From: Reviews and Criticism of Vietnam War Theatrical and Television Dramas
(http://www.lasalle.edu/library/vietnam/FilmIndex/home.htm)
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O5855 187 [ONE EIGHTY-SEVEN] (USA, 1997)

Credits: director, Kevin Reynolds; writer, Scott Yagemann.
Cast: Samuel L. Jackson, John Heard, Kelly Rowan, Clifton Gonzalez Gonzalez.
Summary: Detective/mystery film set in contemporary New York City and Los Angeles. Dedicated New York science instructor Trevor Garfield (Jackson) is a man with a passion for learning. Garfield is skilled, smart, committed: the total package as a teacher. But what he confronts in a school turned increasingly into a battlefield may be more than he can bear. When he is attacked by a psychotic student, he leaves New York for Los Angeles and resumes teaching in a Latino neighborhood. When a vicious student there is found murdered, Garfield falls under suspicion. The Vietnam connection stems from the Russian roulette scene in *The Deer Hunter* which plays on a television in the background with an implied link to a student’s suicide.

Dougherty, Robin. “‘187’” *Sight and sound* 7 (Sep 1997), p. 52-3. [Reprinted in *Film review annual 1998*]


Kaltenbach, Chris. “Depressing ‘187’ is like nails across a chalkboard” Baltimore sun (Jul 30, 1997), p. 3E.


[Reprinted in Film review annual 1998]


McDonagh, Maitland. “‘187’” Film journal 100 (Sep 1997), p. 52.


[Reprinted in Film review annual 1998]

Millar, Jeff. “Gritty teacher’s tale rings true” Houston chronicle (Jul 30, 1997), Houston, p. 1.

[Reprinted in Film review annual 1998]


Pearson, Mike. “‘187’ a rough ‘n’ riveting ordeal” Rocky Mountain news [Denver, CO] (Dec 26, 1997), p. 1D.

Persall, Steve. “Rod not spared, movie nearly spoiled” St. Petersburg times (Jul 30, 1997), p. 1D.

Peterson, Deborah. “Inside the urban jungle called a school, with Samuel L. Jackson” St. Louis post-dispatch (Aug 1, 1997), Everyday magazine, p. 3E.
Philpot, Robert. “‘187’ struggles to be more than a blackboard bungle” Fort Worth Star-Telegram (Jul 30, 1997), Life & arts, p. 1.


Schwan, Gary. “‘187’ has more than a ring of truth in plot” Palm Beach Post (Jul 30, 1997), p. 4D.


Simmons, Sheila. “Terror in class: ‘187’ a compelling thriller about a teacher’s world, but mysterious crimes stretch viewer’s credulity” Plain Dealer [Cleveland] (Jul 30, 1997), p. 5E.

Simon, Jeff. “‘187’ gives a poor lesson in violence as the solution” Buffalo News (Jul 30, 1997), p. 5C.


Wilson, Brandon. “School of hard knocks” American cinematographer 78 (Aug 1997), p. 82-4+ [9 p.]
Wuntch, Philip. “‘187’ is promising drama, but has a number of flaws” Dallas morning news (Jul 30, 1997), p. 1C.
Wyatt, Gene. “Samuel Jackson brings depth to ‘187’” The Tennessean (Jul 30, 1997), p. 3D.

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