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Vietnam Combat – A Platoon Leader’s View The Unvarnished Truth

Many stories and controversies swirl around the Vietnam War. Why were we there? What was it really like to lead troops in combat at the height of that engagement? How did soldiers feel about fighting an elusive enemy?

Although no one person can address it all, 1st Lieutenant Robin Bartlett tells the unvarnished truth from his ‘boots on the ground’ perspective in *Vietnam Combat: Firefights and Writing History* (ISBN 978-1-63624-242-2). He reveals remarkable stories of a combat infantry platoon leader’s struggle to lead 30 soldiers on helicopter assaults and search and destroy missions at the height of the war in 1968. It was the worst of times to be a platoon leader in Vietnam, let alone a grunt serving in a combat unit. More than 50 years later, these vivid combat experiences are brought to life in a fast-moving, first-person narrative expressing the horror, fear, anguish, and sometimes illogical humor of that war.

Robin Bartlett has written one of the most honest and searing personal memoirs of the Vietnam War yet published. – Barry McCaffrey, Gen USA Ret. (Four combat tours and three Purple Hearts)

This authentic, vivid account of war-time life relates many unusual stories, some humorous and some horrific. Bartlett’s platoon, part of the vaunted 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), carried lighter packs, more ammo and water because of the availability of rapid helicopter resupply. Close-in air support from Cobra helicopters could be overhead within minutes of a call to support a firefight. Wounded troops were medevacked in dense terrain using “jungle penetrators.” It also meant that Bartlett’s platoon could deploy through helicopter combat assaults into hot LZs (landing zones) at a moment’s notice if an enemy force was spotted...and they did.

Vivid text supported by ninety color photographs bring the action alive. A complete resource section, index and glossary conclude this extensive work from this “boots on the ground” point of view.

Vietnam Combat: Firefights and Writing History, by Robin Bartlett, is published by Casemate Publishers, part of the Casemate Group and is available in hard cover and ebook. Retailing for \$37.95, it is available nationally through online and local bookstores and libraries.

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About the Author

Robin Bartlett grew up in a three-generation military family, but as the Vietnam war escalated, he chose ROTC. Upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate he volunteered for Infantry, Airborne, and Ranger training, and assignment to the 82d Airborne Division. He got everything he asked for...and more. Bartlett holds a master's degree in Media from Pace University in NYC and a BA degree in Comparative Literature from Claremont McKenna College in California. He is the President of the NY/NJ Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division Association, and lives with his wife in Norwood, New Jersey. They have three sons, none of whom have pursued military careers.

About Casemate

Casemate Publishers is one of the leading publishers in the fields of military history, defense studies, and military science. It is also the leading publisher of archaeology and the ancient world under imprint Oxbow Books. They are both imprints of the Casemate Group founded in 2001 as a leading independent book distributor, offering global, full-service distribution to publishers, for all formats, through all channels, to all markets around the world.

You can schedule an interview or request a copy by contacting Daniel Yesilonis at daniel.yesilonis@casematepublishers.com.

Additional information and resources available at www.RobinBartlettAuthor.com