“We was Just Us;”
De-racialization on the Front Lines of the Vietnam War

Gerald F. Goodwin
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Picture found in *Soul Soldiers: African-Americans and the Vietnam Era*. Edited by Samuel W. Black.
Race Relations in Vietnam: The African-American Perspective

- Fraternity among black and white soldiers on the front lines of Vietnam
- Relations between black and white soldiers in the rear lines
- The American government and rumors of racial genocide

Picture found in Soul Soldiers: African-Americans and the Vietnam Era. Edited by Samuel W. Black
“For the First time in my life, I saw total unity and harmony. That was the only thing that was good about Vietnam, as far as I’m concerned. For the first time in my life, I saw people as people. We was just us, you know man, it was US.”
-Robert Sanders
“I knew I might get killed saving a white boy, but he was my man. That’s all that mattered.”
- Edgar A. Huff
“I remember most profoundly some of the white guys too, my grief, believe it or not is for as many of them as it is for my black brothers.”
-Donald Jernigan
Life in the Rear Lines

Picture found in Soul Soldiers: African-Americans and the Vietnam Era. Edited by Samuel W. Black
“Time and place allowed the bond between...fellow soldiers to transcend the not-so important barriers like “race”...place gave us a chance to see the true color; green.”

-Ed Emanuel
“Word was going around, and it wasn’t a quiet word, that blacks were being drafted for genocidal purposes. Just to get rid of us—eliminate the black male. And we believed it. There was a general consensus in 1968 that there must be a conspiracy against black youth.”

–Stan Goff