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What Now Lieutenant



Synopsis

“Every now and then a work comes along that is so simple and refreshing in its originality that it immediately captures the spirit of American fighting men throughout the ages. Such is this work by Bob Babcock. What makes this work unique is that it is based upon his wartime writing as it occurred, without the softening of time and the refining of modern memory applied to past experience. In it you will find the thinking of a young officer as he struggles to take in all that he is responsible for while experiencing everything himself for the first time. It is an honest, unvarnished look at Soldiering in 1966-1967 and is as fine an example of the early American experience in Vietnam that one is likely to come across.”

The personal account of Bob Babcock’s experiences as a platoon leader and executive officer with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A rare and sober insight into the value of good and great leadership in combat. And enough

comparisons to poor leadership and its consequences. Every young leader should read this. And remember, it lasts the rest of your life.

A "hard tour" in Vietnam with a young 2Lt who lived through close encounters of the worst kind. A lucky man.

Actual & factual. A good history written by and for real soldiers.

Thank you, Robert Babcock, for writing this great historical novel!. Although not Infantry, but as a Vietnam Vet, I can relate to your story in many ways.

Very well done, a good read for up and coming leaders.

AAA

Excellent book

This is an honest account of a young infantry lieutenant's Viet Nam era Army experience. He begins by describing his somewhat frustrating training period serving under a demanding, yet competent CO, who was committed to the belief that he could execute his orders in country, and still bring all of his men back alive. Though there is plenty of action and suspense, this is not primarily a blood-and-guts story. The two main themes are how the Company Commander's method of operations played out, and Lt. Babcock's journey, told in anecdotal, diary-like fashion, from being an eager second lieutenant to a seasoned leader of men. His passion for both country and brothers-in-arms comes through loud and clear. As a Marine lieutenant in Viet Nam myself who never made it to the bush, I nonetheless identified with his concerns, apprehensions, actions under fire, and ways of dealing with his men. His story could well have been my own.

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