

Book Review

The Vietnam War from the Other Side: The Vietnamese Communists' Perspective

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The Vietnam War from the Other Side: The Vietnamese Communists' Perspective

Ang Cheng Guan

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The book fills a gap in the field of Vietnam War Studies. As existing books on this topic have been written mostly from an American perspective., the author of the book, Ang Cheng Guan, decided to use Vietnamese, Chinese and former Soviet sources of information, to analyse and discuss the history of the Vietnam War from the Vietnamese communists.

Readers interested in Vietnam War will complement the “traditional” perspective based on Western sources, with this “insider” perspective.

The book *The Vietnam war from the other side. The Vietnamese communists' perspective* is structured into four main chapters: “Prelude to the armed struggle” (Chapter 1), “The armed struggle begins” (Chapter 2), “The armed struggle intensifies” (Chapter 3) and “Breaking the stalemate” (Chapter 4). Although the war was not over till April 1975, the author analyses it till 1969 for several reasons: communists were compelled to evaluate their strategy due to the big casualties in 1968, the death (heart attack) of Ho Chi Minh in Hanou in September 2, 1969. The policy of “Vietnamisation” announced by the new president of USA, Richard Nixon, among others. Later the author published a sequel, *Ending the Vietnam War: The Vietnamese Communists' Perspective*.

The book is targeted for academics, researchers and students interested in Asian Studies, South East Asian Studies and Military Studies.