

FADE IN:

Almost total darkness, followed by Flash of Explosion, then flashes of sporadic gun fire.

CG Overlay: **At 2:54 a.m. Viet Cong guerrillas blasted a hole in the concrete outer wall of the U.S. Embassy.**

Middle of the night at Da Nang air base with series of explosions and more rapid small arms firing. City of Da Nang empty streets, flashes of small arms fire in the night.

CG Overlay: **At 3:30 a.m. North Vietnamese forces attacked the U.S. air base at Da Nang and then attacked the city itself.**

Near dawn in Hue, North Vietnamese troops and military vehicles in the streets.

CG Overlay: **The Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Regulars are in control of most of the city of Hue.**

GEORGE on camera

Early morning on the grounds of the U.S. Embassy. Bodies of both U.S. Military and Viet Cong guerrillas on the ground.

CG Overlay: **They killed four U.S. military policemen and 1 U.S. Marine. Eleven other Americans were wounded before U.S. forces finally regained control of the Embassy compound.**

**18 guerrillas were killed and one was taken prisoner.**

GEORGE on camera

FADE IN:

**SFX:** Explosion followed by sporadic small arms fire.

**SFX:** Several quick explosions followed by more small arms fire.

**SFX:** Military vehicle engines.

GEORGE: **The North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong struck every major city and provincial capital in South Vietnam.**

GEORGE (Cont'd VO): **They were able to get into the U.S. Embassy grounds.**

(pause)

**Not a large number of troops, but enough.....?**

Embassy officials talk quietly in background as they inspect the carnage.

GEORGE (VO): **These Viet Cong forces were able to penetrate America's greatest symbol...**

(pause)

GEORGE (Cont'd): **...the U.S. Embassy.**

Inside a crowded and busy Associated Press Bureau office in Saigon.

GEORGE on camera

Peter Arnett on the U.S. Embassy grounds interviewing people.

GEORGE on camera

Inside a crowded and busy Associated Press Bureau office in Saigon.

GEORGE on camera

**CG:** Newspaper-style **Map** of South Vietnam, displaying cities where VC and North Vietnamese were attacking.

GEORGE on camera

General Westmoreland speaking with a group of reporters.

**CG Overlay: Gen. Westmoreland said the enemy attacks were a diversion...**

Panoramic view of a silent DMZ.

**CG Overlay:...to take attention away from the real North Vietnamese offensive which he expected soon to come from the north across the DMZ.**

GEORGE on camera

Long shot, George on the phone

AP office busy

GEORGE on camera

**SFX:** Busy office, type writers, phones, many conversations in background.

**GEORGE:** I was mostly in the office, doing the military round-ups, taking information from other AP correspondents.

**GEORGE (VO):** Peter Arnett was at the U.S. embassy, but I was basically in the bureau.

**GEORGE:** (I was) pulling everything together.

**SFX:** Busy office, type writers, phones, many conversations in background.

**GEORGE:** A lot of (this) information came from the U.S. Military (Command), (pause) on background.

**GEORGE (Cont'd VO):** And, I had the phone numbers of districts that were attacked, district towns, ah, provincial capitals.

**GEORGE:** I had all that.

**SFX:** Westmoreland and reporters

**SFX:** Silence. A light breeze at most.

**GEORGE:** We had other correspondents coming in wanting to see what the AP had, to figure out where they should go.

**SFX:** Busy office, type writers, phones, many conversations in background.

**GEORGE (VO):** It was really hectic in the office, a lot of activity. (We had) a lot of photographers in and out, stringers.

**GEORGE:** Yeah, I was the focal point.

Photographers taking pictures of skirmishes on the streets.

SFX: Street sounds. Sporadic gunfire in background.

CG Overlay: **Several AP correspondents report that marauding bands of guerrillas are still fighting in Saigon's streets.**

A captured, handcuffed Viet Cong leader is brought to Police officer, attracting photographers.

Saigon Police Chief points his gun at the head of a Viet Cong leader and pulls the trigger.

GEORGE (VO): **Eddie Adams took the photo of the ah...**

CG Overlay: **AP photographer Eddie Adams captured the moment a South Vietnamese Police Chief executed a Viet Cong officer with a pistol shot to the head.**

SFX: Loud sound of a single gunshot.

Photo of Viet Cong leader on the ground with bullet wound to his head.

GEORGE (VO): **Emotions were very high.**

GEORGE on camera

SFX: Street sounds in Saigon.

Saigon street, people stare at dead Viet Cong and Police Chief.

GEORGE: **In Saigon people were scarred.**

SFX: Street sounds in Saigon.

GEORGE on camera

GEORGE: **There were several correspondents, none from the AP, who were executed during TET.**

A jeep in the middle of the road with three dead bodies on the ground and one inside the jeep.

GEORGE (Cont'd VO): **They were caught on a downtown Saigon street (pause) and executed in cold blood. (pause)**

GEORGE on camera

GEORGE (Cont'd): **I knew them by name, but I didn't know them well.**

George at work in AP office

GEORGE (Cont'd VO): **I didn't sleep. Well, none of us did.**

FADE OUT: To Black Screen

CG Overlay 1: **U.S. officials said the enemy attacked 35 population centers, hit 24 air bases—destroying 130 planes—occupied five radio stations and paralyzed several main highways.**

Silence

Black screen (Cont'd).

Silence (Cont'd)

CG Overlay 2: Body counts after three days of TET Offensive:

318 Americans dead

665 Allied soldiers dead

12,704 Enemy dead

FADE OUT: Overlay, back to Black Screen

CUT TO:

George on camera

Early days of TET Offensive when enemy troops were loose in the streets.

George on camera

American fire power—jets; helicopter gunships; rocket propelled grenades; flame throwers; etc.—targeting urban neighborhoods and shanty towns.

South Vietnamese refugees on the roads carrying their belongings, trying to keep their families together, fleeing the fighting.

CG Overlay 1: Tens of thousands of terrified civilians streamed from their shacks and huts in Saigon with what meager belongings they could carry.

CG Overlay 2: Nearly 200,000 frightened refugees are reported fleeing the fighting around their homes throughout South Vietnam.

Urban street fighting.

CG Overlay 3: Deaths and injuries throughout the nation are assumed to be will in the thousands.

GEORGE: I was impressed by how the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese were able to coordinate all these attacks.

GEORGE (Cont'd VO): How they were able to get in all these cities, and (they) found ways to infiltrate Saigon.

GEORGE: I also knew that they wouldn't be able to hold them (because I knew) that they'd eventually be forced back.

GEORGE (Cont'd VO): (It was pretty obvious) with the American fire power and...?????

SFX: Battle sounds in the background, voices and miscellaneous sounds of refugees on roads trying to flee the violence.

SFX: Small arms skirmishes in urban settings.