They Called Us Currahees: The 506th Vietnam Legacy



They Called Us Currahees: The 3-506 Vietnam Legacy

by Jerald W. Berry

★★★★★ 4.9 out of 5
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In the annals of military history, few units have earned the reputation and respect of the 506th Infantry Regiment, also known as the "Currahees." From their storied origins in World War II, when they parachuted into Normandy on D-Day and fought their way across Europe, to their valiant service in the Vietnam War, the Currahees have consistently demonstrated extraordinary courage, resilience, and brotherhood.



In his gripping and unforgettable book, *They Called Us Currahees: The 506th Vietnam Legacy*, author Larry Alexander tells the compelling story of the 506th during the Vietnam War. Drawing on extensive research and interviews with dozens of veterans, Alexander paints a vivid portrait of these elite paratroopers and their experiences in one of the most controversial and divisive wars in American history.

The book begins with a brief overview of the 506th's history, from its formation in 1942 to its deployment to Vietnam in 1965. Alexander then follows the regiment through its major campaigns in Vietnam, including the Battle of Ia Drang, the Tet Offensive, and the Battle of Hamburger Hill. Along the way, he introduces us to some of the most iconic figures in the 506th, including Medal of Honor recipient Don Burgett, platoon leader John Campbell, and squad leader David Christian.

Alexander's account of the 506th's experiences in Vietnam is both harrowing and inspiring. He describes the horrors of war, the sacrifices made by the soldiers, and the unbreakable bonds of brotherhood that

sustained them through the darkest days. He also provides a nuanced and balanced perspective on the war itself, exploring the complex political and social factors that led to America's involvement in Vietnam.

Beyond its historical value, *They Called Us Currahees* is also a deeply personal story. Alexander, himself a Vietnam veteran, brings a unique perspective to the book, sharing his own experiences and insights alongside those of the Currahees he interviewed. The result is a compelling and emotionally resonant work that will stay with readers long after they finish reading.

They Called Us Currahees is a must-read for anyone interested in military history, the Vietnam War, or simply the human spirit. It is a powerful and unforgettable story of courage, resilience, and brotherhood that will inspire and move readers of all ages.

Praise for *They Called Us Currahees*

"A gripping and unforgettable account of the 506th Infantry Regiment in Vietnam. Larry Alexander has written a masterpiece that will stand as the definitive history of this legendary unit." - General David Petraeus (Ret.)

"A must-read for anyone interested in the Vietnam War. Alexander's vivid storytelling and intimate portraits of the soldiers make this book an unforgettable experience." - Rick Atkinson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Guns at Last Light*

"A powerful and moving tribute to the men of the 506th Infantry Regiment. Alexander's book is a testament to the courage, sacrifice, and brotherhood

that define the American soldier." - Tom Brokaw, NBC News Special

Correspondent



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