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AMERICAN TRAGEDY

By KAISER, DAVID.

HARVARD U.P., 2000. Rústica. Book Condition: Nuevo. Dust Jacket Condition: Nuevo. 1. Fought as fiercely by the politicians and the public as by troops in south-east Asia, the Vietnam War - its origins, its conduct, its consequences - is still being contested. Based on newly opened archival sources, David Kaiser rewrites what we know about this conflict. reviving and expanding a venerable tradition of political, diplomatic, and military history, he shows not only why we entered the war, but also why our efforts were doomed to fall. The book draws on complete official documentation and tells the full story of how we became involved in Vietnam - and the story it tells challenges widely held assumptions about the roles of Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson. Using a range of source materials from these administrations, Kaiser shows how the policies that led to the war were developed during Eisenhowers tenure and nearly implemented in the closing days of his administration in response to a crisis in Laos; how Kennedy immediately reversed course on Laos and refused for three years to follow recommendations for military action in south-east Asia; and how Eisenhowers policies re-emerged in the military intervention mounted by the Johnson administration....



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