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Vietnam War, 1961-1975 - Missing in action - United States

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Nota di contenuto Introduction: The politics of loss -- Go public : the construction of loss

-- For us the war still goes on : the limits of homecoming -- As it has in the past : a short history of oblivion -- Fullest possible accounting : the persistence of the past -- The wilderness years : life after death -- Highest national priority : resurrection and retribution -- Not to close the door, but to open it : the ambiguity of recovery -- Conclusion: This

thing has consumed American politics for years.

Sommario/riassunto Fewer Americans were captured or missing during the Vietnam War

than in any previous major military conflict in U.S. history. Yet despite their small numbers, American POWs inspired an outpouring of concern that slowly eroded support for the war. Michael J. Allen reveals how wartime loss transformed U.S. politics well before, and long after, the

war's official end. Throughout the war's last years and in the decades since, Allen argues, the effort to recover lost warriors was as much a means to establish responsibility for their loss as it was a search for answers about their fate. Thoug