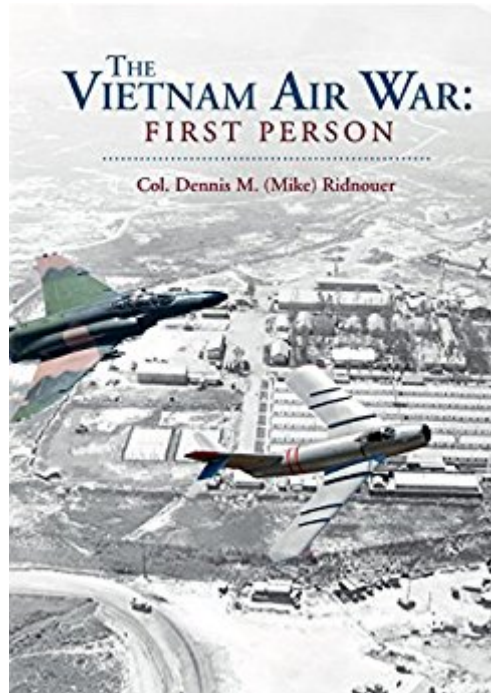




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The Vietnam Air War: First Person



Synopsis

As Dennis M. (Mike) Ridnour writes in the foreword of his new oral history, *The Vietnam Air War: First Person*, over five million missions were flown in the Vietnam War. The many pilots, crew, and support personnel who risked their lives daily don't deserve to fade into obscurity. Unhappy with the lack of first-person retellings of the war, Ridnour made it his new mission to preserve these men's tales of bravery and duty. The result is more than one hundred stories from the front lines of the war. Air Force Fighter Pilots, Weapon Systems Operators (WSOs), and Electronic Warfare Officers (EWOs), recount their stories of air-to-air engagements, near misses, successes, and failures. A pilot explains why he buys a drink for every tanker driver he meets. An airman explains what a Thud is. A veteran vividly describes his homecoming. These stories and others provide a much different account of the war than those found in history books. The pages come alive with perilous missions and skilled maneuvers. Airmen from all walks of life were united during the war, and their tales include stirring accounts of friendship and comradery.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

ara. Many missions were suicidal and many young, fine men were lost. The war accomplished

nothing. Rules of engagement were stupid. Why have restrictions in any war?

I bought this book because my father was a contributor. I remember him telling me stories of his actions and it is rewarding to see it in print along with narratives from other folks he fought with. Thank you so much for immortalizing these events from this perspective.

Factual accounts of the air war in SEA, told by the fellows that were there.

This book is an excellent overview of the air war in Vietnam.

A fun and accurate view. I flew with Mike, he was great fighter pilot.

I liked it so much because any of the tales could have been me. Mike has put together a terrific collection of personal experiences by the fighter pilots and crew members who flew those missions.

good reading

-30-

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