



# Knowledge Organiser – Unit Two: Vietnam 1954-73

## Timeline

1. 1954	Battle of Dien Bien Phu and France leaves Vietnam Vietnam is split into North and South at the Geneva Conference.
2. 1963	Ngo Din Dien is assassinated
3. 1964	The Gulf of Tonkin Incident
4. 1965	US combat troops enter Vietnam for the first time Operation Rolling Thunder begins
5. 1966	Search and Destroy missions start First anti-war protest, 50,000 attendees
6. 1968	The Tet Offensive – 30 <sup>th</sup> January The My Lai Massacre – 16 <sup>th</sup> March
7. 1969	The US begins to pull out troops and starts Vietnamisation
8. 1970	Invasion of Cambodia – US/ARVN invades Laos to attack the VC The Kent State Massacre – 4 student anti-war protesters killed
9. 1971	Invasion of Laos – The ARVN invades Laos to attack VC fighters The Fulbright Hearings – US inquest into the Vietnam War
10. 1973	Paris Peace Conference – Peace agreed and all US troops leave.
11. 1975	The North invades and captures the South, unites Vietnam

## Key Words

13.	Ho Chi Minh	Communist leader of the Vietminh and North Vietnam
14.	NVA	North Vietnamese Army
15.	Vietminh	Communist party of North Vietnam
16.	Containment	From 'Truman Doctrine' to stop the spread of communism
17.	Domino Theory	Theory that if Vietnam fell to communism, other countries (Laos, Cambodia and Thailand) would fall too.
18.	Tonkin Resolution	In 1964, US President Johnson is given legal power to directly attack North Vietnam and officially go to war.
19.	Ngo Dinh Dien	Leader of South Vietnam 1955-63
20.	ARVN	Army of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam)
21.	Vietcong or VC	Communist fighters in South Vietnam
22.	Guerilla Warfare	Tactic used by the Vietcong against the US, involved the use of ambushes, traps and infiltration.
23.	Ho Chi Min Trail	Supply route from the North used by the Vietcong.
24.	Operation Rolling Thunder	US bombing campaign against North Vietnam between 1965-68.
25.	Agent Orange	Chemical defoliant/weed killer used by the US.
26.	Napalm	Petrol based bombs used by the US airforce
27.	Search and Destroy	US tactic to hunt, interrogate and kill Vietcong fighters in South Vietnam.
28.	My Lai Massacre	US massacre and rape of 400 Vietnamese civilians during a Search and Destroy mission in 1968.
29.	Tet Offensive	Surprise attack during the 1968 Tet Festival on 100 cities across South Vietnam by the VC and NVA.
30.	Media War	The 24/7 access to war coverage in America.
31.	Vietnamisation	US policy to train the ARVN to replace US soldiers.
32.	Linebacker I & II	US bombing campaign in 1971-72

## Key Concepts

12. The Cold War	<p>A period of hostility between America and Russia after WW2. It was a clash between two ideologies; <b>capitalism vs. communism</b>.</p> <p>America was a capitalist country, who wanted to stop the spread of communism from Russia. They feared that Russia's influence was dangerous and must be stopped. A key reason for Americans involvement in Vietnam.</p>
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