EVENTS CALENDAR

Diplomatic History Series
LIEN-HANG NGUYEN

"Spies, Allies, and Murder?: The Ominous Origins of the Tet Offensive"

Thursday, February 06, 2014, 12:00PM - 1:30PM
Mershon Center for International Security Studies
1501 Neil Ave. Columbus, OH 43201

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Lien-Hang Nguyen is associate professor of history at University of Kentucky. She received her B.A. from University of Pennsylvania and her Ph.D. from Yale University. She has held fellowships at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University, the former John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies at Harvard University, and International Security Studies at Yale University. Her first book, Hanoi’s War: An International History of the War for Peace (UNC Press, 2012) won the Edward M. Coffman Prize, Stuart L. Bernath Book Prize, and was a finalist for the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Book Prize. Nguyen has also published numerous peer-reviewed articles and scholarly essays on the wars for Vietnam, and has written pieces for The New York Times, BBC, and San Jose Mercury News.

Abstract

Although the Tet Offensive represented a major turning point in the Vietnam War, much of North Vietnam’s decision making surrounding the offensive remains unclear. Based on recently declassified materials from Vietnam, this paper reveals how North Vietnamese domestic politics and foreign relations influenced Hanoi’s strategy deliberation for the 1968 offensive.