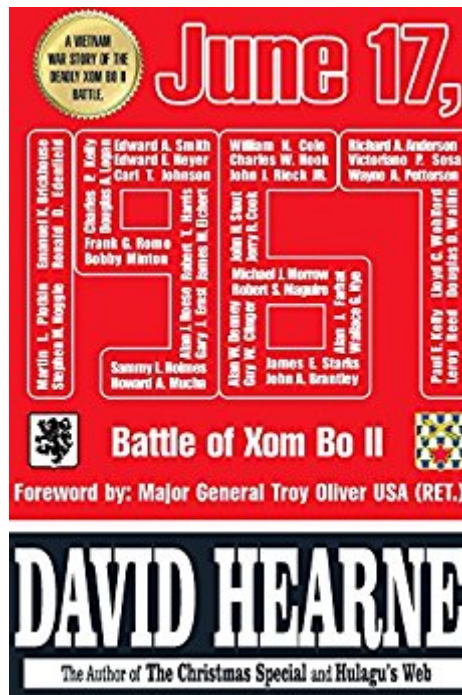




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June 17, 1967: Battle Of Xom Bo II



Synopsis

The true story of the battle of Xom Bo II that was fought on June 17, 1967. It was a battle that pitted Five hundred 1st Infantry Division soldiers against 800 to 2000 Viet Cong from the 271st Regiment. The bloody clash took the lives of 39 Americans and seriously wounded 150 more. It is the minute by minute story of what happened that day in the steamy jungle and the story of the men who fought so valiantly to survive the ambush. It is the story of the loved ones left behind and the wounded who struggled to become whole again. It's a story that is the result of talking to many of the survivors of the battle and the wives, brothers, sisters, or friends of those who were there when over 8000 artillery rounds rained down around LZ X-Ray to dislodge the entrenched Viet Cong. June 17, 1967 is a story of war, men, and the loved ones. It is the story of the youth, culture and happenings that made the battle of Xom Bo II such an enigma for the summer of love in 1967. It is an angry story and a healing story that will bring feelings to the surface and tear at your heart.

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Customer Reviews

Have you ever read a book that you wished you written! Battle of Xom Bo II is,that book for me by David Hearne. As an Infantryman the author writing allows me to read of my combat history with

awaking in nightmares. There a marvelous blend of objects narration, where the author presents combat events without glorifying himself not war. As a partisan of Xom Bo I on which the author touches was factual. The premonitions of impending death of so many of men stories, especially Stephen Noogle a Medic who shared these premonition with me months before with Bravo Company. The author briefly touch on famous war Correspondent Henri Huet who capture some of the moving picture of the Vietnam War in these battles, its a must read for infantrymen, especially Vietnam Veteran. My thanks to the author for preserving the history of those of us who participated in Battle of Xom Bo during Operation Billing.

When we came back home from our time in Vietnam, we were told that it was not a real war. Anyone who believes that ought to read David Hearne's well researched and well written book, The Battle of Xom Bo II. He not only tells the story of the battle that took place on June 17, 1967 but also gives an accurate account of what it was like to be an infantryman in a combat unit in the jungles of Vietnam, from the equipment we carried, the weapons we used to how we traveled, the food we ate, the search and destroys, the steamy hot weather to the mosquitoes. As a participant in the battle, reading the book brought back a lot of memories. I could hear and see the battle, the artillery, the mortars, the bombs from the jets, the smoke and the buzzing of bullets and shrapnel everywhere. Hearne brings out the fact that we were fighting a well trained, well equipped, determined, tenacious enemy. It was time for a book to be written like this. as told by those who were there and remember the 39 dead and 150 wounded. If this was not a war, I don't know what is. This is a good and recommended read for anyone interested in combat in Vietnam. Wes Canute A Co, 2nd Plt (Dixie), 2/28 Inf. Black Lions 1st Infantry Division

I could not put this one down. It is very graphic and brings back lots of memories as I was there that day 17 Jun 1967. There are many parts of this just as I remember and a few I am cloudy on and a few small things I remember differently, but at my age that is not uncommon. This book is a very accurate account of one terrible day in the life of many US Army Infantrymen during their 365 day tour. David Hearne done his homework in getting as much info as could be found and wrote in a straight forward manor, This book will take you back if you happen to have been a part of this battle and take you there if you have not been. Thank you for telling the story of my many Brothers that gave the ultimate that terrible day. Joseph L Hare 3rd Platoon Bravo Company 2 Batt/28th Inf 1st Inf Division 1967

June 17, 1967 Battle of Xom Bo II written by army veteran Dave Hearne. Hearne was an artillery FO who served in the 1st Infantry Division and was at the battle of Xom Bo II. This battle occurred with companies of the 1/16th and 2/28th. Basically, the author devotes most of the book to the individuals who were in the battle, those who survived and those who were injured and those who lost their lives. He details the din of battle and the sights and sounds of what had happened that fateful day. The tactical details and maps identifying how the battle transpired are sadly missing. This book does not detail the battle at all such as a book like *We Were Soldiers*. Unfortunately, the only detail of the battle is the official after-action report which if you have ever read one is dry and very official. The author shows the emotion of all the combatants which shows how this battle effected the rest of the survivors lives which is commendable but as a step by step description of what took place this book has missed the target.

While I was too young to be a part of the Vietnam war I have very clear memories of the young men in my neighborhood who did serve. A great many of them were changed forever by the experience. This is an excellent book about both the battle and the short and long term affects it had on the soldier that participated. It goes a long way toward understanding the lost stares I would see on the faces of so many of these young men. Thank you all for your service and may God bless and keep each one of you.

I started reading this book on June 16. Mr. Hearne provides a very detailed description of events leading up to this mostly forgotten footnote from the war in Vietnam. Throughout the battle with a large VC force, he inputs events back on the homefront. It caused me to think about exactly what was going on at home and in the news while I was reading the book. Fate isn't always kind and an ordinary day for some can become an endless film sequence of horror in someone else's mind. For other reading from a fellow Big Red One vet, check out "Duster Duty, 1967".

The author manages to detail a specific battle and provide personal accounts of many of the soldiers involved; even their surviving family or friends, all in a surprisingly quick read. I will say I initially found the book a bit scattered and disorganized but quickly appreciated it, and by the end I had embraced its flow. I found the "Afterword" chapter at the end to be perhaps the most digestible and concise summary of our conflict in Vietnam, especially related to lessons learned. Written nearly 50 years since the battle occurred, I recommend this book as a launching point to any younger generation willing to learn a thing or two about our conflict in Vietnam. We are lucky to have

vets such as this author willing to share their stories and put-forth such effort to make the accounts of these soldiers available to us all.

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