After Saigon's Fall

Few historians of the Vietnam War have covered the post-1975 era or engaged comprehensively with refugee politics, humanitarianism, and human rights as defining issues of the period. After Saigon's Fall is the first major work to uncover this history. Amanda C. Demmer offers a new account of the post-war normalization of US–Vietnam relations by centering three major transformations of the late twentieth century: the reassertion of the US Congress in American foreign policy; the Indochinese diaspora and changing domestic and international refugee norms; and the intertwining of humanitarianism and the human rights movement. By tracing these domestic, regional, and global phenomena, After Saigon's Fall captures the contingencies and contradictions inherent in US-Vietnamese normalization. Using previously untapped archives to recover a riveting narrative with both policy makers and nonstate advocates at its center, Demmer's book also reveals much about US politics and society in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

Amanda C. Demmer is an assistant professor in the Department of History at Virginia Tech University.
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After Saigon’s Fall

Refugees and US-Vietnamese Relations,

1975–2000

AMANDA C. DEMMER

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Abbreviations

AHA Amerasian Homecoming Act
AI Amnesty International
AIA Amerasian Immigration Act
AIUSA Amnesty International USA Branch
ARVN Army of the Republic of Vietnam
ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CCIR Citizens Commission on Indochinese Refugees
CPA Comprehensive Plan of Action
DRV Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam)
FVPPA Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association
HO Humanitarian Operation
INS Immigration and Naturalization Service
IRC International Rescue Committee
NSC National Security Council
NEZ New Economic Zone
NGO nongovernmental organization
ODP Orderly Departure Program
POW/MIA prisoner of war / missing in action
ROVR Resettlement Opportunities for Vietnamese Refugees
RVN Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam)
SRV Socialist Republic of Vietnam
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
WSAG Washington Special Actions Group