Surfing to Saigon: a personal combat of

a surfer in Vietnam / by Patrick Farley

Description

At the prime age of eighteen, I was a California beach boy. When not lying in the sun, I was either chasing girls or surfing. I was working at one of the local surf shop, which catered to tourist, giving surf lessons and glassing boards. In December of 1967, my brother received his draft notice. Receiving his draft notice, his interest in my welfare became relentless. He wanted me to volunteer. He said if we were inducted together, since he was the eldest only he would go to Vietnam. I didn't know then that his lecture wasn't true. On January 11, I walked into the local draft board No.61, and voluntarily drafted myself to be inducted on January 25th of that month. The next day I received my draft notice.