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War in the Shallows: U.S. Navy Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam, 1965-1968

By John Darrell Sherwood



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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.



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Editorial Review

About the Author

John Darrell Sherwood is an official historian with the U.S. Naval Historical Center. He is the author of "Officers in Flight Suits: The Story of American Air Force Fighter Pilots in Korea" and "Afterburner: Naval Aviators and the Vietnam War", both published by NYU Press. He is also the author of "Fast Movers: Aviators and the Vietnam War Experience".

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