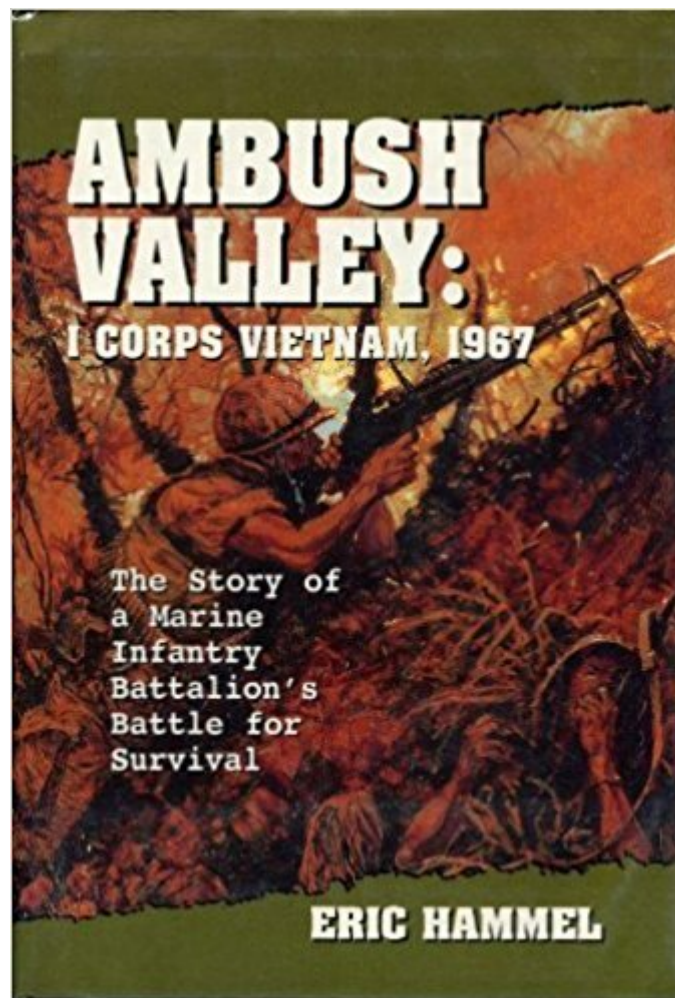




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Ambush Valley: I Corps Vietnam, 1967-The Story Of A Marine Infantry Battalion's Battle For Survival



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When the 3rd Battalion of the 26th Marines moved into position near the DMZ in September '67 they didn't know that an entire North Vietnamese regiment lay close by. Hammel (Khe Sanh) here relates what happened in an integrated series of statements by the surviving Americans. In two battles the Marine battalion lost 40% of its combat strength and barely escaped annihilation. For the Americans the September 7 and 10 contacts exemplified Murphy's Law in action: 3/26 was bombarded by its own artillery, became the target of its own planes, received a minimum of resupply while running low on ammunition, and was subjected to relentless assaults by the 812th NVA Regiment. The desperate defensive tactics as well as the raw emotions of the men are vividly conveyed in this memorable mosaic of concentrated warfare. Superb oral history. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

The Third Battalion, 26th Marines, set out on September 7, 1967, to scout an area near a beleaguered fire base in northern I Corps and were attacked by over twice their number of troops from the disciplined and well-armed People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN). On the 10th, while moving into a new area, they encountered the same unit again, and the PAVN made a concerted attempt to wipe them out. This harrowing action is told almost entirely in the words of the survivors in a style that resembles the script for a documentary. By switching back and forth between voices Hammel is able to reinforce or expand on moments in the action; the device elevates this oral history of small unit action over most of its kind. The voices reflect bravery, loss, the sense of having overcome

impossible obstacles; a solid entry in writings on the Vietnam War by an experienced military historian.- Mel D. Lane, Sacramento, Cal.Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Kindle Edition edition.

This is a heavy book that starts out when Marine Headquarters decides a Marine unit is needed to conduct a Battalion sized operation and the need for able bodied marine is needed. These Marines knew it was going to be a tough fight because of the number of enemy sightings along the DMZ. The ranks were filled with volunteers and short timers. Even marine's that had less than three weeks in country filled in the ranks. I find this part of the book to be tragic because it is not revealed how many of these marine's were either killed or wounded. The story is about marine's being short handed and having rifles that had a tendency to jam in the middle of a fight and this adds to the nightmare. The fighting was intense, it was close in fighting, and with Rockets and mortars pre-set by the NVA to hit the Marines. How many marine's died because their weapons weren't working? It is criminal and yet we are lead to believe that because we inflicted more casualties, than we suffered, it is a victory. I am proud of the job they did and for all their sacrifices. God Bless them and their families.I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the Vietnam war and the history of the United States Marine Corps. Welcome home to all that served.

What a very well put together book written very well I liked the fact that there were names of the people that were involved and the high lighted portions.As a vet of two tours when we actually could of won the war it's nice to see the great job these men did and sorrow for those who did not return..God bless all my brothers those that returned and those that did not..

I've read this book perhaps 5 times, so far. I'm astounded that these guys, these young men, actually went through this traumatic experience. I personally, know one of the participants, a member of India Company, Terry Frievoyle, who survived these battles near Con Thein. His description, and those of the other Marines in this book, are testimony to the bravery and tenaciousness of our fighting men during this confusing time in our countries' history. I don't know how they did it. At that age, I certainly wasn't mature enough to have pulled it off.I can't imagine. I can't.

Good story on marines at the DMZ. My brother in law was one of the young Lieutenants involved this fierce battle with the NVA.

I was inspired to read this book after speaking to my brother-in-law. He is a Vietnam Vet and never speaks about his time there. However, he did graciously answer my questions, when asked. As it turns out, he fought the battle at Khe Sanh with the 3/26 Marines. His memories are the same as what is written in this book. Of course, this book will give you the full story. The author describes this horrific event with such detail that you feel you are there. The misery, the fatigue, the fear, the horror, the unbelievable courage...it's all there. This book should be required reading in high school. Everyone should have some understanding of what a war is really like. Ambush Valley accurately depicts this. A great read.

I enjoy reading books, like this one, where several individuals give their personal account of what happened during a particular battle. It gives us, the reader, a broader view of what actually happens during a skirmish and helps us feel as though we are a part of the ongoing saga. We see the scene(s) unfold as a panorama when viewed from the company, platoon, or squad's perspective. Lastly, I felt as though I grew to know these men personally. I sensed their great anxiety/ fear and the frustrations that accompany traumatic events and was emotionally impacted when their friends were lost or wounded. I would certainly recommend this fine book to others.

Engrossing. The multiple voices at virtually every turn was brilliant. The perspectives in battle are so intense and personal that it is necessary to have many warriors voices heard. The mix of officers and enlisted voices certainly added flavor. I absolutely recommend this book. One downside, as a tanker from Alpha Co. 3rd Marines the author was a little bit harsh on us.

While reading the comments made by the men who fought in this action I couldn't understand how any senior command officer could make this troop commitment without first sending a recon team to gather intelligence about the region and any enemy forces that may be there. Very well written and absolutely a great marine story, as interesting a war story as IADRANG Valley. When is the movie coming out.

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