



Book Review,
by Don Poss.,
Webmaster, War-Stories.com and VSPA.com

Valley of the Shadow,

by Captain [Ed Y. Hall](#), U.S. Army (BG., Ret)
Captain Ed. Y. Hall (BG, Ret), *Valley of the Shadow* (Spartanburg, SC: Honoribus Press, 1986). Hall served as an advisor to the ARVN in III Corps and the Rung Sat, 1966-1967 .

Ed. Hall has also written *Valley of the Shadow*, coauthored *Flying with the Hell's Angels* and edited *Fated to Survive* and *The Search for MIAs*.

Publications written by Ed. Y. Hall concerning Harriet Quimby are:
Harriet Quimby America's First Lady of the Air.

Hi Don -- My name is Ed Hall -- I was a young army captain assigned to Advisor Team 100 and part of the army reaction force that caught the VC trying to get deep into the base and caught them firing their mortars close to the runway intersection.

This attack is covered in my Vietnam book -- VALLEY OF THE SHADOW, Honoribus Press, 1988. \$4.95 -- There are several accounts about the attack -- my book also includes the 5 Dec 1966 STARS AND STRIPES article about the attack. Your article was sent to me by my brother [[Robert Hall](#), 366th SPS, Đà Nẵng AB, Det Đông Hà, 1967-1968, VSPA Member] who was an Air Policeman serving up north at Đông Hà 1967-1968.

Blue skies, Ed Hall, USA, Ret..

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Valley of the Shadow:

I have just reread *Valley of the Shadow* for the second time. Vietnam was a country of mountains, plains, beaches, and valleys. At sunset the mountains cast a growing shadow across valleys, and though we often attempted to push-back the darkness with strings of airborne flares, inevitably, the valley was consumed by the night. *Valley of the Shadow*, like the growing phantom of sunset, was a life-changing walk through the valley, driven by the diary of a young Regular Army Armor Captain Ed Hall's split tour in South Vietnam as a staff officer (G-3 Operations, 1966-1967) and his seven months in the field as a Sub Sector Advisor.

Valley of the Shadow casts its own dark-shadow, carrying you through growing danger and knowledge that you may not live forever. *People die here—friends and enemy are killed daily—I could die here—there's no way I can make it through this war—I am going to die here—as a heart-stopping PING!-CLICK! is heard as he steps on and trips an 81 mm mortar mine.*” The fuse fails to ignite! Cheating death again, he accepted the fact that “Vietnam is all about waste and death...” and not just a *walk in the rain*.

Booby traps, bouncing betty mines, sudden movements and realizing a VC was aiming at him for a second shot and trying to kill him--they both fired and the VC fell. Alive, *but changed forever*.

Vietnam still casts its shadow. If you were there, *Valley of the Shadow* is a must read book.

Introduction by General William C. Westmoreland. “Valley of the Shadow” is a balanced view of the advisory effort through the eyes and diary of one young soldier trying to do his duty to the best of his ability in a trying situation.”

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