

**Aandeclark, 08:08 AM 3/28/98 , montagnard rebellion**

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Return-Path: [REDACTED]  
From: Aandeclark [REDACTED]  
Date: Sat, 28 Mar 1998 08:08:21 EST  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: montagnard rebellion

I was the team medic with Special Forces team A311A at Buon Sar Pa. The purpose of the rebellion was to obtain independence from the Vietnamese government and to set up a separate Montagnard government in the highlands. All Montagnards, regardless of which tribe they belonged to or which side they were fighting on, were asked to join forces for this rebellion. The LLDB (Vietnamese Special Forces) happened to be the only Vietnamese in the highlands and, to the best of my knowledge, had not themselves mistreated the Montagnards but were representatives of a government that had - therefore, those individuals were merely representatives of a government who were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Your second sentence which begins "Sadly" might more accurately be written "Predictably" since CIDG companies were the only Montagnards who were armed and formed into infantry companies and battalions by Special Forces teams over a period of years and therefore represented a formidable military force. The Montagnard people who were not in the CIDG program, who could reasonably be compared with American Indians in the American West, had not progressed beyond the bow and arrow stage (crossbows), which were used for hunting food, and could not possibly have presented any military threat.

*Mike Law*