Contents

Li	st of Maps	page 1x
Ac	knowledgments	X
	Note on Vietnamese Names, Military Ranks, and the Spelling the Words "Communist" and "Communism"	xii
Abbreviations		xiv
	Introduction: Understanding the Vietnam War	I
Ι	The Vietnam War in History	6
	Orthodoxy	7
	Revisionism	13
2	Vietnam 101: Origins to 1946	37
	The Vietnamese and China	39
	A New Way of Being Vietnamese and Different	
	Visions of Vietnam	45
	Vietnamese Nationalism	52
	World War II, the August Coup, and 1946	57
3	Vietnamese Communism, 1920–1959	64
	Ho Chi Minh and the Origins of Vietnamese Communism	64
	The Vietnamese Revolutionary Youth League	70
	The Indochinese Communist Party (ICP) The Vietminh	71
	The Coup of August 1945 and the Events of 1946	74 7 0
	The First Indochina War, 1946–1954	79 85
	Communism in North Vietnam, 1954–1959	90
4	America Comes to Vietnam, 1954–1963 The Geneva Accords	94
	South Vietnam and Ngo Dinh Diem	94 98
	Journ Victualii and 1150 Dinii Diciii	90

viii Contents

	The Diem Regime, 1956–1963	104
	The Buddhist Revolt and the End of the Diem Regime	III
5	The Americanization of the Vietnam War, 1963-1968	117
	South Vietnam, Late 1963 to Early 1965	118
	Johnson and McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff,	
	and Graduated Pressure	120
	Graduated Pressure and Gradual Escalation in Practice	123
	The Tet Offensive	152
6	The Vietnamization of the War	161
	Vietnamization and the Lost Victory	164
	US Forces: From Search and Destroy to Clear and Hold	166
	The Cambodian Campaign	168
	Arming the ARVN	171
	Lam Son 719	175
	Military Operations and Vietnamization	177
	Pacification	178
	"The War Is Won"	183
	Why an Easter Offensive?	186
	"The Test Passed"	188
7	The Paris Peace Accords to Black April	194
	The Abandonment of Vietnam	197
	The "Most Murderous Truce"	199
	Weapons and US versus Soviet and Chinese Aid	203
	Black April	210
	Summary and Epilogue	217
	Summary	217
	Epilogue	220
Su	ggested Readings	224
Inc	Index	