This multi-media resource list, compiled by Shaun Briley of the San Diego Public Library, includes books, films and other materials related to the issues presented in the film The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers.

In 1971, Daniel Ellsberg, a leading Vietnam War strategist, concludes that America’s role in the war is based on decades of lies. He leaks 7,000 pages of top-secret documents to The New York Times, a daring act of conscience that leads directly to Watergate, President Nixon’s resignation and the end of the Vietnam War. Ellsberg and a who’s-who of Vietnam-era movers and shakers give a riveting account of those world-changing events.

ADULT NONFICTION

THE PENTAGON PAPERS


Renowned political cartoonist Herbert Block depicts Nixon’s political life from 1940 – 1974. Included in this remarkable anthology of cartoons are drawings of Nixon’s attempts to curb public information through government control of the press.


Prados and Porter use more recently declassified documents to reexamine the impact of the Pentagon Papers leak, which led to attempts to restrain the press and contributed to Nixon’s downfall.


SECRET INTELLIGENCE ON THE ROAD TO WAR


This is a critical history of the RAND think-tank and its role not just in U.S. policy on Vietnam and Iraq but also its broader influence on American society.


An anthology of articles about the way secret intelligence is collected, analyzed and often politicized as part of the policy making process.


Archive material from the Joint Chiefs of Staff is used to back the assertion that warning signs about Vietnam were suppressed for political reasons.


Woodward, a renowned Watergate reporter, outlines the Bush administration’s manipulation of questionable secret intelligence to create a case for war.

WHISTLE BLOWERS


Using case studies ranging from natural disasters and industrial accidents to Enron and the sub-prime lending crisis, Flirting with Disaster examines the psychological, cultural and institutional impediments to whistle-blowing. Forward and afterward provided by Daniel Ellsberg.


The Glazers present a study of what happened to employees who risked their careers and lives to expose wrong doing in industry and government.


Katovsky profiles 20 Americans who have dissented from the current politics of the United States during the "War on Terror."


Schrag describes the seminal legal confrontation of the Pentagon Papers trial, exploring a generation’s conversion from blind faith in institutional authority to a commitment to uncovering the truth.


Written by The New York Times reporter who received the Pentagon Papers from Ellsberg, Sheehan gives us this Pulitzer-Prize winning account of the army field advisor who secretly briefed reporters on failures and atrocities that were being kept quiet.


In January 2003, Kenya—seen as the most stable country in Africa—was hailed as a model of democracy after the peaceful election of its new president, Mwai Kibaki. By appointing respected longtime reformer John Githongo as anticorruption czar, the new Kikuyu government signaled its determination to end the corrupt practices that had tainted the previous regime. Yet only two years later, Githongo himself was on the run, having discovered that the new administration was ruthlessly pillaging public funds. Michela Wrong’s account of how a pillar of the establishment turned
whistle-blower grips like a political thriller.

**THE PRESS IN WAR**


This is a myth busting account of coverage of the Vietnam War which details what Americans actually read and saw, proving that in fact the media mostly followed the government’s perspective.


A history of relations between the media and the military over the last century, Sweeney shows how the military has evolved new forms of censorship and propaganda.


Wyatt draws on research that suggests the American media mostly reported official statements about the war with relatively little dissent and that by the end of the war the credibility of the press had been as damaged as that of the government.

**BOOKS BY DANIEL ELLSBERG**


Ellsberg, along with collaborators Dan Smith and E. Thompson, examines the realities and implications of U.S. Nuclear strategy, asserting that it is a strategy we can resist.


Risk, Ambiguity and Decision is Ellsberg’s 1962 Harvard doctoral dissertation in economics in which he outlines his radial decision theory, profoundly challenging the dominant theories on rational decision making.


Ellsberg provides a personal account of his struggle with the secrets and misinformation that shaped American foreign policy during the Vietnam era.

**ADULT FICTION**


Written by Darby after 46 years in the intelligence community, this thriller gives us an inside look at how intelligence communities operate.


A young, idealistic American is sent to Vietnam to promote democracy through a mysterious “Third Force.” Greene draws on his experiences as a former SIS spy for Britain in World War II and a former journalist in Saigon from 1951 to 1954 where he reported on the French colonial war.


Former war correspondent Ward Just tells the story of an American group of aid and international development workers who travel to Vietnam to “assist” the Vietnamese. The group soon finds out, however, that they are actually covertly linked to the Pentagon.


Mailer creates his own genre for the narrative, split into historized and novelized accounts of the October 1967 March on the Pentagon.


Vonnegut’s wry tale of the activities of bumbling bureaucrat

Walter F. Starbuck from Harvard to the Nixon White House to the penitentiary as Watergate’s least known co-conspirator.

**NON-FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS**


Graham provides an imaginative and thorough account of high school student activism in response to the turbulence of the 1960s.


Grade 9 Up–Haplin provides background information on various social movements and suggestions for how to continue action. Animal rights, racism, war protest, AIDS, school violence and bullying, women’s rights, and promoting tolerance are among the topics covered here. Each section is accompanied by authentic accounts of student experiences, encouraging young people to become critical activists in their communities.


In the wake of 9/11, the question of how much the government should tell the people has become a controversial one. David Hudson provides a contemporary examination of the controversy of government transparency.

**FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES**

"Hearts & Minds." A film by Peter Davis. Criterion Collection, 1974. (112 min)

Winner of the 1974 Academy Award for Best Documentary, this film examines the causes of American involvement in the Vietnam War.
Delve Deeper into *The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers*
A film by Judith Ehrlich and Rick Goldsmith

"In the Year of the Pig." A film by Emile de Antoni, Homevision, 1969. (103 min)
Shot at the height of the conflict, this is a critical account of America’s escalating involvement in Vietnam, depicting the historical roots of the war.

"The Whistleblower." A film by Nonny De La Pena, 2009. (50 min)
A portrait of Charles Hamel who blew the whistle on big oil in Alaska and found himself the target of a major undercover sting that threatened the lives of Hamel's whistleblowers in Alaska and even targeted a senior Congressman.

"Silkwood." A film by Mike Nichols, 1983. (131 min)
This dramatic film is based on the true story of Karen Silkwood (Meryl Streep), a rank-and-file worker at a plutonium factory, who was accidentally exposed to a lethal dose of radiation. Historically, the company downplayed employee complaints about radiation sickness, much to Silkwood's frustration. Her own ordeal made Silkwood an activist. When she was about to go public with evidence of the company's poor safety record, the corporate powers went to extreme lengths to ensure that Silkwood's story was never told.