Series summary: Police/crime drama set in contemporary Miami. Follows the exploits of undercover Vice Squad detectives Sonny Crockett (Don Johnson) and Ricardo Tubbs (Philip Michael Thomas). Both Crockett and squad commander Lt. Martin Castillo (Edward James Olmos) are Vietnam veterans.

Smuggler’s blues (2/1/1985)

Credits: director, Paul Michael Glaser; writer, Miguel Pinero
Cast: Richard Jenkins, Jaime L. Sanchez, Richard Edson
Summary: Drug smugglers are being killed and someone in the DEA, FBI or local police is arranging the killings. Crockett and Tubbs pose as smugglers to investigate. On a trip to Cartagena, Crockett reminisces about his Vietnam experience.

Buddies (11/1/1985)

Credits: director, Dan Mastrogeorge; writer, Frank Military
Cast: James Remar, Eszter Balint, Karla Tamburelli, Tom Signorelli
Summary: A stripper helps Crockett and Tubbs search for a missing woman fleeing her abusive husband, mobster Johnny Cannata. She has papers that could incriminate him. In the investigation Crockett finds that his close friend from Vietnam is really Cannata’s son.

Back in the world (12/6/1985)

Credits: director, Don Johnson; writer, Terry McDonell
Cast: Bob Balaban, G. Gordon Liddy
Summary: Ira Stone, a journalist Crockett knew in Vietnam, informs him about a general who smuggled heroin back to the U.S. in dead bodies and is now selling it. Maynard, the man who told Stone about the scheme, is another Vietnam connection. But when Crockett and Tubbs interrogate Maynard, he tells them Stone made the whole story up. Eventually the duplicity of both Stone and Maynard is revealed.

The savage (2/6/1987)

Credits: director, John Nicolella; writer, Marvin Kupfer
Cast: Haing S. Ngor, Helena Bonham Carter, Judith Manila, Gary Basaraba
Summary: Lt. Castillo helps a former detective and friend from his Vietnam days pursue a hitman who wants to kill a visiting Latin American leader in order to prevent him from giving an important speech.

Auster, Albert and Quart, Leonard. How the war was remembered: Hollywood & Vietnam. [GB] (p. 112)


Devine, Jeremy M. Vietnam at 24 frames a second [GB] (p. 207, 238, 342)


Kellner, Douglas (see under Best, Steven)
Knight, Bob (Bok). “Miami vice” Variety 316 (Sep 19, 1984), p. 95.
Moore, Trudy S. [Miami vice] Ebony 40 (Sc 1985), p. 92+
O’Connor, John J. “A hospital and a crime series start” New York times 133 (Sep 15, 1984), p. 46.
Quart, Leonard (see under Auster, Albert)
Randolph, Laura B. [Miami vice] Essence 16 (Nov 1985), p. 64-6+
Rochlin, Margy. “‘Vice’ is nice...” American film 11 (Sep 1986), p. 20-25+ [8 p.]
Tannenbaum, Rob. “‘Miami vice’ goes on record” Rolling stone 459 (Oct 24, 1985), p. 16.
“Universal may pull ‘Vice’ outta Miami to control costs” Variety 322 (Mar 19, 1986), p. 44.
Worrell, Denise (see under Zoglin, Richard)