

Delve Deeper into "The Camden 28"

A film by Anthony Giacchino

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Susan Conlon of the Princeton Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "The Camden 28" that premieres on September 11th, 2007 at 10 PM (check local listings at www.pbs.org/pov/).

How far would you go to stop a war? "The Camden 28" recalls a 1971 raid on a Camden, N.J., draft board office by "Catholic Left" activists protesting the Vietnam War and its effects on urban America. Arrested on site in a clearly planned sting, the protesters included four Catholic priests, a Lutheran minister, and 23 others. "The Camden 28" reveals the story behind the arrests — a provocative tale of government intrigue and personal betrayal — and the ensuing legal battle, which Supreme Court Justice William Brennan called "one of the great trials of the 20th century." Thirty-five years later, the participants take stock of the motives, fears, and costs of their activism — and its relevance to America today.

ADULT NONFICTION

Baskir, Lawrence M. and Strauss, William A. *Chance and Circumstance: The Draft, the War, and the Vietnam Generation.* New York: Knopf, 1978. A study done by a former staff member of President Ford's Clemency Board that includes a statistical portrait of the Vietnam War generation and the men who were of draft age from between 1964-1973.

Berrigan, Daniel. *The Trial of the Catonsville Nine.* New York: Fordham University Press, 2004. Reissued with additional materials by Robin Anderson and James Marsh. Drawing on court transcripts, this is Berrigan's account of the trial of nine antiwar activists.

Berrigan, Phillip. *Prison Journals of a Priest Revolutionary.* New York: Ballantine Books, 1971. A collection of Father Berrigan's writings. Berrigan shares his

Christian revolutionary perspective on America in the early 70s.

Carroll, James. *An American Requiem: God, My Father, and the War that Came Between Us.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1996. A social history of the protest by United States citizens against the Vietnam War, from the days of the first American involvement in Vietnam in the early 1960s through the 1970s.

De Benedetti, Charles, and Chatfield, Charles. *An American Ordeal: the Antiwar Movement of the Vietnam Era.* Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1990. Examines the antiwar movement from its beginnings in the mid-50s to issues such as Black equality and the Vietnam War

Dorwart, Jeffrey M. *Camden County, New Jersey: the Making of a Metropolitan Community, 1626-2000.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2001. Jeffrey M. Dorwart chronicles more than three centuries of Camden County history, covering Camden's earliest days as a Native American settlement, the county's important roles in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, Camden City's booms and busts, the county's increasing suburbanization, and current inner-city revitalization efforts.

Doyle, Michael. *It's a Terrible Day: Thanks be to God.* Camden, NJ: Camden Housing, 2003. A collection of letters of prose and poetry written by Msgr. Michael Doyle during his many years of witnessing urban life in Waterfront South, Camden, NJ.

Elmer, Jerry. *Felon for Peace: the Memoir of a Vietnam-Era Draft Resister.* Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2005. At the height of the Vietnam War, Jerry Elmer committed his first felony by refusing to register for the draft. Over the next 20 years, using nonviolent tactics, Jerry worked for peace, justice, and the environment. Here, he gives us his lifetime of lessons in nonviolent protest as an example for all who wish to make a positive difference today.

Foley, Michael S. *Confronting the War Machine: Draft Resistance during the Vietnam War.* Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003. Michael Foley tells the story of draft resistance, the cutting edge of the antiwar movement at the height of the war's escalation. Unlike so-called draft dodgers, who evaded the draft by leaving the country or by securing a draft deferment by fraudulent means, draft resisters openly defied draft laws by burning or turning in their draft cards.

Gillete, Howard Jr. *Camden After the Fall: Decline and Renewal in a Post-Industrial City (Politics and Culture in Modern America).* Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, new ed, 2006. Looking at the cumulative effects of urban decline in the classic post-industrial city of Camden, New Jersey, historian Howard Gillette, Jr., probes the interaction of politics, economic restructuring, and racial bias to evaluate contemporary efforts at revitalization.

Gottlieb, Sherry Gershon. *Hell No, We Won't Go!: Resisting the Draft During the Vietnam War.* New York: Viking, 1991. A collection of oral histories reflecting resistance to the Vietnam War draft.

Harris, David. *Our War: What We Did in Vietnam and What It Did to Us.* New York: Times Book, 1996. David Harris explores the Vietnam War generation through his experiences as a former antiwar activist who went to prison instead of serving in the U.S. military in 1960s.

Mollin, Marian. *Radical Pacifism in Modern America Egalitarianism and Protest.* Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006. Emphasizing the actions undertaken by militant activists, the author illuminates the complex relationship between gender, race, activism, and political culture, identifying critical factors that simultaneously hindered and facilitated grassroots efforts at social and political change.

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Polner, Murray and Jim O'Grady. *Disarmed and Dangerous: the Radical Lives and Times of Daniel and Philip Berrigan.* Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1998. A biography of the Berrigan brothers that chronicles their involvement in the 1960s antiwar protest and their relationship with one another.

Thoreau, Henry David. *Walden, and Civil Disobedience.* New York: Penquin, 1983. Thoreau's classic essays on the virtues of self-reliance and individual freedom. "On The Duty Of Civil Disobedience" is the classic protest against government's interference with individual liberty, and is considered one of the most famous essays ever written.

ADULT FICTION

Coming to Terms: American Plays & the Vietnam War; introduction by James Reston, Jr. New York: Theatre Communications Group, 1985. *Streamers* by David Rabe; *Botticelli* by Terrence McNally; *How I got That Story* by Amlin Gray; *Medal of Honor Rag* by Tom Cole; *Moonchildren* by Michael Weller; *Still life* by Emily Mann; *Strange Snow* by Stephen Metcalfe.

Duncan, David James. *The Brothers K.* New York : Doubleday, 1992. The story traces a family's fate from the beginning of the Eisenhower years through the traumas of Vietnam. One son becomes an atheist and draft resister; another immerses himself in Eastern religions, while the third of the children, ends up in Southeast Asia.

Mailer, Norman. *Why Are We in Vietnam?* Picador; 1st Picador USA Ed edition (August 5, 2000). Narrated by Randal ("D.J.") Jethroe, Texas's most precocious teenager, on the eve of his departure to fight in Vietnam, this story of a hunting trip in Alaska is both entertaining and profoundly thoughtful.

O'Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried: A Work of Fiction.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990. Fictional work depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa,

and the character Tim, as these young men carry the emotional weight of their lives to war in Vietnam, in a patchwork account of a modern journey into the heart of darkness.

NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Caputo, Philip. *10,000 Days of Thunder: a History of the Vietnam War.* New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Philip Caputo writes about the Vietnam War for young readers in this book, from the first stirrings of unrest in Vietnam under French colonial rule, to American intervention, to the battle at Hamburger Hill, to the Tet Offensive, to the fall of Saigon. Included are personal anecdotes from soldiers and civilians, as well as profiles and accounts of the actions of many historical luminaries, and photographs and key campaign and battlefield maps.

Dowswell, Paul. *The Vietnam War.* Milwaukee, WI: World Almanac Library, 2002. Examines the history of conflict in Vietnam, traces the United States involvement from the early 1960s through 1975, and discusses the consequences of the war on both the United States and Vietnam.

Hauptly, Denis J. *In Vietnam.* New York: Atheneum, 1985. Discusses the turbulent history of Vietnam from the Chinese invasion 2000 years ago through the United States' involvement during the 1960s.

Hay, Jeff. *The Greenhaven Encyclopedia of the Vietnam.* San Diego, CA: Greenhaven Press, 2004. An alphabetical presentation of definitions and descriptions of terms and events of the Vietnam War.

Hoobler, Dorothy, and Thomas Hoobler. *Vietnam, Why We Fought: an Illustrated History.* New York: Knopf; distributed by Random House, 1990. Examines the history of Vietnam's relations with other nations, the involvement of the United States in the conflict, and the effects of the war.

Streissguth, Thomas. *Clay V. United States and How Muhammad Ali Fought the Draft: Debating Supreme Court Decision.* Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, 2006. Examines how Ali's case got to the Supreme Court and how the Court made its decision. Streissguth explores the topic of conscientious objectors, those who refuse to fight in wars for reasons of religion or conscience, as well as opposition to war throughout history. The book also includes how to conduct a moot court—a mock judicial proceeding—that will help students understand the case.

Wormser, Richard L. *Three Faces of Vietnam.* New York: F. Watts, 1993. Examines the Vietnam War from the perspectives of antiwar protesters, the Vietnamese people, and the American soldiers who fought in the war.

FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Brown, Don. *Our Time on the River.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2003. Two brothers take a river trip by canoe in advance of the elder brother being shipped out to Vietnam.

Coulombis, Audrey. *Summer's End.* New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. Three teenaged cousins worry about their uncle who is missing in Vietnam, their brothers--the one who was drafted and the two who are dodging the draft - and the effects of their absence on the four generations gathered at the family farm in the summer of 1965.

Qualey, Marsha. *Too Big a Storm.* New York: Dial Books, 2004. When serious worrier Brady Callahan meets vivacious Sally Cooper, daughter of a wealthy Minnesota family, they develop a close friendship that helps them both grow and survive during the turbulent Vietnam War era.

Qualey, Marsha. *Come in from the Cold.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1994. The Vietnam War protest movement brings together two Minnesota teenagers.

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White, Ellen Emerson. *Where have all the flowers gone?: The Diary of Molly Mackenzie Flaherty*. New York : Scholastic, 2002. In 1968 Massachusetts, after her brother Patrick goes to fight in Vietnam, fifteen-year-old Molly records in her diary how she misses her brother, volunteers at a Veterans' Administration Hospital, and tries to make sense of the war in Vietnam and the tumultuous events in the United States. Includes historical notes.

FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES

"Alice's Restaurant." A film by Arthur Penn, MGM Home Entertainment, Inc., 2001. 1969. Twenty-two year-old Arlo Guthrie's journey to find a place for himself and his music includes an incident at Alice's Restaurant that plays a pivotal role in Arlo's avoidance of the draft. www.amazon.com

"Kim's Story: the Road from Vietnam." A film by Shelley Saywell. Bishari Film Productions Inc.; Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; Telefilm Canada.; First Run/Icarus Films. First Run/Icarus Films, 1997. This is the story of Kim Phuc, who was photographed as a nine year old girl running naked down a road in Vietnam, screaming in agony from napalm burns. Now, in order to confront her past, Kim comes to America on a remarkable odyssey to Washington's Vietnam War Memorial wall, as part of Veterans Day ceremonies. There she makes it clear that her mission is one of forgiveness and a wider healing. http://www.frif.com/cat97/k-o/kim_phuc.html

"Hair." A film by Milos Forman. United Artists, Santa Monica, CA: MGM Home Entertainment;, 1999. Fresh from the farm, Claude Bukowski arrives in New York City for a date with the Army Induction Board, only to walk into a hippie "happening" in Central Park and fall in love with the beautiful Sheila. Befriended by the hippies' pacifist leader, Berger, and urged to crash a formal party in order to declare his love for Sheila, Claude begins an adventure that lands him in jail, Central Park Lake and finally, in the army. But Berger's final effort to

save Claude from Vietnam sets in motion a bizarre twist of fate ... with shocking consequences. www.amazon.com

"In the Year of the Pig." A film by Emile de Antonio. Home Vision Entertainment, 2005. Produced at the height of Vietnam War, Emile de Antonio's Oscar nominated 1968 documentary chronicles the war's historical roots. The savage and horrific images speak for themselves in perhaps the most controversial film of de Antonio's career. www.amazon.com

"The Trial of the Catonsville Nine." A film by Gordon Davidson. Axon Video, 1972. This film documents the trial of a group of anti-Vietnam War protesters who raided the offices of the draft board in Catonsville, Maryland, and burned some of the files in May 1968. www.amazon.com

"Winter Soldier." Winterfilm, 2006; Originally released in 1972. Winter Soldier documents the "Winter Soldier Investigation" conducted by Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) in Detroit, Michigan in the winter of 1971. A call went out from VVAW to veterans all over the country to speak out. At the investigation, over 125 veterans representing every major combat unit to see action in Vietnam gave eye-witness testimony to war crimes and atrocities they either participated in or witnessed. <http://www.wintersoldierfilm.com/>