WASHINGTON PLANS AN AGGRESSIVE WAR

a group of men in Washington secretly planned and executed the Vietnam War.

Based on the now-famous Pentagon Papers, Washington Plans An Aggressive War actually takes you into the highest councils of government, for it draws upon more than 300 intensive interviews with top presidential advisers to Kennedy and Johnson and other civilian and military officials in strategic positions while the important decisions concerning the war were being made.

Here, for the first time, you will find a fascinating, continuous narrative of the events detailed in the Pentagon Papers. You will learn about the flaws in our national security system that allowed the war to be conducted while "less than one per cent of the people knew the facts." Most important, the authors explain how we can avoid such a catastrophe in the future: they offer concrete proposals for restoring institutional checks on secret decision-making.

The authors of this book charge that the war in Vietnam was no accident—no faceless, inevitable bureaucratic process. It was the consequence of decisions made by specific individuals—men who should be held responsible for their acts. These men, assert Stavins, Barnet, and Raskin, "must be publicly identified and barred, at least for a decade, from holding positions of public trust."

WASHINGTON PLANS AN AGGRES-SIVE WAR constitutes the most searching view ever made public of the secret deliberations at the highest levels of government, and of the motivation, psychology, and designs of the warmakers themselves.

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