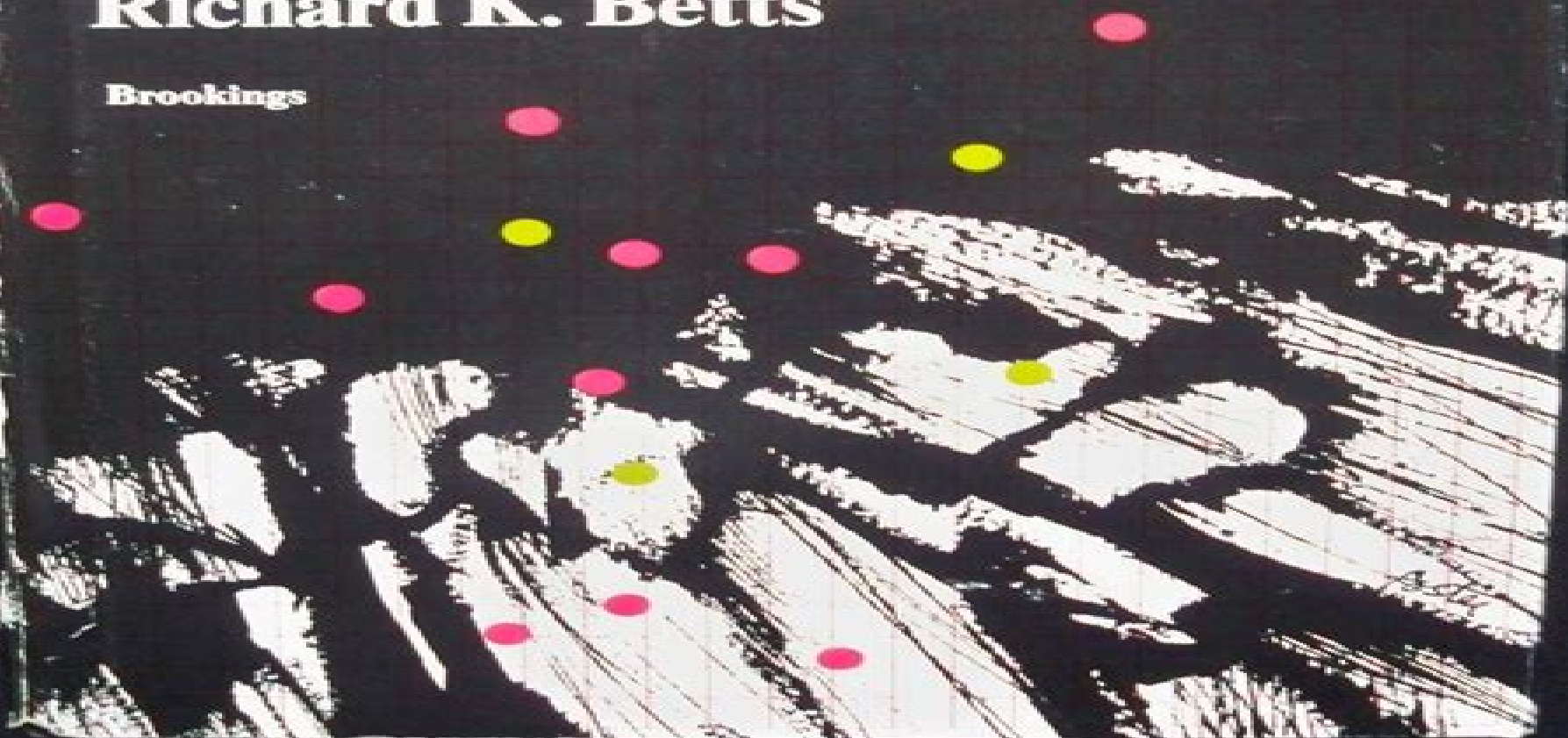


The Irony of Vietnam: The System Worked

Leslie H. Gelb
with
Richard K. Betts

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The Irony Of Vietnam The System Worked

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The Irony Of Vietnam The System Worked:

The Irony of Vietnam Leslie H. Gelb, Richard K. Betts, 2016-05-31 If a historian were allowed but one book on the American involvement in Vietnam this would be it Foreign Affairs When first published in 1979 four years after the end of one of the most divisive conflicts in the United States The Irony of Vietnam raised eyebrows Most students of the war argued that the United States had stumbled into a quagmire in Vietnam through hubris and miscalculation as the New York Times s Fox Butterfield put it But the perspective of time and the opening of documentary sources including the Pentagon Papers had allowed Gelb and Betts to probe deep into the decisionmaking leading to escalation of military action in Vietnam The failure of Vietnam could be laid at the door of American foreign policy they said but the decisions that led to the failure were made by presidents aware of the risks clear about their aims knowledgeable about the weaknesses of their allies and under no illusion about the outcome The book offers a picture of a steely resolve in government circles that while useful in creating consensus did not allow for alternative perspectives In the years since its publication The Irony of Vietnam has come to be considered the seminal work on the Vietnam War

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists ,1979-12 The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists is the premier public resource on scientific and technological developments that impact global security Founded by Manhattan Project Scientists the Bulletin s iconic Doomsday Clock stimulates solutions for a safer world [The Vietnam War: Vietnamese and American Perspectives](#) Jayne Werner, Luu Doan Huynh, 2015-02-18 This volume derives from an unprecedented seminar held at Columbia University s School of International and Public Affairs in November 1990 At the seminar leading Western diplomatic and military historians and Vietnam scholars met with prominent Vietnamese Communists to reflect on the Vietnam War The book contains four parts The Vietnamese Revolution and Political Military strategy the war from the American side the war in the South and Cambodia and retrospective and postwar issues In addition to Jane Werner and Luu Doan Huynh the contributors are Mark Bradley William Duiker David Elliott Christine White George Vickers James Harrison George Herring Ronald Spector Paul Joseph Jeffrey Clarke Ngo Vinh Long Benedict Kiernan Marilyn Young Keith Taylor and Tran Van Tra General Tra was Commander of the People s Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam from 1963 to 1975 His eye opening analysis of the Tet Offensive has never before been available in English

The History of American Foreign Policy from 1895 Jerald A. Combs, Jessica Elkind, 2024-04-01 Now in its fifth edition this volume offers a clear concise and nuanced history of U S foreign relations since the Spanish American War and places that narrative within the context of the most influential historiographical trends and debates The History of American Foreign Policy from 1895 includes both revised and new sections that incorporate insights from recent scholarship on the United States in the world These sections devote more attention to the international framework as well as the domestic constraints under which American foreign policymakers operated This edition also emphasizes the role of non state actors such as missionaries aid workers activists and business leaders in shaping policies and contributing to international relations As a result the text

considers a broader and more diverse range of people and voices than many other histories of U S foreign policy Expanded final chapters bring the story of U S foreign relations to the present and explore some of the contemporary challenges facing American and global leaders including terrorism the effects of climate change China s increasing influence and globalization Updated controversial issues sections and suggestions for further reading at the end of each chapter reflect important contributions from new studies This engaging text is an invaluable resource for students interested in the history of American foreign policy and international relations

Strategic Review ,1989 dedicated to the advancement and understanding of those principles and practices military and political which serve the vital security interests of the United States

Securing the State Dr Christopher P Gibson,2013-03-28 Focusing on top civilian and military advisors within the national security establishment this significant book looks at four case studies with a focus on civil military relations within the US Department of Defense It investigates whether balanced approaches produce more effective policies and outcomes than dominating structures The culmination of Gibson s treatise is the advancement of the Madisonian approach to civilian control of the military a normative framework designed to replace Samuel Huntington s Objective Control model and also the Subjective Control model initially practised by Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and most recently by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld The Madisonian approach calls for changes in US law and new norms to guide the interactions of key participants who populate the civil military nexus This book is destined to influence US strategic thinking and should be added to the syllabus of courses in civil military relations strategic studies and military history Given the struggling US policy in Iraq the time is right for a critical review of US civil military relations and this book provides the departure point for analysis and a potential way forward

The Inevitability of Tragedy Barry Gewen,2020-04-28 A new portrait of Henry Kissinger focusing on the fundamental ideas underlying his policies Realism balance of power and national interest Few public officials have provoked such intense controversy as Henry Kissinger During his time in the Nixon and Ford administrations he came to be admired and hated in equal measure Notoriously he believed that foreign affairs ought to be based primarily on the power relationships of a situation not simply on ethics He went so far as to argue that under certain circumstances America had to protect its national interests even if that meant repressing other countries attempts at democracy For this reason many today on both the right and left dismiss him as a latter day Machiavelli ignoring the breadth and complexity of his thought With The Inevitability of Tragedy Barry Gewen corrects this shallow view presenting the fascinating story of Kissinger s development as both a strategist and an intellectual and examining his unique role in government through his ideas It analyzes his contentious policies in Vietnam and Chile guided by a fresh understanding of his definition of Realism the belief that world politics is based on an inevitable tragic competition for power Crucially Gewen places Kissinger s pessimistic thought in a European context He considers how Kissinger was deeply impacted by his experience as a refugee from Nazi Germany and explores the links between his notions of power and those of his mentor Hans Morgenthau the father of Realism as well as

those of two other German Jewish migrants who shared his concerns about the weaknesses of democracy Leo Strauss and Hannah Arendt *The Inevitability of Tragedy* offers a thoughtful perspective on the origins of Kissinger's sober worldview and argues that a reconsideration of his career is essential at a time when American foreign policy lacks direction

The Rhetoric of War Harvey A. Averch, 2002 In *The Rhetoric of War* Harvey Averch explores the relationship between the a priori policy models that decision makers use in war or peace and policy analysis and provides cost effective alternatives for decision makers in war or peace The Vietnam War serves as a case study of the effectiveness of many models proposed by political scientists historians and policy analysts as capable of improving decision making if only decision makers were persuaded to adopt them

The Perfect War James William Gibson, 2000 In this groundbreaking book Gibson shatters the misled assumptions for America's failure in Vietnam showing how American officials developed a disturbingly limited concept of war what he calls technowar in which all efforts were focused on maximizing the enemy's body count regardless of the means

The Vietnam War James H. Willbanks, 2017-11-22 The Vietnam War remains one of the most contentious events in American history This book is a collection of essays that seeks to examine the current state of scholarship on the war and its aftermath It is divided into five sections which address American presidents and the war the conduct of the war in the field the impact of the Tet Offensive the meaning of the war and its lasting legacies The purpose of the collection is to present the most recent contributions to the continuing academic and scholarly dialogue about one of the most momentous historical events of the twentieth century

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The Irony Of Vietnam The System Worked Introduction

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