

Creating a Scavenger Hunt Question

The jobs of the military photographers were not only to document the war, but also to capture images for the historical record. One photographer, Chuck Cook, describes it as follows: "What the photographers did was worth doing—maybe not for the reasons the military said. They just felt that what the soldiers were going through was worth saving." In his book *Vietnam: Images from Combat Photographers*, author C. Douglas Elliott describes the images that came in from the combat operation as ones "that did not show winners and losers. They showed soldiers—often teenagers—coping as best they could with unrelenting heat and humidity, heavy packs, heavy guns, and an invisible enemy whose mines, booby traps, and snipers could cut life short without a moment's warning." In order to capture these images, photographers took many risks and suffered many of the same hardships as the soldiers and personnel they were covering.

From *The War in Vietnam - A Story in Photographs*

http://www.archives.gov/digital_classroom/lessons/vietnam_photographs/vietnam_photos.html

Sample Questions

What was the job of a military photographer?

What was the government's purpose in having military photographers?

What was shown in the photos of military photographers?

How were military photographers different from television and newspaper photographers?