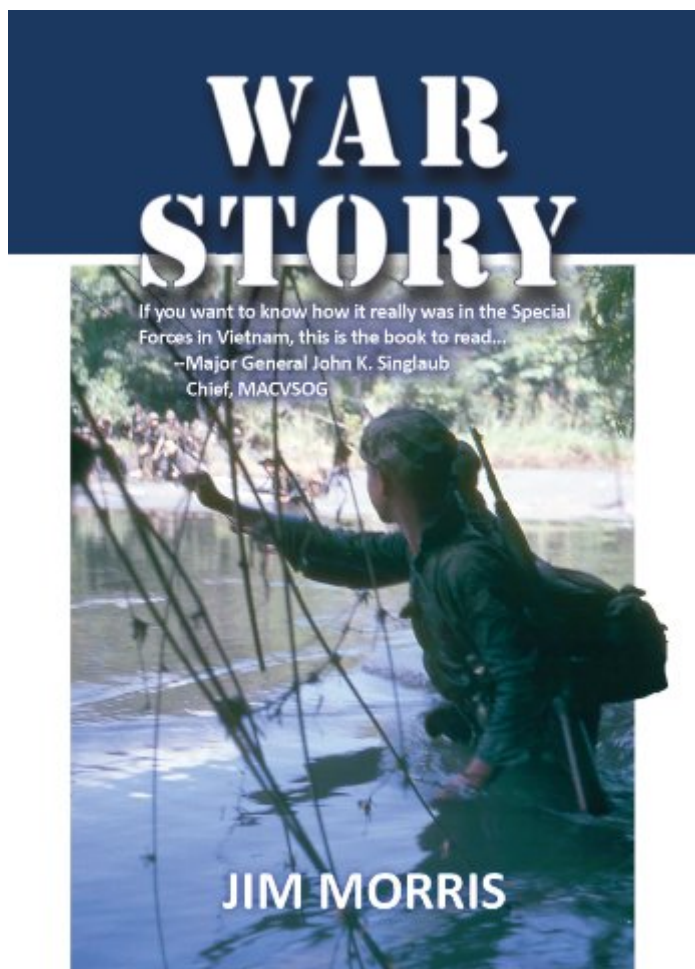




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War Story



Synopsis

“If you want to know how it really was in the Special Forces in Vietnam, this is the book to read—no fantasy, no antiwar message, just a true war story.”

Major General Jack Singlaub, USA (Ret.), former commander, Special Operations Group, Vietnam

“Jim Morris is an unusual case—a writer whose style is spare, controlled, sprung with tension, whose subject matter is war, whose obvious purpose is to tell exactly what it’s like—its dicta impeccably consonant with the Hemingway canon, and yet he is still very much his own man.”

The Editors of Esquire

“War Story is very real, and the low-key approach gives it all the more impact.”

Publishers Weekly

“No other book gives the feel of what it was like to be a Green Beret in Vietnam the way War Story does.”

Lt. Col. Robert K. Brown, Editor and Publisher, Soldier of Fortune

“Morris captures the historical accuracy of Special Operations in the language learned from firsthand experience.”

Lt. Col. Chuck Allen, Commander, Project Delta

“War Story is the lore of Special Forces in Vietnam told in the tradition of Woody Guthrie.”

Al Santoli, author of Everything We Had

“Jim Morris is a highly decorated Green Beret combat veteran, with a unique talent for making his readers feel a part of his gripping, action-packed personal experiences. Morris commands your attention as a reader with the same authority and ability with which he commanded troops in combat.”

J.C. Pollock, author of Mission M.I.A.

Jim Morris was an educated young man who had always wanted to be a soldier. In 1963, he found the perfect war...

The war was like a great puzzle, great to think about, great to plan, great to do. It was so incredibly peaceful out there in the jungle.

As an advisor to a Montagnard strike force, Morris and his guerrillas outfought and outmaneuvered the Viet Cong in his sector. To a Green Beret like Jim Morris, the Yards were brothers—so fiercely insular, they would serve no outsider and made the Berets who fought with them honorary members of the tribe—so valiant, they would follow the right man into a firestorm.

But while he loved the ambushes, the firefights and the Montagnards, he could see a tragedy unfolding in Vietnam.

As I jumped I heard a crack and felt a thud in my right shoulder. I squeezed the trigger on my M-16. The bolt went ka-schlugg and that was that, baby. Jammed again.

In the most widely admired Special Forces memoir to come out of the Vietnam War, Jim Morris tells his story: of the early days and the Tet Offensive in '68, of the slaughters and the beauty, of the violence, the courage, the loyalty and the loss...

The war was my life and I identified with it totally. To end it was to end me, and that I would not do...

About the Author Jim Morris served three tours with Special Forces (The Green Berets) in

Vietnam. The second and third were cut short by serious wounds. He retired from his wounds as a major. He has maintained his interest in the mountain peoples of Vietnam with whom he fought, and has been, for many years, a civil rights activist on their behalf. His Vietnam memoir *War Story* won the first Bernal Diaz Award for military nonfiction. Morris is author of the story from which the film *Operation Dumbo Drop* was made, and has produced numerous documentary television episodes about the Vietnam War. He is author of three books of nonfiction and four novels. He has appeared on MSNBC as a commentator on Special Operations. Visit the author's website at www.jimmorriswarstory.com.

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Customer Reviews

Wow! At first I was somewhat disappointed due to the lack of actual battle accounts. However; somewhere along the line I became so wrapped up in Jim Moore's descriptive story that I forgot all about the field battles and fire fights I find so fascinating. Moore has a great style that is relaxed yet poignant. I was drawn into his friendships with cowboy, his description of the "Yards" and his special love for the people and the country. An expense amount of information without ever becoming boring or overly verbose. A really exceptional account of the real life affairs of a true soldier who somehow

managed to live (and fight) for years in country w/o becoming hateful or cynical. Absolutely amazing life and a story that describes a side of the Vietnam war rarely written about. In addition, the story was told a way I have never seen portrayed more honestly. I highly recommend this book.

I cannot begin to express how much I enjoyed Jim Morris' personal reflection on his time spent in Vietnam as a Green Beret in the early years of the war, as his account truly hits the mark. A vast conflict, affecting hundreds of thousands of lives, where the worst enemy was often misconception and the anally retentive "red tape syndrome" so indicative of any large military machine. Not afraid to say it like it is - we get to meet such legends as "Cowboy", "Luette", and discover the true relationship that existed between the VC, Vietnamese, and indigenous tribes such as the Montagnara... We get to dip into the funny side of life in Vietnam - Jim's account of the time he visited a leper colony in the company of a local missionary and ended up sharing a jug of numpai with the village elder through a shared straw (Yuum) had me crying with laughter. And sadly, we see the poignant heartrending reality too - John Link's story near the end of the book was especially tragic and typifies the cruelty of war. A normal guy doing what he can to save a fellow soldier and paying the ultimate price. (Jim himself was badly injured during that same rescue attempt). And this from a man who's worst fear was getting promoted out and being "8 to 5'd to death in a foul little job in a foul little office", and who never felt more alive or at home than when he was out on patrol in an endless sea of green, doing something he felt was more important than life. If you ever feel the need to read a true life tale that's thoroughly engaging and exposes what the conflict was all about, then War Story is just the thing you need. From one veteran who has lived through the crucible of fire to another... Respect, brother. Respect.

Why did I wait so long to read this book. Some of the information gleaned from this book was old news. Senior leaders that were more interested in furthering their own worn out careers than fighting a war, shocking. The fact that the Vietnamese & the Montagnards didn't get along, another barn burner. However the fact that the Montagnards wanted their own country is something I had never heard of. Perhaps this was the beginning of the management style of military. Don't do anything stupid & you'll get promoted. The people who are eager & ready to go should be turned loose & the rest should be counting blankets at Ft. Greeley staying out of the real soldiers way. War is not a game that you get awards for a tie. You win or lose period. If you don't like the rules then let's stay home & stop wasting our best & brightest.

I did enjoy it in small portions, the worst thing was having to endure the thoughtless and reckless advice and directions of the superior officers, the ones who had never experienced any combat at all, it annoyed me that this went on and still goes on!! Personally I don't think I could respect or admire any of the USA forces, just because they have a dysfunctional leadership.

I have read better and have read worse. The story line was a bit disjointed and at times a bit confusing. I am not sure I would recommend it. There are better choices out there.

The book describe the thoughts that went through the mind of a man who wanted to be a soldier and was a soldier.

Books condition is in great shape.

Great book to read about nam

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