

★ Reteaching Activity 26

The Vietnam War, 1954–1975

The United States became involved in Vietnam to stop the spread of communism. The American military expected a decisive victory. The determined Vietcong thwarted this goal through guerrilla warfare and a willingness to accept high casualties.

DIRECTIONS: Put the following events in chronological order. Write the number of the event next to the appropriate year. (Months are specified if more than one event occurred that year.) The first one has been completed for you.

1949	8	1. American troops destroy Vietcong bases in Cambodia. New protests erupt.
1954	_____	2. American ground troops are finally committed in Operation Rolling Thunder.
1956	_____	3. With the fall of Dien Bien Phu, France concedes defeat. Geneva Accords divide Vietnam along the 17th Parallel, with the Vietminh in control in the north.
1963	_____	4. Vietcong execute the surprise Tet offensive.
1964	_____	5. "Christmas bombings" relentlessly strike Hanoi for 12 days, bringing North Vietnam and the United States back to the bargaining table.
1965:		6. Kissinger begins secret negotiations with Le Duc Tho about potential cease-fire.
Feb.	_____	7. Diem refuses to participate in nationwide elections in Vietnam.
Mar.	_____	8. France establishes new government led by emperor Bao Dai. The Vietminh resist.
1967	_____	9. A rally at Washington, D.C.'s, Lincoln Memorial draws tens of thousands of protesters.
1968:		10. United States withdraws troops from Vietnam and exchanges POWs.
Jan.	_____	11. Vietcong attack a Special Forces base at Pleiku. The United States retaliates with air strikes in North Vietnam.
Aug.	_____	12. Nixon begins troop withdrawal, in accordance with his Vietnamization policy.
1969:		13. Congress issues the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, authorizing President Johnson to take all necessary steps to prevent further aggression by the Vietcong.
Jun.	_____	14. Saigon falls to the Vietcong. The United States evacuates all American personnel.
Aug.	_____	15. Antiwar protesters riot at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.
1970:		16. Daniel Ellsberg leaks the "Pentagon Papers" to <i>The New York Times</i> .
Apr.	_____	17. Ohio National Guard soldiers kill four and wound nine students at Kent State University during an antiwar protest.
May	_____	18. Rebel generals assassinate South Vietnamese leader Ngo Dinh Diem.
Dec.	_____	19. Congress repeals the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.
1971	_____	
1972	_____	
1973	_____	
1975	_____	

20. Critical Thinking In your opinion, how greatly did the media, both print and broadcast, affect the outcome of the Vietnam War?