## Dustoff The Memoir Of An Army Aviator

Shoulda Played the FluteEliminating Fratricide From Attack Helicopter Fires: An Army Aviator's PerspectiveDustoffUnited States Army Aviation DigestAir University Periodical IndexAir University Library Index to Military PeriodicalsThe Army Aviation StoryAmerican AviationWith Wings as EaglesParagon of SecretsA History of Army Aviation, 1950-1962MacArthur's AirmanAmerican Aviation News IssueU.S. Air ServicesAviationAviation Week, Including Space TechnologyAviation Week & Space TechnologyThe BellringerSea PowerAeroplane Richard Elgin Major James A. Towe Michael J. Novosel Richard Tierney Cecil B. Currey Brad Parker Richard P. Weinert Thomas E. Griffith

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shoulda played the flute is a memoir about the author s adventure in army aviation 1968 1971 including a year flying combat missions in vietnam raised in the rural midwest the book describes dick s path to joining the army and becoming a helicopter pilot as thousands of other young men did some as young as 18 dick went through rotary wing flight school as a warrant office candidate woc each woc had his own story of how he sought out and volunteered for one of the most dangerous missions of the war the combat helicopter pilot most had failed lives or unfulfilled expectations so in their late teens volunteered for army flight school they had no idea how drastically and quickly they would grow up in the coming two years of flight school and flying combat missions in vietnam most would age about 10 years if they came home these relative youngsters were given unbelievable responsibilities in unpredictable circumstances often against long odds they responded with courage and usually without recognition but they earned the respect of every grunt and ground commander who ever served in the field this is the story of one such army aviator once in vietnam dick and a group of his flight school classmates class 69 5 were assigned to the americal division in chu lai not all would return home within the americal he was assigned to the 196th light infantry brigade and flew the oh 6a light observation helicopter or loh living and flying off of 1z baldy south of danang as a 196th charger loh driver he flew probably the widest variety of missions of all loh pilots in vietnam through vignettes dick describes these mission sometimes mixed with army aviator black humor late in his tour dick transferred to a company 123rd

aviation battalion the pelicans flying off of ky ha in chu lai there he became an aircraft commander in the iconic uh 1 huey dick s story doesn t end with the day he returns to the world he concludes the book with his observations about vietnam veterans ptsd his proud life membership in the vietnam helicopter pilots association vhpa a very interesting piece about his 2011 return trip to vietnam and a chance meeting with a former viet cong foe at 1z baldy and a closing piece expressing his views of the tragedy of the vietnam war this book will interest anyone involved with aviation during the vietnam era and will appeal to those with family members who served in vietnam they will get a first person account and perspective about the war dick explains that the main reason he wrote this memoir is so his kids and grandkids and the family members of other helicopter pilots will have a better understanding of the rigors of flight school and the risks and sacrifices of those who flew helicopters in vietnam this vietnam memoir is different in that dick has studied the history of the vietnam war his being an amateur vietnam historian is evident with his use of endnotes they are interesting historical footnotes about the war and bring great perspective and a pause to his story very well written dick s writing style flows the story moves is interesting and engaging unlike some other vietnam memoirs you get the sense that his vignettes are not embellished with dick s self deprecating style and humor you will chuckle while reading about some of his experiences and saddened by others the book is richly illustrated with six maps 65 photos and four appendices on the book title you wonder dick played the flute in his high school band while in basic training at ft polk la the post band director made him an offer he could fulfill his army obligation right there playing the flute in the ft polk army band he declined opting to fly helicopters in vietnam to protect the free world from the spread of communism there were missions in vietnam when dick remembered the offer hence shoulda played the flute

in the aftermath of the euphoria brought on by our military victory in the persian gulf war is the realization that we still have much to learn the persian gulf war appears to have validated the quality of u s doctrine leadership and military prowess it showcased the technical superiority of our equipment and confirmed under fire the courage and competence of our soldiers sailors airmen and marines yet even in an overwhelming victory there are painfully hard lessons to be learned or in the case of fratricide relearned perhaps no other aspect of our failures strike the military psyche harder than fratricide this study will suggest that we do not have to accept the fratricide statistics of the past however factual as inevitable of future u s conflicts it will propose that the facts of fratricide should be gathered not as a casualty prediction planning tool but as a focus to design training and operational procedures which in conjunction with advanced technology will work towards the significant reduction if not the elimination of fratricide from attack helicopter fires

novosel was a heavy bomber pilot in world war ii and a medivac helicopter pilot in vietnam

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the true story of brad parker officer commanding a clandestine military force sent to colombia by the president of the united

states to find and kill pablo escobar an army officer and master aviator he was recruited to join an intelligence unit so secret it didn t officially exist the group was made up of a small number of active duty soldiers whose surveillance targets were directed by the president this book relates the details of some of the extraordinary operations he was involved in that span the globe and reveals the astonishing perfidy of the french government this book demands to be read because it is a fascinating glimpse into the bizarre world of black operations

thomas griffith offers a critical assessment of george c kenney s numerous contributions to macarthur s war efforts he depicts kenney as a staunch proponent of airpower s ability to shape the outcome of military engagement and a commander who shared macarthur s strategic vision

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