

A LANDMARK DOCUMENTARY EVENT

THE VIETNAM WAR

A FILM BY KEN BURNS & LYNN NOVICK



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Episode Guide

Episode 1 - Déjà Vu (Sun, September 17 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

After a long and brutal war, revolutionaries led by Ho Chi Minh end nearly a century of French colonial rule. With the Cold War intensifying, Vietnam is divided: communists hold the North, while America supports an untested regime in the South.

Episode 2 - Riding the Tiger (Mon, September 18 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

President Kennedy and his advisors wrestle with how deeply to get involved in South Vietnam. As the increasingly autocratic Diem regime faces a growing communist insurgency and widespread Buddhist protests, a grave political crisis unfolds.

Episode 3 - The River Styx (Tue, September 19 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

With South Vietnam in chaos, Hanoi accelerates the insurgency, sending combat troops to the South. Fearing Saigon's collapse, President Johnson escalates, authorizing sustained bombing of the North and deploying ground troops in the South.

Episode 4 - Resolve (Wed, September 20 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

Defying American airpower, North Vietnamese troops and materiel stream down the Ho Chi Minh Trail, while Saigon struggles to pacify the countryside. As an antiwar movement builds at home, GIs discover that this war is nothing like their fathers' war.

Episode 5 - This Is What We Do (Thur, September 21 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

Enemy body counts and American casualties mount as GIs chase an elusive foe and face deadly ambushes and artillery. While Hanoi lays plans for a massive surprise offensive, the Johnson Administration reassures the public that victory is in sight.

Continued...



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AMERICAN CIVIL WAR
MUSEUM

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Episode 6 - Things Fall Apart (Sun, September 24 at 8 pm and 9:30 pm)

Seeing the violence and brutality of the Tet Offensive unfold on television, Americans begin to doubt Johnson's promise of "light at the end of the tunnel." LBJ decides not to run again. The country is staggered by assassinations and unrest.

Episode 7 - The Veneer of Civilization (Mon, September 25 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

With the country at odds over the war, draft-age Americans face wrenching choices. After chaos roils the Democratic Convention, Nixon narrowly wins the presidency. In Vietnam, soldiers on all sides witness terrible savagery and unflinching courage.

Episode 8 - The History of the World (Tue, September 26 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

When troop withdrawals begin, soldiers left in Vietnam ask what they are fighting for. News breaks of a shocking massacre at My Lai, and questions grow about the war's rectitude. The Cambodia invasion sparks large protests, with tragic consequences.

Episode 9 - A Disrespectful Loyalty (Wed, September 27 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

South Vietnamese forces fighting on their own suffer a terrible defeat in Laos. After being re-elected in a landslide, Nixon strikes a peace deal with Hanoi that allows American prisoners of war finally to come home to a bitterly divided country.

Episode 10 - The Weight of Memory (Thur, September 28 at 8 pm and 10 pm)

Nixon resigns amidst Watergate, while a brutal civil war continues in Vietnam. North Vietnamese troops overtake Saigon with overwhelming force. For the next 40 years, Americans and Vietnamese from all sides search for healing and reconciliation.

More ways to watch at pbs.org/vietnamwar

VIETNAM

VIRGINIA REMEMBERS

Connecting cultures, generations and perspectives

WCVE/WHTJ shares local perspectives of those who experienced the Vietnam War, through panel discussions moderated by Robert Hodierno, the University of Richmond Journalism Department Chair who began his career covering the Vietnam War. In an effort to tell their stories and help educate the community about Vietnam, we invite you to witness these important discussions.

EPISODE ONE

*Sunday, September 17 at 9:30pm;
Rebroadcast at 11:30 pm*

Join us at the Virginia War Memorial as we hear conversations with a Combat Nurse, a South Vietnamese Veteran, a Conscientious Objector, Vietnamese Refugees and, of course, U.S. Vietnam Veterans.

EPISODE TWO

*Monday, September 18 at 9:30pm;
Rebroadcast at 11:30 pm*

We bring you to American Legion Post 74, in Keswick, Virginia, where Vietnam Veterans share their perspectives about a war that is complicated, misunderstood and difficult for many to discuss.

Watch *Vietnam: Virginia Remembers* On-Demand at ideastations.org/vietnamwar



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