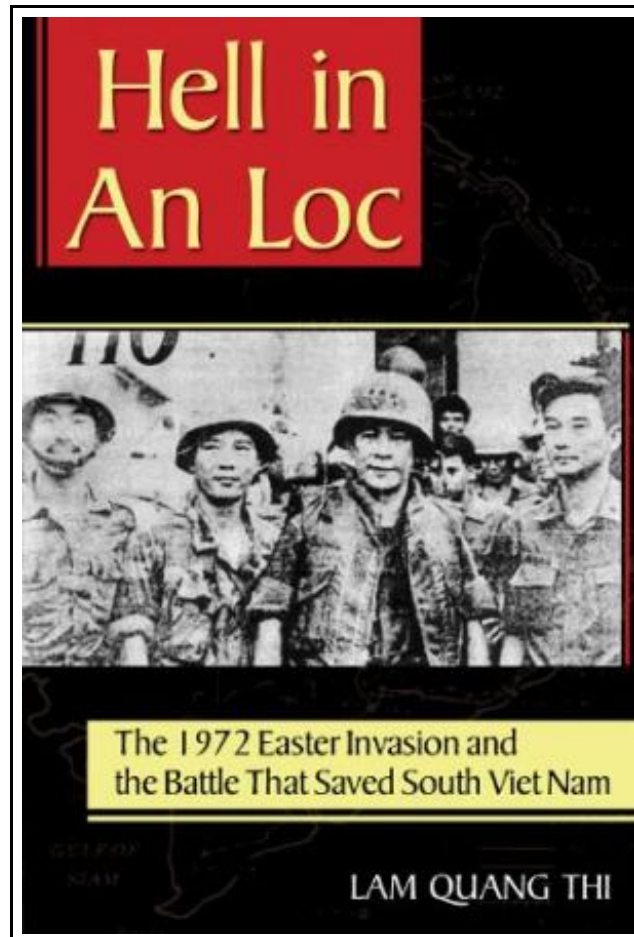


Hell in an Loc: The 1972 Easter Invasion and the Battle That Saved South Viet Nam



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(Simone Goyette II)

HELL IN AN LOC: THE 1972 EASTER INVASION AND THE BATTLE THAT SAVED SOUTH VIET NAM



University of North Texas Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 304 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.9in. x 0.9in. The title to this book is borrowed in part from the article The Battle That Saved Saigon by Philip C. Clarke (Readers Digest, March 1973). Its introduction reads: Three days before Easter last spring, the North Vietnamese struck South Vietnam with a fury unknown to the Vietnam war since the Tet offensive four years earlier. They poured south across the DMZ, smashed into the central highland from Laos, crossed the border from Cambodia and, with an army of 36,000 men and 100 Russian-made tanks, raced toward Saigon, boasting that they'd be in the city by May 19, Ho Chi Minh's birthday. From one end of the country to the other, bases and villages fell before the savagery of their onslaught. By April 5, all that blocked them from Saigon was a ragtag band of 6,800 South Vietnamese regulars and militiamen and a handful of American advisors holed up in An Loc, a once-prosperous rubber-plantation town of 15,000 astride Highway 13, which led to the capital, 60 miles to the south. An Loc, indeed, had become the symbol of the determination of the South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) and its people to stand at all costs in face of the enemy. A depleted army, outnumbered and outgunned, stood its ground and fought to the end and succeeded. Against all expectations, the ARVN beat back furious assaults from three NVA divisions, supported by artillery and armored regiments, during three months of savage fighting. Yet this victory in 1972 was largely unreported in the U. S. media, which had effectively lost interest in the war after the disengagement of U. S. forces following the Vietnamization of the conflict. In This opinion, reporting the victory of...



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