in 1982, POST-CONSERVATIVE AMERICA

Question: what about VIETNAM?

READ PORTION FROM INTERVIEW WITH KEVIN PHILLIPS..

PLACED THE U.S. COMBATANTS IN VIETNAM IN DOUBLE JEOPARDY

- fighting for a war that wasn't supported at home
- fighting in a war that did not carry the enthusiastic sanctions of the American people
- = fighting in a war that many of their fellow Americans opposed
- fighting in a war that even they themselves couldn't enthusiastically defend....
- fighting for their lives.....  
 fighting to stay alive....  
 WHERE IT WAS JUST AS IMPORTANT TO  
 STAY ALIVE AS IT WAS TO DEFEAT THE  
 ENEMY....

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 AN OUTLINE OF THE SOLDIERS' STORIES:

background: Joseph Campbell.....Departure, Intiation, & Return..

WAR CHRONICLES:

SOLDIERS" STORIES::;::; Macho...beginning.

John Wayne.... Gary Cooper....

ATHLETIC..... FOOTBALL.....

WRESTLING....

2nd Chapter: Entry into the Country.....  
 Disillusionment from the first moment....

3rd chapter: survival.....

4th chapter: Homecoming..... no homecoming.....

5th chapter HEALING..... Where we are now.....

READ: Caputo  
 - FRED JOHNS  
 John Hein