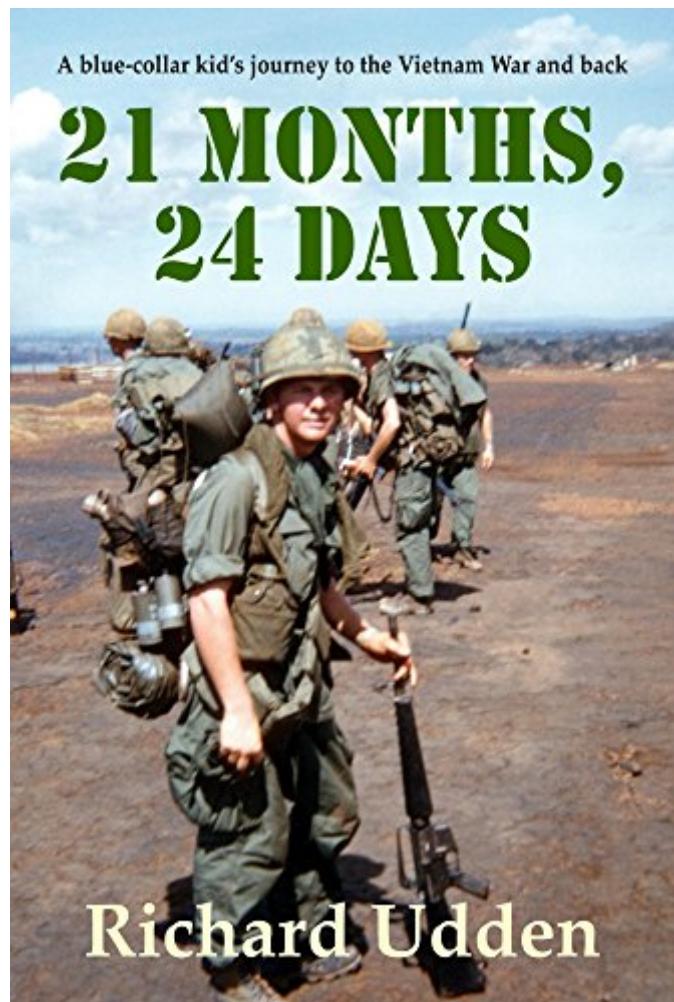


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# 21 Months, 24 Days



## Synopsis

REVISED and UPDATED! In the late sixties, draft boards were gathering young men for the Vietnam War. High school kids who were not bound for college had to enlist or wait for a draft notice. The burden fell on the children of blue-collar families because college was not an easy option for them. Instead of starting a career, they had their lives put on hold to fight a war. The author was one of those kids. Threatened by the draft, he enlisted in the Army. He expected an easy two years working in a trade. Instead, he was assigned to the infantry and sent to Vietnam. There in the jungle, he hunted and fought the Vietcong. When his company was sent to Cambodia to disrupt enemy supply lines, he was wounded by shrapnel from a booby trap. All of this happened before his twenty-first birthday. He delivers his story as if you were sitting with him in a bar and hearing it firsthand over a beer. Learn how it felt to make it through basic training and advanced infantry training. Find out what it was like to live and work in the jungle. Experience the day-to-day grind of combat assaults, jungle patrols, and pulling guard on a firebase. Feel the adrenalin rush of a firefight. Hear about the lighter moments like smoking pot for the first time and R&R. Through words and pictures, you will experience every aspect of his journey to Vietnam and back again. This book is not a typical war story about good, evil, heroes and glory. Instead, it provides a sincere portrayal of a young soldier's progression through immaturity, doubt and growth while fighting and surviving a questionable war.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book was written in a simple, very comprehensive style. It conjured up my memories of Vietnam and the impact that year had on my life. It also made me realize why the North Vietnamese won the war even though they lost most of the military battles; it was their country not ours. They did not come and go. They stayed.

Fantastic read! It takes you into the mind of someone who is going into an unpopular war (Vietnam) and one who is trying to make the best of things for his country. The process along the way is informative and the jungle stories are a learning experience as well. I learned a lot and found it informative.

Very good book not great but very good, the author does an excellent job of describing just about he goes through in the Army and the weapons that are used. Also things like the way bases were made in Vietnam by using Daisy cutters and Engineers with dozers to create berms then much more of course he goes into much more detail and does a better job of explaining. If you've never read a book on the Vietnam war this would be a good book to read he goes right through basic to the war. Now he explains in the beginning this book isn't about a lot of firefights in fact a lot of it written when the men are in the rear and the things they would do there. I enjoyed the book very much and would recommend it if you like these books. Give it a try.

In 21 Months 24 Days, Richard Udden's description of U.S. Army service, in 1969-70 is spot on. The first 3 chapters make me feel like I'm back in Basic Training. I was an armor crewman, but I was able to fully relate to Infantry AIT and Udden's journey to Vietnam and back. This is an exciting new read for 2015. If you served in the Army in the early 70's, you will enjoy reading every page of this book. Highly recommend!!!

This is the real story of life as a Vietnam era soldier. It's all there, from the personal motivations, to living in the dirt and the dust and mud, to the momentary terror of the ambush. This story describes how the U.S. Army operated airborne infantry in Vietnam. The story is somewhat different in that it does not focus on combat specifically but on life in an army at war. It's a personal narrative and well

worth reading for those who wish to understand war from a combat soldiers perspective.

If your looking for a story about lots of combat and adrenaline rushing action then this books not for you. If you want to know what it was like for most of the soldiers in the field during the 70s then Mr. Udden has done a great job at bringing this to life. His story goes to prove what a mind numbing waste of time and effort our military leaders and politician's committed with such a great resource. And by the way, thank you Mr. Udden for you service. Wish I could have been there to tell all of you then.

What a nice book! This is the real story of a regular kid from Boston and his sometimes amazing, sometimes horrible, often boring and occasionally enjoyable Vietnam experience. This isn't a puffed up story of wartime glory, but instead a story about family and perseverance in the face of a jungle full of horror. Understand that the author was involved in some of the larger battles of the war which he explains from his perspective. This is the story of a young man dealing with the fear and death of war on the other side of the world and trying to get through the craziness and get himself home.

I have a difficult time relating to his story. It's well told but it's such a different time time period that I have a "hard" time with it. I would recommend it simply because it gives a view of Nam as the war was winding down. The only part of his tour that I could relate to was the time in Cambodia. I'm glad that he survived, has done a good job of living his life and suffered so few KIA's during his tour. I say this because I also served in Nam. I was in the US Marine Corps (volunteered) from 1966 to 70 and served in Nam 1968 - 69 & 70. We're "brothers with a different mother".

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