

Paul Hardcastle "Nineteen"

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In 1965 Vietnam seemed like just another foreign war
but it wasn't
It was different in many ways, as so were those that did
the fighting
In World War II the average age of the combat soldier
was 26
In Vietnam he was 19
In-in-in Vietnam he was 19

The shooting and fighting of the past two weeks
continued today
25 miles west of Saigon
I really wasn't sure what was going on

Ni-ni-ni 19, 19, ni-19 19
19, 19, 19, 19

In Vietnam the combat soldier typically served
A twelve month tour of duty
But was exposed to hostile fire almost everyday
Ni-ni-ni 19, Ni-ni-ni 19

Hundreds of thousands of men who saw heavy combat
In Vietnam were arrested since discharge
Their arrest rate is almost twice that of non-veterans of
the same age
There are no accurate figures of how many of these
men
Have been incarcerated

But a Veterans Administration study
Concludes that the greater of vets
Exposure to combat could more likely affect his
chances
Of being arrested or convicted

This is one legacy of the Vietnam War

All those who remember the war
They won't forget what they've seen
Destruction of men in their prime
Whose average was 19

De-de-destruction
De-de-destruction
War, war

De-de-destruction, wa, wa, war, wa, war, war
De-de-destruction
War, war

After World War II the men came home together on
troop ships
But the Vietnam vet often arrived home within 48 hours
of jungle combat
Perhaps the most dramatic difference between
World War II and Vietnam was coming home
None of them received a hero's welcome

None of them received a heroes welcome, none of
them, none of them
Ne-ne-ne, ne-ne-ne, none of them, none of them, none
of them
None of them received a hero's welcome
None of them received a hero's welcome

According to a Veteran's Administration study
Half of the Vietnam combat veterans suffered from
what
Psychiatrists call
Post-Traumatic-Stress-Disorder

Many vets complain of alienation, rage or guilt
Some succumb to suicidal thoughts
Eight to ten years after coming home
Almost eight hundred thousand men are still fighting
the Vietnam War

De-de-destruction
Ni-ni-ni 19, 19, ni 19 19
19, 19, 19, 19
Ni-ni-ni 19, 19, ni-19 19
19, 19, 19, 19

When we came back it was different, everybody wants
to know
"How'd it happened to those guys over thereâ€"□
There's gotta be something wrong somewhere
We did what we had to do

There's gotta be something wrong somewhere
People wanted us to be ashamed of what it made us
Dad had no idea what he went to fight and he is now

All we want to do is come home

All we want to do is come home

What did we do it for?

All we want to do is come home

Was it worth it

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