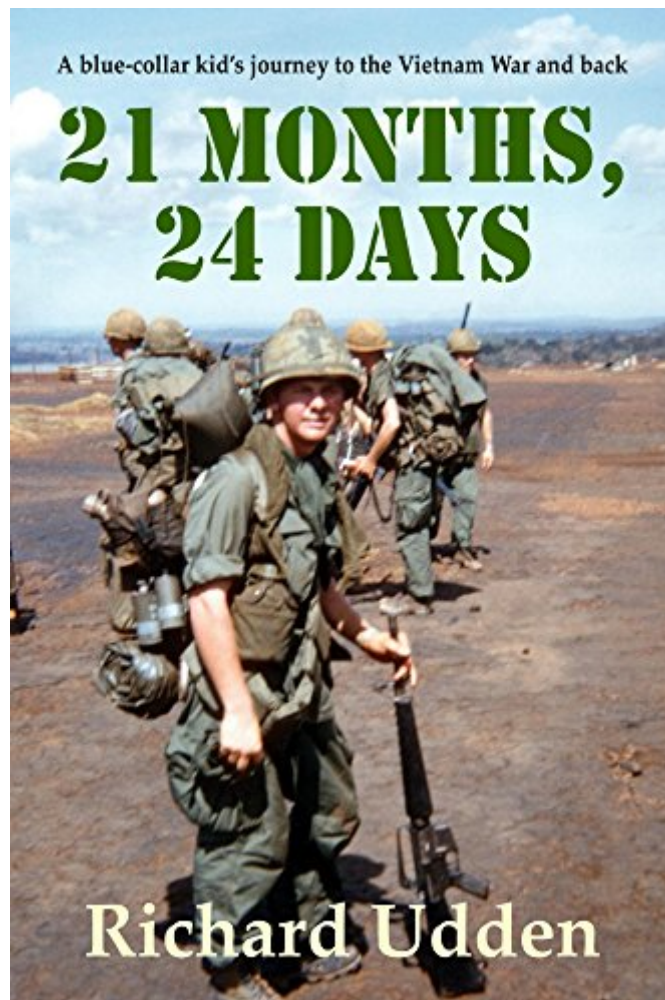




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# 21 Months, 24 Days: A Blue-collar Kid's Journey To The Vietnam War And Back



## Synopsis

21 Months, 24 Days is an engaging memoir of a blue-collar kid turned soldier. Threatened by the draft in the late sixties, he enlisted in the Army to avoid becoming a grunt, yet ended up one anyway. He endured a grueling war in Vietnam and then returned to a country too angry to care. While his journey took unexpected turns, his choices got him there, so he did his best to react positively and keep moving forward. Udden delivers his story in a comfortable, friendly style. He conveys the experiences of basic training, advanced infantry training, and what it was like to live, work, guard, patrol, and fight in the jungle. The reader will feel the adrenalin rush of a firefight, the thrill of a wild ride dangling below a helicopter, and the humor in celebrating his 21st birthday on a firebase. Through his words and personal photographs, you will live through his journey exactly as he experienced it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This memoir contains many interesting photos and a recollection of the US incursion into Cambodia in 1970. Stories from the regular Joe's are the best for perspectives on the war. They were simply serving their country to the best of their abilities. Plans for the future, everyday routines and dreams

were disrupted by the Vietnam War. Young men were plucked from their daily rituals and sent halfway around the world to fight an often unseen and mostly misunderstood enemy. For those at home, life moved on. Most soldiers served a year in Vietnam, but the impact of that relatively short period of time is still felt half a century later. For other reading, check out "Duster Duty, 1967".

This is a great book about the life of a soldier during the Viet Nam War. Mr. Udden takes the reader from basic training through his tour of duty trying to survive in the jungles of Viet Nam and Cambodia. The pain of combat and the death of friends are told as only one who has experienced them could. The photographs bring to life the young men who were sent to war by their country. Mr. Udden puts a human face to the soldiers who endured so much. I highly recommend this book.

Mr. Udden's account of his service in Vietnam is as insightful as it is honest. It is hard for those who have not served in a warzone, let alone Vietnam, to truly imagine what it is like. But, Mr. Udden has given us a look into what it was like for him and so many other young men in Vietnam. My uncle served in the 1st/12th Air Cav in 1967 and was KIA. If it were not for a book similar to this book that contained part of my Uncle's story in Vietnam, my Dad would have been just as misinformed about his brother's death as Steve's family was in this book. Books like this are important for keeping the stories of our heroes alive. Thank you Mr. Udden for sharing your story and more importantly, thank you for your service.

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!!!

First I am grateful you survived and made back home. Second of all I am glad that you wrote this book. It helps me better understand one of my coworkers when he talks about Vietnam. His name is Lynn Blackstock and he is a Vietnam veteran. You two talk the same language. The difference between your book and the way Lynn talks is he brings out emotions, tough emotions your book is calming to the point it helps me understand and communicate better with my friend. Thank you

I highly recommend this book as it's a great description of what it was like to serve in Vietnam. Time

spent as a grunt in the jungle was unbelievably difficult to put it mildly. I don't think anyone who hasn't been through that experience can possibly imagine the misery and the trauma of such an ordeal. It troubles me to no end that our government puts our young men in harm's way. Thank you for your service Mr. Udden. We will never truly know just what a sacrifice it was to be there serving in Vietnam, but you have done as much as you can to help us all to understand. By the way, I think you can claim best seller status on the cover of your book now as you are #1 in at least one of your categories.

I gave it a five star cause the author tells about Viet Nam like it was with the fears and stress of being in the jungles. I would highly recommend this to anyone interested in learning about the grunt side of Viet nam

The book in general brought back so many memories. Even though I was a Combat Engineer, His trip from his arrival into country was spot on. I remember arriving in country and the busses with the wire mesh over the windows. Unlike him, I never got R & Rs and other work on the roads, I never got away from camp. A great read for any one who went to country.

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