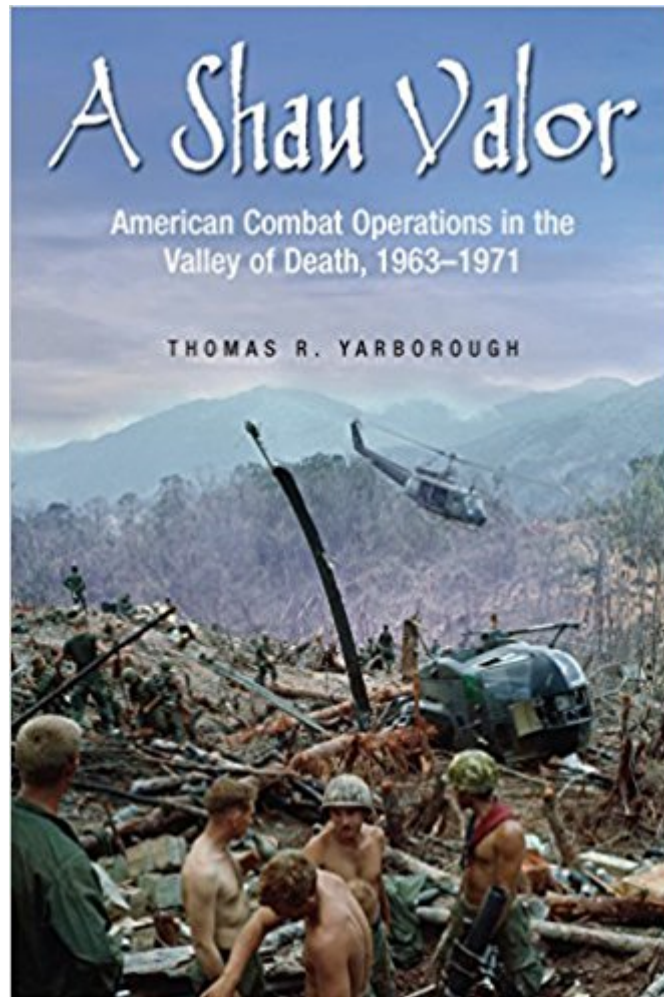


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A Shau Valor: American Combat Operations In The Valley Of Death, 1963-1971



Synopsis

Throughout the Vietnam War, one focal point persisted where the Viet Cong guerrillas and ARVN were not a major factor, but where the trained professionals of the North Vietnamese and U.S. armies repeatedly fought head-to-head. A Shau Valor is a thoroughly documented study of nine years of American combat operations encompassing the crucial frontier valley and a 15-mile radius around itâ€”the most deadly killing ground of the entire Vietnam War. Beginning in 1963 Special Forces A-teams established camps along the valley floor, followed by a number of top-secret Project Delta reconnaissance missions through 1967. Then, U.S. Army and Marine Corps maneuver battalions engaged in a series of sometimes controversial thrusts into the A Shau designed to disrupt NVA infiltrations and to kill enemy soldiers, part of what came to be known as Westmorelandâ€™s â€œwar of attrition.â€”The various campaigns included Operation Pirous in 1967, 1968â€™s Operations Delaware and Somerset Plain, 1969â€™s Operations Dewey Canyon, Massachusetts Striker, and Apache Snowâ€”which included the infamous battle for Hamburger Hillâ€”culminating with Operation Texas Star and the vicious fight for and humiliating evacuation of Fire Support Base Ripcord in the summer of 1970, the last major U.S. battle of the war. By 1971 the fighting had once again shifted to the realm of small Special Forces reconnaissance teams assigned to the ultra-secret Studies and Observations Groupâ€”SOG. Other works have focused on individual battles or units, but A Shau Valor is the first to study the nine-year campaignâ€”for all its courage and sacrificeâ€”chronologically and within the context of other historical, political and cultural events.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I was in the 101st in the '68-'69 time period and was aware of the significance of the A Shau, the NVA effectiveness and the terrible weather. The author covers these in detail. He also brings in the political, press, and other considerations that impacted and does a masterful job. I was amazed at the descriptions of some of the individuals involved. Spot on. I highly recommend this book. There were so many lessons learned and I would hope we take heed.

Well-written account of A Shau operations during the Vietnam war. Takes an objective approach, describing successes and failures of American troops against the highly fortified and determined NVA stronghold. Read in conjunction with Zaffiri's book on Hamburger Hill and Boccia's memoir of the same battle to get a comprehensive view of the situation. Yarborough's account is excellent on its own, however, and I recommend it highly.

A great read, full of accurate accounts of individual and unit acts of heroism in one of the most challenging battlefields of the Vietnam War. Colonel Yarborough has written his book, as if he were there, in a way that pulls you into the story and makes it hard to put down. He was there. A must read. My time in Vietnam: 1st Cav 66-68, SOG-CCN 69-71.

A very interesting book about some Major Battles and some even lesser-known Battles in the A Shau Valley. It was very intense reading. Once I started, I didn't want to put it down!! Had it read in 2 Days!! A FIVE STAR BOOK ALL THE WAY!!

An excellent review of the fighting in the A Shau, however it suffers from digressions to fighting in other areas of Vietnam as well as a very great emphasis on special forces operations in an apparent effort to bulk up the volume.

This book is a thorough examination of the strategic, operational and tactical levels of war involved in the A Shau Valley. The book is extremely well written and worth the time to read and reflect upon. Great job!

It is nice to read a book on Vietnam where the author knows what he's writing about

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