

The first document is a caricature of the Vietnam war « You Peaceniks burn come up ! » in 1968. We can see the famous photography of the little girl, naked and suffered from napalm bombing. The second document is a testimony of an american soldier, Fred Widmer in 1969.

Why did the USA lose the Vietnam war ?

For the first document, in the background, we can see some children running to flee the explosions of napalm. It is a toxic gaz used by the americans during the war to kill the vietnamese. In the middle, there is a little girl who is naked and she's screaming because she is burning, we can see her bones. At the left corner, there is a man who carry a child. May be their is dead. He seems to be burnt. At the right corner, we can see the principal character of the film « full metal jacket ». He's holding a panel « stop the killing ». It talks about the vietnam war He is wearing a peace sign. In front of him, there is a rich american who is sitting in an armchair. He doesn't care about the war and civilians killed by the napalm gaz, and so by the american. We can see that because of the newspaper on the floor. He points out the man of « full metal jacket ».

The Vietnam war during between 1964 to 1973. The americans are intervned to fight against communism of the Vietnam.

For the 2nd document, the american soldier is traumatised by the Vietnam war and by experience of soldier, he says « you could go through that village later and get shot at by a sniper. The americans killed everyone even civilians who didn't practiced communism. The working conditions : « we were trying to work with these people, they were basically doing a number on us. » he talks about a villag. The war destroyed him because he saw innocent civilians killed « you didn't trust anybody ». Some people was wrongly judged : « Nobody knew anything ».

These documents show that the soldiers and the public opinion were against the war. The symbol of peace and love on his jacket reminds us the birth of the hippie movement in the 60's, which is an answer to violence and unfairness of the war. The soldier seems to be Matthew Modine in his rôle in « full metal jacket ».

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