



# Knowledge Organiser – Unit Two: Vietnam 1954-73

## Timeline

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

## Key Concepts

<b>12. The Cold War</b>	<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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## Key Words

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