

# 19 (The Final Story Requiem)

Paul Hardcastle

In 1965 Vietnam seemed like just another foreign war but it wasn't  
It was different in many ways, as so were those that did the fighting  
In World War II the average age of the combat soldier was 26  
In Vietnam he was 19  
In-in-in Vietnam he was 19The shooting and fighting of the past two weeks continued today  
25 miles west of Saigon  
I really wasn't sure what was going onNi-ni-ni 19, 19, ni-19 19  
19, 19, 19, 19In Vietnam the combat soldier typically served  
A twelve month tour of duty  
But was exposed to hostile fire almost everyday  
Ni-ni-ni 19, Ni-ni-ni 19Hundreds of thousands of men who saw heavy combat  
In Vietnam were arrested since discharge  
Their arrest rate is almost twice that of non-veterans of the same age  
There are no accurate figures of how many of these men  
Have been incarceratedBut a Veterans Administration study  
Concludes that the greater of vets  
Exposure to combat could more likely affect his chances  
Of being arrested or convictedThis is one legacy of the Vietnam WarAll those who remember the war  
They won't forget what they've seen  
Destruction of men in their prime  
Whose average was 19De-de-destruction  
De-de-destruction  
War, warDe-de-destruction, wa, wa, war, wa, war, war  
De-de-destruction  
War, warAfter World War II the men came home together on troop ships  
But the Vietnam vet often arrived home within 48 hours of jungle combat  
Perhaps the most dramatic difference between  
World War II and Vietnam was coming home  
None of them received a hero's welcomeNone of them received a heroes welcome, none of them, none of them  
Ne-ne-ne, ne-ne-ne, none of them, none of them, none of them  
None of them received a hero's welcome  
None of them received a hero's welcomeAccording to a Veteran's Administration study  
Half of the Vietnam combat veterans suffered from what  
Psychiatrists call  
Post-Traumatic-Stress-DisorderMany vets complain of alienation, rage or guilt  
Some succumb to suicidal thoughts  
Eight to ten years after coming home  
Almost eight hundred thousand men are still fighting the Vietnam WarDe-de-destruction  
Ni-ni-ni 19, 19, ni19 19

19, 19, 19, 19  
Ni-ni-ni 19, 19, ni-19 19  
19, 19, 19, 19When we came back it was different, everybody wants to know  
"How'd it happened to those guys over there  
There's gotta be something wrong somewhere  
We did what we had to doThere's gotta be something wrong somewhere  
People wanted us to be ashamed of what it made us  
Dad had no idea what he went to fight and he is now  
All we want to do is come homeAll we want to do is come home  
What did we do it for?  
All we want to do is come home  
Was it worth it

Songwriters

OLDFIELD, MIKE/HARDCASTLE, PAUL/COUTURIE, WILLIAM D / MC CORD, JONASPublished by  
Lyrics Â© EMI Music Publishing, BMG RIGHTS MANAGEMENT US, LLC

Lyrics provided by

<https://damnllyrics.com/>