

## The Brown Water Navy In The Mekong Delta Coin In

The Brown Water Navy, created in less than one year, conducted successful counterinsurgency operations against the Viet Cong only to be marginalized by its own government's policy of Vietnamization. In 1964 the Viet Cong were firmly entrenched in the Mekong Delta region. Using fear and terror tactics, the insurgency gained control of the population, creating a safe haven for the movement to thrive and expand. The United States and the Government of South Vietnam recognized the infiltration problem in the Mekong Delta but their military organizations were either unable or incapable to deal with the problem. The geography of the region made it impossible for a U.S. Army or Marine Corps division to operate effectively and the South Vietnamese Army and Navy lacked the training and equipment to operate successfully. In response to these obstacles, Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, commissioned the U.S. Navy to develop a fighting force capable of operating in the delta and ridding the region of the Viet Cong influence. The Navy used for main Operations MARKET TIME, GAME WARDEN, The Mobile Riverine Force, and SEALORDS to achieve these goals. In four short years the Brown Water Sailors experienced marked success with Viet Cong influence minimized and resupply efforts rerouted to the tortuous Ho Chi Minh Trail. However, by the end of 1968, American resolve to fight a war in South Vietnam had deteriorated and the Government needed a way out. President Nixon's Vietnamization program provided the exit for American forces and in turn mitigated the Brown Water Navy's successes of the previous four years. The Brown Water Navy overcame tremendous obstacles in less than one year to create and deploy a formidable fighting force to the Mekong Delta. In four years aggressive strides against the Viet Cong insurgency were achieved only to be mitigated by the effects of Vietnamization.

War in the Shallows, published in 2015 by the Naval History and Heritage Command, is the authoritative account of the U.S. Navy's hard-fought battle along Vietnam's rivers and coastline from 1965-1968. At the height of the U.S. Navy's involvement in the Vietnam War, the Navy's coastal and riverine forces included more than 30,000 Sailors and over 350 patrol vessels ranging in size from riverboats to destroyers. These forces developed the most extensive

maritime blockade in modern naval history and fought pitched battles against Viet Cong units in the Mekong Delta and elsewhere. *War in the Shallows* explores the operations of the Navy's three inshore task forces from 1965 to 1968. It also delves into other themes such as basing, technology, tactics, and command and control. Finally, using oral history interviews, it reconstructs deckplate life in South Vietnam, focusing in particular on combat waged by ordinary Sailors. Vietnam was the bloodiest war in recent naval history and *War in the Shallows* strives above all else to provide insight into the men who fought it and honor their service and sacrifice. Illustrated throughout with photographs and maps. Author John Darrell Sherwood has served as a historian with the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) since 1997. -- Provided by publisher.

The United States Navys fight for control of the waters of Southeast Asia. By far the greatest contribution of the narrative is the insight it provides into the hows and whys of United States involvement in Vietnam, and the attempt of that involvement to bring freedom to those who were unable to achieve it by their own efforts. We see the United States more as a caretaker and less as a policeman in terms of motivation for its involvement half a world away. And we see the tremendous price paid by those who served to ensure that freedom ordinary men who, by fate, were thrown together in a strange land, and who fulfilled a part of their destiny, and their Nations, on the brown water. Weldon Bleiler

From 1972 to 1982, approximately 1,500-2,100 US Air Force Reserve personnel trained and worked on C-123 aircraft that had formerly been used to spray herbicides in Vietnam as part of Operation Ranch Hand. After becoming aware that some of the aircraft on which they had worked had previously served this purpose, some of these AF Reservists applied to the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for compensatory coverage under the Agent Orange Act of 1991. The Act provides health care and disability coverage for health conditions that have been deemed presumptively service-related for herbicide exposure during the Vietnam War. The VA denied the applications on the basis that these veterans were ineligible because as non-Vietnam-era veterans or as Vietnam-era veterans without "boots on the ground" service in Vietnam, they were not covered. However, with the knowledge that some air and wipe samples taken between 1979

and 2009 from some of the C-123s used in Operation Ranch Hand showed the presence of agent orange residues, representatives of the C-123 Veterans Association began a concerted effort to reverse VA's position and obtain coverage. At the request of the VA, Post-Vietnam Dioxin Exposure in Agent Orange-Contaminated C-123 Aircraft evaluates whether or not service in these C-123s could have plausibly resulted in exposures detrimental to the health of these Air Force Reservists. The Institute of Medicine assembled an expert committee to address this question qualitatively, but in a scientific and evidence-based fashion. This report evaluates the reliability of the available information for establishing exposure and addresses and places in context whether any documented residues represent potentially harmful exposure by characterizing the amounts available and the degree to which absorption might be expected. Post-Vietnam Dioxin Exposure rejects the idea that the dioxin residues detected on interior surfaces of the C-123s were immobile and effectively inaccessible to the Reservists as a source of exposure. Accordingly, this report states with confidence that the Air Force Reservists were exposed when working in the Operation Ranch Hand C-123s and so experienced some increase in their risk of a variety of adverse responses.

Riverine

A Pictorial History of the Brown Water War in Vietnam  
War in the Shallows

Swift Boat Veterans Speak Out Against John Kerry

Warfare on the Rivers and Canals of Vietnam

Union Sailors, Gunboat Captains, and the Campaign to Control the River

Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam

**One of the Navy's brown-water sailors--the soldiers who patrolled the Mekong Delta's Bassac River in hot-rodged cabin cruisers--describes his experiences during the Vietnam War.**

Reprint. PW.

"R. Blake Dunnavent traces the evolution of riverine warfare in U.S. military operations from its informal inception in the 18th century to its establishment as a formal doctrine in the 20th century. As the key to understanding the emergence, development, and later adoption of this particular military strategy, he examines the conflicts in which riverine tactics figured prominently: the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Second Seminole War, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Rio Grande Patrol, the Philippine-American War/Yangtze River Patrol, and the Vietnam War." "Materials from the National Archives, Navy Operational Archives, Marine Corps Archives, Library of Congress, and private collections

serve as the basis for his investigation. Engraving, drawings, photographs, and detailed maps enable the reader to visualize the events described in each chapter. Relatively little else has been published with regard to the United States' role on inland waterways, domestic or international. For military historians as well as buffs, Brown Water Warfare fills a historical gap as the only complete study for those interested in U.S. riverine military history." --BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Those heady days at the Naval Academy in Annapolis just four years earlier now seem so long ago. Here he is, lying face down in a muddy ditch on some remote and forsaken island in the Cua Dai River in Vietnam in the middle of the night. He has been blown off a boat, and is evading capture. Bullets hitting the river water near him as he desperately sought a bit of land, and now whizzing over his head keep him aware that his location is known to his tormentors. He assumes that he will momentarily be dead. He is exhausted, bleeding from wounds, and the mosquitoes seem plentiful enough to carry him away. He can hear the staccato voices of an enemy search party looking for him. He is nearly in tears, wondering if they will simply shoot him, drive a bayonet through his back, or worse, take him captive with years of torture and agony ahead. Within moments they were directly above him. As he holds his breath tightly, he cannot stop his heart from racing wildly. Can they possibly hear that?? He can now even smell them. This surely could be it. This book recounts that night and the other 365 days that the author spent as a U.S. Navy advisor to the Vietnamese Navy Junk Force. Bob Andretta's assignment in Vietnam turned out to be as dangerous, or even more so, than he had anticipated. For him, it was the best and the worst of experiences. It thrust him into the role more of a Marine than a naval officer. He had to scramble to try to make up for the fact that he really was not prepared or trained like a Marine, notwithstanding the six months at the advisors' school. The combat experiences were astonishing. The violence and the danger were disconcerting. Throughout all those experiences, Bob grew to love the Vietnamese people and the activities he was able to undertake to help them. Looking back now, Bob has no idea why he was allowed to survive when so many other Americans did not come home to live out their lives. But he did, and this is the story of that most interesting, challenging, perplexing, terrifying, gratifying, life-changing year of his life. "Bob Andretta is that rare individual who combined aggressiveness as a warrior and empathy for the Vietnamese people. As an advisor to the Vietnamese Navy in a remote and dangerous outpost he pursued the war with innovation and vigor. As a human being, he found ways to minimize the impacts of the war on non-combatants. Both qualities frequently led him into dangerous situations. While the U.S. military command was counting bodies, Bob was winning hearts and minds through his self-initiated and compassionate aid to civilians." Doug Burgess, Officer-in-Charge, U.S. Navy Swift Boat "Bob Andretta has combined his good humor and exceptional writing capability to create one of the great memoirs of the Vietnam War. Coming off tours as a division officer on two guided missile destroyers, he was assigned to the Vietnamese Navy's junk force as an advisor. His vivid portrayals of the pace of life on his base, the sharply defined personalities surrounding him, and the stress of combat all bring his year "in country" to life. Full of insightful, sometimes humorous, and often searing observations, this is a book for anyone interested in a little known piece of the larger Vietnam conflict. Bob's book is a must read!" James R. Stark, RADM, USN (Ret) "Andretta has

written a genuine thriller about his 1969 tour of duty in Vietnam. His descriptions of the events and dangers of warfare on the Cua Dai River are truly memorable. Andretta's concern for his fellow combatants and the Vietnamese people is clearly evident."Colonel (Ret) L. Nick Lacey, USAF

U.S. Navy Radioman Tom Johnson had the experience of serving back-to-back tours to Vietnam, one with the brown water Navy and one with the blue water Navy, which if not unique was likely not common either. This is a narrative of his journey from boot camp to the Mekong Delta Vietnam and his tour aboard a WWII LST, the USS Jennings County, as part of the TF 116 Riverine Force. He recounts life aboard this river patrolling LST as she plied the river systems of the Mekong Delta with her detachments of PBR patrol boats and Seawolf helicopters. The period covered was from 1967 to 1968, which included the January 1968 Tet offensive. Tom would return for a second tour shortly after completing his tour aboard the USS Jennings County and returning home where he reported aboard his new command the USS Stribling. In January 1969 the USS Stribling departed Mayport, Florida on a long sea voyage to the Tonkin Gulf off the Vietnamese coast and deployment with the blue water navy where Gun line and Yankee Station duties kept the ship busy. The Stribling remained on station in the Tonkin Gulf until August 1969 when she returned to Mayport. Tom starts his narrative when he joins the Navy and goes through his boot camp period, his first year in Key West then a six-month Radioman school after then his deployments to Vietnam. In all he spent the last two-and-a-half years of his first four-year enlistment either deployed to Vietnam, preparing to deploy or traveling to, or from, that country. This is his recounting of his tours in Vietnam and is written as a personal recounting only and not as a historical narrative.

On Board U.S. Navy Swift Boats in Vietnam

The Brown Water Navy & Visits to Vietnam

Swift Boats at War in Vietnam

Brown Water, Bloody Rivers

The Union and Confederate Navies, 1861-1865

An Illustrated Design History

Changes in United States Navy Riverine Warfare Capabilities from the Vietnam War to Operation Iraqi Freedom

*The true story of an elite group of men who wrote a page in Naval history. They patrolled the waterways in thirty-one foot river patrol boats powered by Detroit diesel engines with water jet-propulsion. Armed with machineguns and grenade launchers, as well as sheer guts and determination, these sailors faced danger around every bend in the river. Working together, they became one of the finest weapons in Admiral Zumwalt's arsenal for turning back the tide of communist infiltration into Saigon, taking control of the inland waterways. These are true accounts of their bravery, which they proved time and again by spearheading operations into enemy controlled territory. United together in brotherhood, they accomplished all their missions and won their part of the Vietnam War.*

*BROWN WATER NAVY is the thrilling day-to-day life of a young seaman*

*fighting for survival on the war torn, deadly canals and rivers of Vietnam as a "River Rat" with the U.S. Navy's Mobile Riverine Force. Seaman Ron McAbee, a Monitor 20mm gunner with the 92nd River Assault Division, tells his story in a down to earth memoir of what it was like to be on a moving target going eye-to-eye with VC Forces doing their level best to destroy his Monitor as VC Forces attempted to deny the Delta and IV Corps to US and South Vietnam Forces. BROWN WATER NAVY may very well become one of the epic stories of U.S. Naval Operations during the Vietnam War. 208 pages, 49 photos and illustrations.*

*This work describes riverine combat during the Vietnam War, emphasizing the operations of the U.S. Navy's River Patrol Force, which conducted Operation Game Warden; the U.S. Army-Navy Mobile Riverine Force, the formation that General William Westmoreland said "saved the Mekong Delta" during the Tet Offensive of 1968; and the Vietnam Navy. An important section details the SEALORDS combined campaign, a determined effort by U.S. Navy, South Vietnamese Navy, and allied ground forces to cut enemy supply lines from Cambodia and disrupt operations at base areas deep in the delta. The author also covers details on the combat vessels, helicopters, weapons, and equipment employed in the Mekong Delta as well as the Vietnamese combatants (on both sides) and American troops who fought to secure Vietnam's waterways. Special features focus on the ubiquitous river patrol boats (PBRs) and the Swift boats (PCFs), river warfare training, Vice Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., the Black Ponies aircraft squadron, and Navy SEALs. This publication may be of interest to history scholars, veterans, students in advanced placement history classes, and military enthusiasts given the continuing impact of riverine warfare on U.S. naval and military operations in the 21st century. Special Publicity Tie-In: Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War (Commemoration dates: 28 May 2012 - 11 November 2025). This is the fifth book in the series, "The U.S. Navy and the Vietnam War." TABLE OF CONTENTS Introduction The First Indochina War The Vietnam Navy River Force and American Advisors The U.S. Navy and the Rivers of Vietnam SEALORDS The End of the Line for U.S. and Vietnamese River Forces Sidebars: The PBR Riverine Warfare Training Battle Fleet of the Mekong Delta High Drama in the Delta Vice Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. Black Ponies The Swift Boat Warriors with Green Faces Suggested Reading For those men and women who served in Vietnam and are curious as to what the Navy did there. For Vietnam veteran families and friends. For the young and old who want to know more about that particularly turbulent period from 1968-71, both here at home and in Vietnam. This is a memoir that combines hundreds of stories and memories into a narrative about a young man who begins his story at the draft board in Houston, and ends it on his last day of active duty in Seattle, and all that happened in between. It captures the mood of the young people of the day, while following the maturation of a green Naval officer into a confident Vietnam veteran. Essentially a view of daily life in the Navy of 40 years ago, it is abundant in*

*characters, places and events that challenge the imagination.*

*River Rats*

*Brown Water Warfare*

*A Brown-water Sailor in the Delta, 1967*

*My Year As an Advisor to the Vietnamese Navy Junk Force*

*A House Divided*

*Brown Water, Black Berets*

*The Civil War on the Mississippi*

A heavily-illustrated coffee-table book on U.S. Naval operations in the Vietnam War.

You-are-there stories of ambushes and patrols on the Mekong in the Vietnam War Developed specifically for the Vietnam War (and made famous by the 2004 presidential campaign), Swift Boats were versatile craft “big enough to outrun anything they couldn’t outfight” but too small to handle even a moderate ocean chop, too loud to sneak up on anyone, and too flimsy to withstand the mildest of rocket attacks. This made more difficult an already tough mission: navigating coastal waters for ships and sampans smuggling contraband to the Viet Cong, disrupting enemy supply lines on the rivers and canals of the Mekong Delta, and inserting SEALs behind enemy lines. The stories in this book cover the Swift Boats’ early years, which saw search-and-inspect operations in Vietnam’s coastal waters, and their later years, when the Swift Boats’ mission shifted to the Mekong Delta’s labyrinth of 3,000 miles of rivers, streams, and canals. This is an intimate, exciting oral history of Swift Boats at war in Vietnam.

While many people believed that the Confederate States of America was doomed to failure from the start because it was essentially an impracticable theory, Robert E. Lee claimed it was not the government but the leaders that failed. In *The Enduring Relevance of Robert E. Lee* Marshall L. DeRosa uses the American Civil War and the figure of Robert E. Lee to consider the role of political leadership under extremely difficult circumstances and the proper response to those circumstances. DeRosa examines Lee as a politician rather than just a military leader and finds that many of Lee’s assertions are still relevant today.

This comical adventure begins for Charles Edwards after reporting to Vietnam as a member of the Brown Water Navy stationed in the Mekong Delta assigned to the Mobile Riverine Task Force 117. With a little help from his friend, Petty Officer Dan, Charles quickly matures from his humble beginnings as an 18-year-old city boy from Baltimore. For Vietnam veterans, this story will bring back precious memories that will make them say, "Yeah, I remember doing stuff like that. That part of the war was fun." For those who never served in the military will find this an enjoyable eye-opener to military life. *Operation Sealords: A Front In A Frontless War, An Analysis Of The Brown-Water Navy In Vietnam*

*Time to Go Home...*

*U.S. Small Combatants, Including PT-boats, Subchasers, and the Brown-water Navy*

A Vietnam Journey

Three Tastes of Nuoc Mam

Brown Water Navy

The Rise and Fall of the Brown Water Navy

Briefly traces the history of river warfare, looks at French military operations in Indo-China, and looks at the combat operations of United States and Vietnamese river forces. The US Navy did not possess any inland river patrol forces prior to the Vietnam War and had only a handful of coastal patrol boats, despite the lessons of our country's past and of other contemporaries. France, in her ill fated campaign to maintain the Indochina colonies, used the rivers of Southeast Asia extensively to transport and support their military forces. The South Vietnamese Army and Navy continued the practice. American advisors noted their operations and by 1968, three naval task forces comprised of over 600 vessels were operating on the waterways and coasts of Vietnam. The author, LCDR Jason Scheffer, USN tells the compelling story of the rise and fall of the "Brown Water Navy".

During the War, Vietnam's coast had to be protected against Viet Cong ambushes and smuggling. The U.S. forces had destroyers, cruisers and gargantuan aircraft carriers, none suited for inshore patrol. This is the story of the Brown Water Navy, the garage-band flotilla assembled to do the job. Douglas Branson has been to Vietnam several times, including trips in 1966, 1995 and 2011. The first time, he was a 22-year-old, Brown Water Navy lieutenant JG. Subsequent visits were as a consultant/tourist. Here, Branson recounts three of his Vietnam adventures with humor, detail and insight into the economic, political and gastronomic forces at work.

A memoir of heroism, comradeship, danger, and laughter aboard a Vietnam patrol craft, as a small crew grew into a seasoned combat team. Includes photos. During the Vietnam War, 3500 officers and men served in the Swift Boat program in a fleet of 130 boats with no armor plating. The boats patrolled the coast and rivers of South Vietnam, facing deadly combat, intense lightning firefights, storms, and many hidden dangers. This action-packed account by the Officer in Charge of PCF 76 makes you part of the Swift Boat crew. The six-man crew of PCF 76 was made up of volunteers from all over the United States, eager to serve their

country in a unique type of duty not seen since the PT boats of WWII. This inexperienced and disparate group of men would meld into a team that formed an unbreakable lifelong bond. After training, they were plunged into a twelve-month tour of duty. Combat took place in the closest confines imaginable, where the enemy could be hidden behind a passing sand dune or a single sniper could be concealed in an onshore bunker. In many cases, the rivers became so narrow there was barely room to maneuver or turn around. The only way out might be into a deadly ambush. This is not a Vietnam memoir filled with political discussions or apologies. It simply tells the stories of these young, valiant sailors with humor and heartfelt emotion—in a suspenseful, surprising book that pays tribute to these sailors who, upon returning home, asked little of their country and received less.

Slavery and American Politics from the Constitution to the Civil War

The River and Coastal War in Indo-China and Vietnam, 1948-1972

Stories of Life in the Navy and in Vietnam

Riverine Craft of the Vietnam Wars

Mr. Lincoln's Brown Water Navy

Combat at Close Quarters

The Enduring Relevance of Robert E. Lee

**Traces the evolution of the destroyer from 1906 to the present and examines the design and construction of the various models of American destroyers.**

**The 'ShipCraft' series provides in-depth information about building and modifying model kits of famous warship types. Lavishly illustrated, each book takes the modeller through a brief history of the subject, highlighting differences between ships and changes in their appearance over their careers. This includes paint schemes and camouflage, featuring colour profiles and highly detailed line drawings and scale plans. The modelling section reviews the strengths and weaknesses of available kits, lists commercial accessory sets for super-detailing of the subjects, and provides hints on modifying and improving the basic kit. This is followed by an extensive photographic gallery of selected high-quality models in a variety of scales, and the book concludes with a section on research references - books, monographs, large-scale plans and relevant websites. This volume is something of a departure for the series in covering a wide variety of the types, at first improvised and then purpose-built**

for the Brown Water conflict. Besides the well-known American involvement, the book also covers some of the craft used by the French in their earlier struggle with Vietnamese guerrillas. With its unparalleled level of visual information - paint schemes, models, line drawings and photographs - this book is simply the best reference for any modelmaker setting out to build one of these unusual craft.

"The Union inland navy that became the Mississippi Squadron is one of the least studied aspects of the Civil War. Without it, however, the war in the West may not have been won, and the war in the East might have lasted much longer and perhaps ended differently ... Specialized craft operated in the narrow confines of the western rivers in places that could not otherwise receive fire support. They protected army forces and convoyed much-needed supplies ... They patrolled thousands of miles of rivers and fought battles that were every bit as harrowing as land engagements yet inside iron monsters that created stifling heat with little ventilation. This book is about the intrepid men who fought under these conditions and the highly improvised boats in which they fought. The tactics their commanders developed were the basis for many later naval operations. Of equal importance were lessons learned about what not to do. The flag officers and admirals of the Mississippi Squadron wrote the rules for modern riverine warfare"--Preface.

Flowing from its source in northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico, the Mississippi River borders or passes through ten different states and serves as one of the most important transportation systems in the United States. During the Civil War, both sides believed that whoever controlled the river would ultimately be victorious. Cotton exports generated much-needed revenue for the Confederacy, and the Mississippi was also the main conduit for the delivery of materials and food. Similarly, the Union sought to maintain safe passage from St. Louis, Missouri, to Cairo, Illinois, but also worked to bisect the South by seizing the river as part of the Anaconda Plan. Drawing heavily on the diaries and letters of officers and common sailors, Barbara Brooks Tomblin explores the years during which the Union navy fought to win control of the Mississippi. Her approach provides fresh insight into major battles such as Memphis and Vicksburg, but also offers fascinating perspectives on lesser-known aspects of the conflict from ordinary sailors engaged in brown-water warfare. These men speak of going ashore in foraging parties, assisting the surgeon in the amputation of a fellow crewman's arm, and liberating supplies of whiskey from captured enemy vessels. They also offer candid assessments of their commanding officers, observations of the local people

living along the river, and their views on the war. The Civil War on the Mississippi not only provides readers with a comprehensive and vivid account of the action on the western rivers; it also offers an incredible synthesis of first-person accounts from the front lines.

**Iron Butterfly**

**Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure**

**My Tours with the Brown Water and Blue Water Navy Task Force 116**

**Riverine Patrol Force and Tonkin Gulf Yankee Station**

**Brown-, Green-, and Blue-water Fleets**

**The Chinese Navy**

**Brownwater Iii**

**Changes in US Navy Riverine Warfare Capabilities**

Lindberg and Todd methodically show how geography has shaped the strategy, tactics, and tools of naval warfare. Alfred T. Mahan was perhaps the first naval professional to recognize and acknowledge fully the influence of geography on navies and naval warfare. Many of his principles of seapower were inherently geographical and influenced both what kind of naval force a state would possess and how it would be utilized. In the time that has passed since Mahan made his observations, naval warfare and navies have experienced major technological changes, yet geographical factors continue to exert their influence on how navies fight, how they are structured, and the design of the ships that they deploy. Slavery is one of the central, most enduringly significant facts of U.S. history. It loomed like a dark cloud over the country's birth at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and shaped the most important nodes of American history before the Civil War. Even today, the country continues to debate its past as it relates to slavery, and the political and geographic contours of human bondage endure into the twenty-first century. In a deeply researched, wide-ranging book, retired journalist Ben McNitt tells the story of how slavery shaped American politics—and indeed the American story—from the Founding until the Civil War. McNitt's sharp narrative covers people and events that still resonate: Thomas Jefferson, John Calhoun, Andrew Jackson, the slave revolts of Denmark Vesey and Nat Turner, the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, abolitionists like William Lloyd Garrison and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, John Brown and Harpers Ferry, fire-eating secessionists, and the rise of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency. No other single work covers this topic as comprehensively and accessibly.

The true story of Bronze Star recipient Allen Weseleskey and his high-risk rescue mission, carried out under heavy fire in Vietnam. Includes photos. When the going is fast and rough, I will not falter. I will be uncompromising in every blow I strike. I will be humble in victory. I am a United States Navy Flyer. —from "A Navy Flyer's Creed" Barely a month after the start of the Tet Offensive in 1968, a Navy flyer applied this creed—and dared to risk not only his career but also his and his fellow aircrewmen's lives in rescuing a wounded US Army advisor only moments from certain battlefield death. The pilot, Lt. Cdr. Allen E. "Wes" Weseleskey, had been assigned to the Navy's Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron Three, the "Seawolves," at the Vinh Long Army Airfield. His controversial mission took place in March 1968 in the Mekong Delta region. Two ARVN companies were being overwhelmed and despite coming under heavy fire, Weseleskey decided to go in

and rescue as many survivors as possible. The accompanying Seawolf was forced to turn back after taking hits, but Weseleskey, with the agreement of his crew, persisted—flying so low under the treeline that they were out of reach of the VC rocket launchers. Weseleskey was awarded the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Navy Cross during his service. This is his story, from early assignments, clashes with superior officers, missions and rescues during the Tet Offensive, to homecoming. It is the story of a quintessential flyer, an American hero who was prepared to speak his mind and take risks—and of the vital role of the Seawolves in the Vietnam War.

Although previously undervalued for their strategic impact because they represented only a small percentage of total forces, the Union and Confederate navies were crucial to the outcome of the Civil War. In *War on the Waters*, James M. McPherson has crafted an enlightening, at times harrowing, and ultimately thrilling account of the war's naval campaigns and their military leaders.

McPherson recounts how the Union navy's blockade of the Confederate coast, leaky as a sieve in the war's early months, became increasingly effective as it choked off vital imports and exports. Meanwhile, the Confederate navy, dwarfed by its giant adversary, demonstrated daring and military innovation. Commerce raiders sank Union ships and drove the American merchant marine from the high seas. Southern ironclads sent several Union warships to the bottom, naval mines sank many more, and the Confederates deployed the world's first submarine to sink an enemy vessel. But in the end, it was the Union navy that won some of the war's most important strategic victories--as an essential partner to the army on the ground at Fort Donelson, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Mobile Bay, and Fort Fisher, and all by itself at Port Royal, Fort Henry, New Orleans, and Memphis.

*The Ideological Warfare Underpinning the American Civil War*

*U.S. Navy Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam, 1965-1968*

*Post-Vietnam Dioxin Exposure in Agent Orange-Contaminated C-123 Aircraft*

*The Brown Water Navy in the Mekong Delta: COIN in the Littorals and Inland Waters*

*The Brown Water Navy*

*The Influence of Geography on Naval Warfare, 1861 to the Present*

*War on the Waters*

**The story continues for Seaman Charles Edwards following the cliffhanger in *BrownWater II*. Only now, his humorous and comical travel adventures find him struggling in his major undertaking to get home, back to the states, and to do this without his mentor and traveling cohort, Petty Officer Dan. Even with combat maturity, Charles is still just a very young nineteen-year-old city boy from Baltimore Maryland. For Vietnam veterans, this story will bring back precious memories that will make they say, Yeah, I remember doing stuff like that. That part of the war was fun. For those who never served in the military will find this an enjoyable eye-opener to military life.**

**Beskriver den del af Vietnamkrigen, der omfattede US Navy's kamp bl.a. med kanonbåde langs kysterne og ind i floderne for at afskære fremryknings- og forsyningsveje.**

**Today, war is more complicated than it has ever been. When considering**

military strategy, a commander must be aware of several theaters of war. There's ground strength, air power, naval combat and even cyber warfare. In the late 19th century, however, the true military might of a nation rested primarily on the strength of its navy. In 1890, United States Navy Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan published a book titled "The Influence of Sea Power Upon History." The monumental text addressed the importance of both military and commercial fleets in the success of a nation in war and peacetime. Mahan begins with a discussion of the elements he considers to be the key to a nation's success on the seas. He theorizes that a ground force could not sustain the pressure of a naval blockade. Mahan then applies his principles to wars of the past. He analyzes the use of a navy in various engagements and considers the resulting influence on the outcome of the wars. The book was readily accepted by commanders and tacticians all over the world and his principles and theories were utilized throughout the 20th century. His arguments, along with technological advances, were influential in the strengthening of the United States Navy. Presently, Mahan's work is considered the most important work on naval strategy in history.

This study examines Operation SEALORDS, the capstone campaign conducted by the brown-water Navy in Vietnam. Specifically, this paper addresses the primary question: Was the SEALORDS campaign successful, and if so, what lessons can be learned from SEALORDS and how might the Navy employ brown-water forces in the future? This thesis breaks down the SEALORDS campaign into three areas of study. First, the study examines the barrier interdiction portion of the campaign designed to stem the flow of enemy infiltration of men and material from Cambodia into the Mekong Delta. Second, this study analyzes the Denial of Sanctuary Operations and Pacification portion of the SEALORDS operations. Last, the Accelerated Turnover to the Vietnamese Program (ACTOV) is examined to determine its effectiveness. The findings of this study suggest that by concentrating naval forces athwart the major infiltration routes along the Cambodian border, SEALORDS effectively cut enemy lines of communication into South Vietnam and severely restricted enemy attempts at infiltration. Additionally, the findings suggest that SEALORDS contributed significantly to pacification efforts in the southern part of III Corps and all of the IV Corps Tactical Zone. Finally, the ACTOV Program is evaluated as successful and put the Navy out ahead of the other services with respect to Vietnamization of the war effort.

**The Greatest Escape**

**The Vietnam Brown Water Navy**

**The U.S. Navy in Riverine Warfare and the Emergence of a Tactical Doctrine, 1775-1970**

**A True American Civil War Adventure**

## **U.S. Naval Riverine Operations Vietnam Blue Water, Brown Water White Water Red Hot Lead**

The Greatest Escape: A True American Civil War Adventure tells the story of the largest prison breakout in U.S. history. It took place during the Civil War, when more than 1200 Yankee officers were jammed into Libby, a special prison considered escape-proof, in the Confederate capitol of Richmond, Virginia. A small group of men, obsessed with escape, mapped out an elaborate plan and one cold and clear night, 109 men dug their way to freedom. Freezing, starving, clad in rags, they had to still travel 40 miles to Yankee lines and safety. They were pursued by all the white people in the area, but every Black person they encountered was their friend. In every instance, slaves risked their lives to help these Yankees, and their journey was aided by a female-led Union spy network. Since all the escapees were officers, they all could read and write well. Over 50 of them would publish riveting accounts of their adventures. This is the first book to weave together these contemporary accounts into a true-to-life narrative. Much like a Ken Burns documentary, this book uses the actual words the prisoners recorded more than 150 years ago, as found in their many diaries and journals.

The men of the U.S. Navy's brown-water force played a vital but often overlooked role in the Vietnam War. Known for their black berets and limitless courage, they maneuvered their aging, makeshift craft along shallow coastal waters and twisting inland waterways to search out the enemy. In this moving tribute to their contributions and sacrifices, Tom Cutler records their dramatic story as only a participant could. His own Vietnam experience enables him to add a striking human dimension to the account. The terror of firefights along the jungle-lined rivers, the rigors of camp life, and the sudden perils of guerrilla warfare are conveyed with authenticity. At the same time, the author's training as a historian allows him to objectively describe the scope of the navy's operations and evaluate their effectiveness. Winner of the Navy League's Alfred Thayer Mahan Award for Literary Achievement in 1988 when the book was first published, Cutler is credited with having written the definitive history of the brown-water sailors, an effort that has helped readers better understand the nature of U.S. involvement in the war.

Over 3 million U.S. military personnel were sent to Southeast Asia to fight in the Vietnam War. Since the end of the Vietnam War, veterans have reported numerous health effects. Herbicides used in Vietnam, in particular Agent Orange have been associated with a variety of cancers and other long term health problems from Parkinson's disease and type 2 diabetes to heart disease. Prior to 1997 laws safeguarded all service men and women deployed to Vietnam including members of the Blue Navy. Since then, the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has established that Vietnam veterans are automatically eligible for disability benefits should they develop any disease associated with Agent Orange exposure, however, veterans who served on deep sea vessels in Vietnam are not included. These "Blue Water Navy" veterans must prove they were exposed to Agent Orange before they can claim benefits. At the request of the VA, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) examined whether Blue Water Navy veterans had similar exposures to Agent Orange as other Vietnam veterans. Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure comprehensively examines whether Vietnam veterans in the Blue Water Navy experienced exposures to herbicides and their contaminants by reviewing historical reports, relevant legislation, key personnel insights, and chemical analysis to resolve current debate on this issue.

"What sort of combination of hypocrite and paradox is John Kerry?" asks this heated critique of the Democratic presidential candidate's Vietnam-era military service and antiwar activism. O'Neill, a lawyer and swift boat veteran, and Corsi, an expert on Vietnam antiwar movements, show how Kerry misrepresented his wartime exploits and is therefore incompetent to serve as

commander in chief. Buttressed by interviews with Navy veterans who patrolled Vietnam's waters, some along with Kerry, readers will discover how he exaggerated minor injuries, self-inflicted others, wrote fictitious diary entries and filed "phony" reports of his heroism under fire—all in a calculated quest to secure career-enhancing combat medals.

The Mississippi Squadron

Brown Water Runs Red

The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660-1783

Brownwater II

The Legend of the Navy's Most Daring Helicopter Pilot

Triumphant Warrior

Unfit For Command