

Richard Nixon's six greatest deceptions on Vietnam:  
Or, how the media have allowed him to get away with murder

by Edward S. Herman

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Nixon's character also pointed to a continuation of the Johnson policy: weak, cold-blooded, amoral, self-righteous, capable of almost unlimited self-deception in rationalizing a preferred course of action in moral terms, and imbued with the gung-ho "win at all costs" spirit of professional athletics and the military.

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While the timetable of the "plan" has been kept vague, there was never any public acknowledgement that it contemplated the war running on four or more years. There is a timetable implicit in Nixon's 1968 campaign statement <sup>[9 Oct 68]</sup> that "Those who have had a chance for four years and could not produce peace should not be given another chance." He was asked about this in his press conference of Nov. 12, 1971, responding that "I would suggest that I be judged at the time of the campaign, rather than now, on that." On Aug. 29, 1972, with the campaign on, Nixon replied to the same questions with a complete evasion.

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