



THE KILLING ZONE QUESTIONS

During this unit, you will be reading several chapters from the book The Killing Zone, by Frederick Downs Jr., who was stationed in Vietnam starting in September of 1967 as an infantry lieutenant. It is written as a diary so, instead of chapter numbers, the readings are labeled by date.

Again, you have a choice in your readings. Read one story from the first group and three stories from the second group.

FIRST GROUP

September 13, 1967

- You are a soldier in Delta Company. Write a letter home about your new Lieutenant, the author. What is your opinion of him? Cite specific evidence!

November 2, 1967

- Consider the tactics used during the search of the village, especially by Fouel, compared with what they found. Were the tactics appropriate? Were they worth it? What if they had found nothing?

SECOND GROUP

October 4, 1967

- What would you have done to the Lieutenant, the author, if he had killed the old woman? What if she had gotten away?

October 7, 1967

- Do you think that the two men taken prisoner are members of the Viet Cong? Why or why not?

November 7, 1967

- What would you do with the Medic in your platoon? He is new but your platoon doesn't like him and, even worse, they don't trust him. What do you think of the action that Lt. Downs takes?

January 3, 1968

- What would you do in this situation?

January 6, 1968

- What would you do with the Vietnamese the platoon found?