

# World History since 1500



Wayne E. Sirmon

# History 104

## World History since 1500

April 25      Article Review 4 **LATE**

Before  
May 3      *Spirits of the Passage*  
GulfQuest – EXTRA CREDIT

May 3      Review Session  
3:30 – 5:30

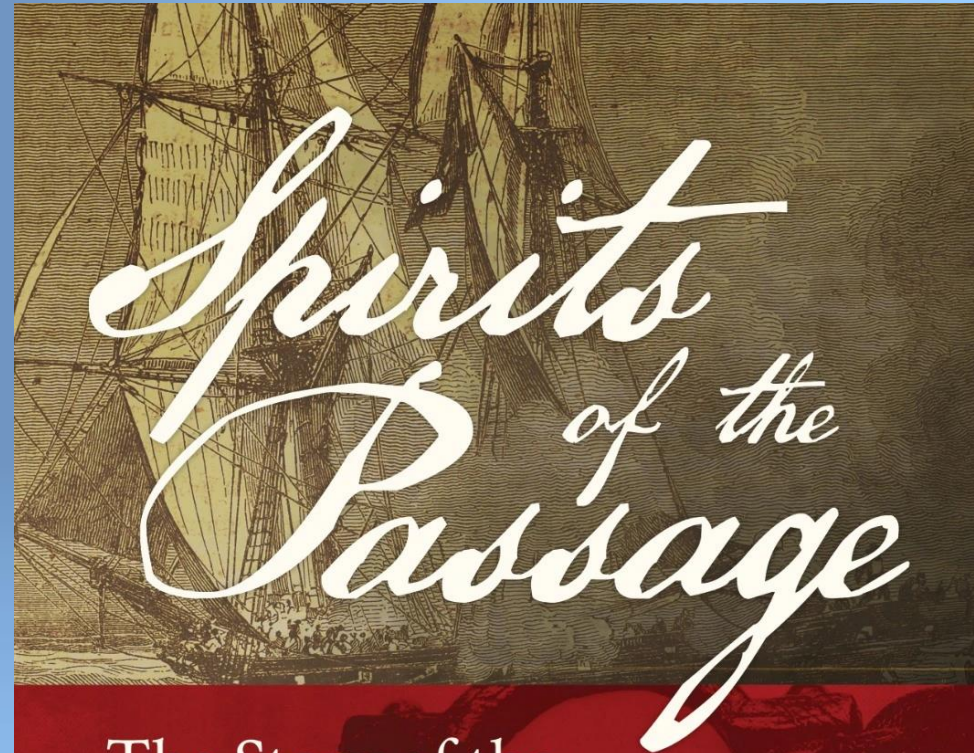
May 4      **Exam Four (Ch. 25-27)**

# History 104

## World History since 1500



**155 S Water St**  
**next to Alabama Cruise Terminal**



The Story of the  
Transatlantic Slave Trade

1. Visit the museum WED – SAT - 10 - 4
2. Check out exhibits *Spirits of the Passage* plus one of the regular exhibits
3. email a selfie of you in front of an exhibit
- 4, email a summary of your visit 50-100 words
5. receive refund of cost of admission (\$8) from Mr. Sirmon



# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



## **1910-1945**

**Korea ruled by Japan in  
“Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere”**

**USSR heads south from Manchuria  
US heads north**

**Occupation Zones meet at 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel  
DEC 1945 – independence in 5 years**

**North and South Korean governments  
organized in 1948**

**USSR troops withdraw in 1948, US in 1949**



# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



## **1950-1953**

“Police Action” conducted under the auspices of the UN  
“6-2-5 Upheaval” (ROK- from June 25 invasion)  
“Fatherland Liberation War”  
“War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea”

**North Koreans supported China PLA with 50-70,000 Korean veterans returning with weapons in 1949**

**North armed by USSR 1949-1950**  
**Stalin gave permission to invade with condition that China would agree to send reinforcements if needed. Soviet officers sent as advisors. Mao agrees in May 1950.**

**June 25, 1950 – invasion**  
**June 27, 1950 – Seoul (capitol) captured**

# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



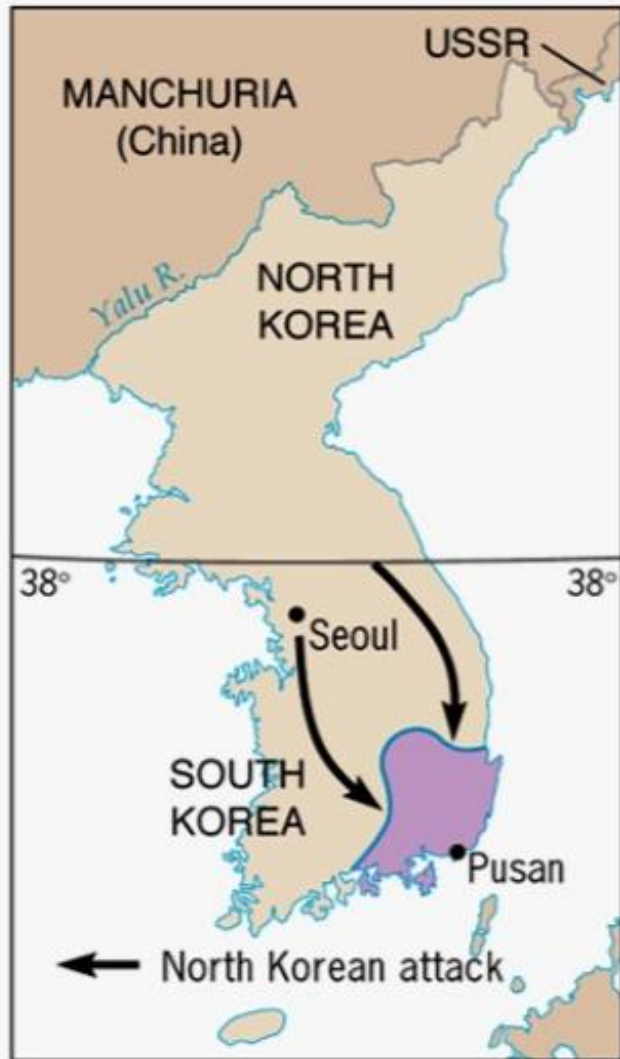
## **UN Security Council Resolution 82** *Condemn Invasion*

**Jun 25, 1950 – passes unanimously**  
USSR was boycotting since January to protest Republic of China (Taiwan) not People's Republic of China held a permanent seat in the UN Security Council

## **UN Security Council Resolution 83** *Recommend member states provide military assistance to South Korea*

**Jun 27, 1950 -**

## *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



Sept. 14, 1950

### North Korean Military

150-200,000 troops

150 fighter aircraft

110 attack bombers

280 tanks

200 artillery

### South Korean Military

98,000 troops

No combat aircraft

No tanks



# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



## United States Response

**Task Force Smith**

**June 20 – Truman authorizes GEN MacArthur to commit ground forces**

*“arrogant display of strength”*

**July 1 – airlift makeshift Infantry BN to “make contact and fight a delaying action”**

**July 4 – joined by six 105mm artillery**

**July 5 – force of 514 men attacked by 5,000 infantry supported by 36 tanks**

**Delaying action of 7 hours costs US 60 KIA, 21 wounded, and 82 POW**

**AUG 1950 – Congress approve \$12 billion**

**Truman calls for naval blockade**

*cuts in defense + buildup of nuclear  
not enough navy warships*



## *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



### **UN forces build in Pusan**

**August 1950- USAF interdiction**

**September 1950 – UN counterattack**

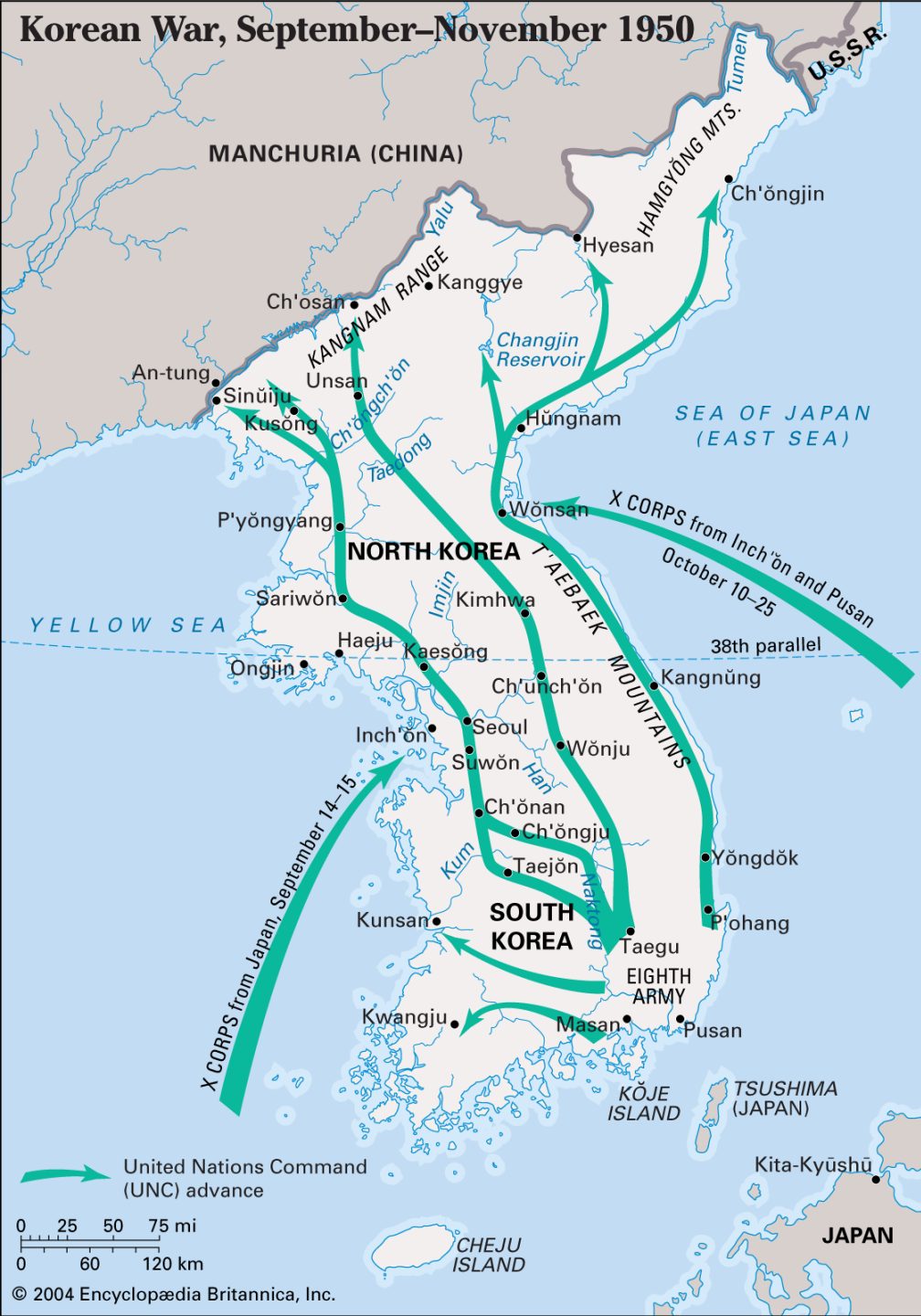
**15 SEP 50– Amphibious landing at Incheon**

**25 SEP 50 – Seoul recaptured**

**30 SEP 50 - China warned US that they were prepared to intervene if US crossed north of 38<sup>th</sup> parallel**

**1 OCT 50 ROK forces cross 38<sup>th</sup> parallel, MacArthur demands unconditional surrender**

**7 OCT 50 – UN forces drive north, including 2 landings and 1 airborne drop**



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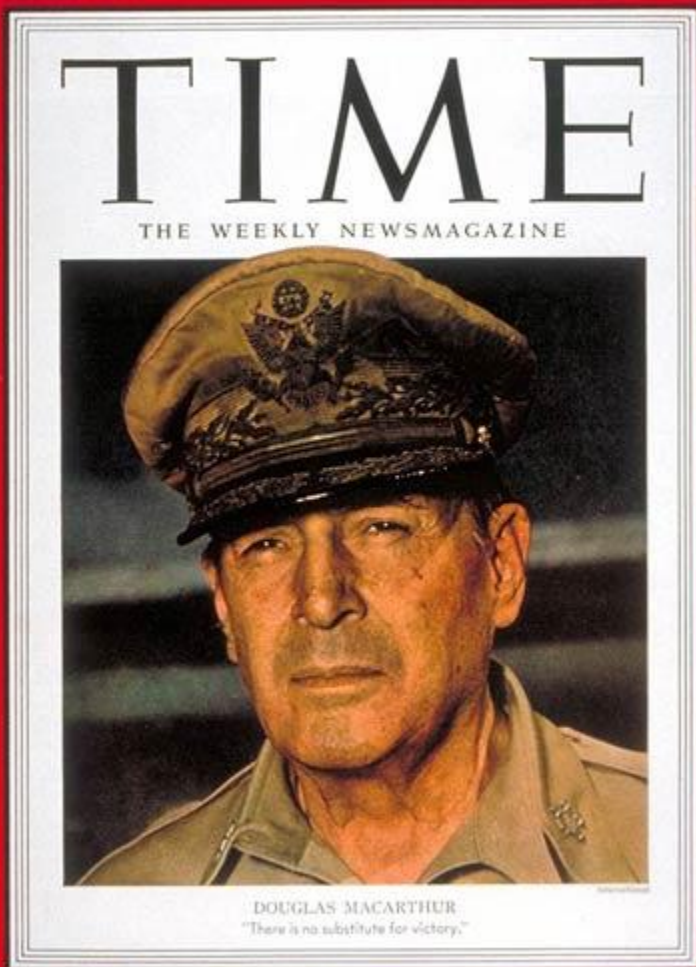
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# Douglas MacArthur

1950 Man of the Year  
April 30, 1951 edition

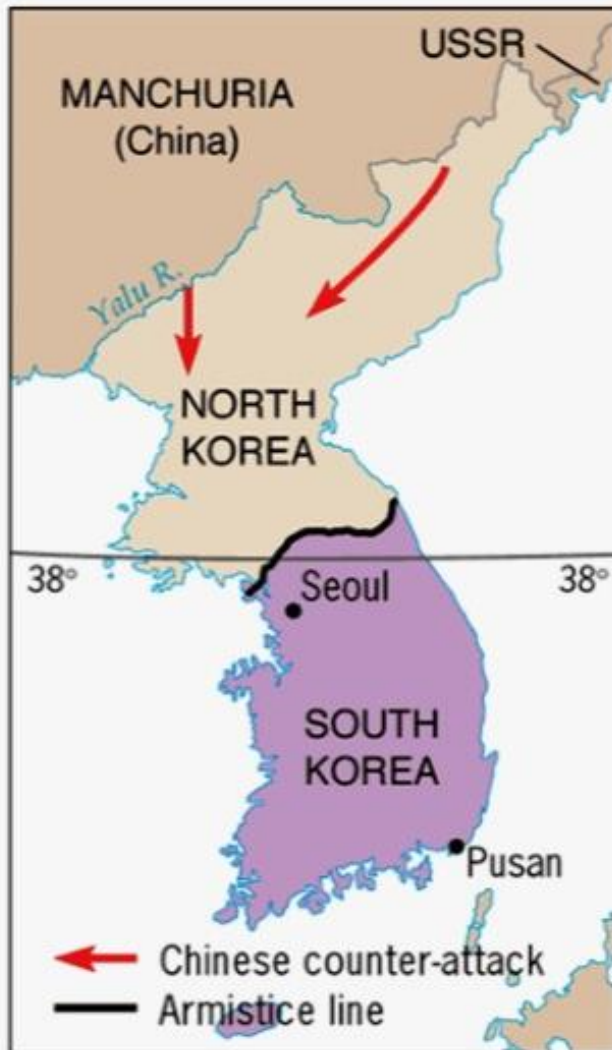
Relieved of all duties  
April 11, 1951

In November and December 1950, hundreds of thousands of Chinese troops crossed into North Korea and flung themselves against the American lines, driving the U.S. troops back into South Korea. MacArthur then asked for permission to bomb communist China and use Nationalist Chinese forces from Taiwan against the People's Republic of China. Truman flatly refused these requests and a very public argument began to develop between the two men.





# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*



July 27, 1953

## **China intervenes**

**October 25, 1950 – 200,000 enter North Korea**

**Marched “dark-to-dark” with excellent march and bivouac discipline**

**January, 1951 – front lines center around 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel**

**July, 1951 – July 1953 – Stalemate  
series of peace negotiations  
significant bombing of North Korea**

**July 27, 1953 - Armistice**



**1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division would face the brunt of the Chinese attack During the war it suffered 3,811 KIA, 12,086 WIA and counted among it troopers 9 Medal of Honor recipients:**

# *East and West in the Grip of the Cold War*

## **KOREA**

	<i>KIA</i>
<i>ROK</i>	<i>137,899</i>
<i>USA</i>	<i>36,940</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>1,078</i>
<i>Turkey</i>	<i>741</i>
<i>Australia</i>	<i>339</i>
<i>Canada</i>	<i>312</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>262</i>
<b>UN total</b>	<b>178,569</b>



	<i>KIA</i>
<i>DPRK</i>	<i>215,000</i>
<i>PRC</i>	<i>183,108</i>
<i>USSR</i>	<i>282</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>398,500+</b> (US est. add 217,000)

# Vietnam (1950-1975)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Indochina War





# 13 March - 7 May 1954



# Battle Of Dien Bien Phu

13 March - 7 May 1954

## POSSIBLE REASONS FOR FRENCH DEFEAT (Viet Minh Victory):

- French Tactics, strategy, arrogance, political factors
- Viet Minh tactical competence, determination, surprising array of weapons and capabilities

## RESULTS:

- **FRENCH: 7184 KIA,**
- **11000 CAPTURED**
- **VIET MINH: 8000 KIA, 12000 WIA**





# The First Vietnam War Aftermath

- **Geneva Accords, 21 July 1954**
  - Vietnam divided at 17th parallel
  - Elections to be held in two years
  - 300 days allowed for free movement between north and south
- **French depart Hanoi on 9 Oct 1954**
- **Viet Minh formally take over Hanoi and North Vietnam on 11 Oct 1954**





# The Domino Theory



**“You have a row of dominoes set up; you knock over the first one, and what will happen to the last one is that it will go over very quickly. So you have the beginning of a disintegration that would have the most profound influences.”**

-- President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 7 Apr 1954  
on the impending fall of Vietnam to communism



**National Defense Service Medal**  
January 1, 1961 – August 14, 1974

**Vietnam Service Medal**  
July 1, 1958 – March 28, 1973



1 November 1955  
30 April 1975

# U.S. Response to Insurgency, 1957-63

- **Advisors**
- **Special Forces**
- **Air Support**
- **Strategic Hamlets**



# JFK and Vietnam

- **Late 1960: National Liberation Front established in the South**
- **11 May 61: JFK approves increased aid to RVN and sends 400 SF troops**
- **11 Dec 61: first U.S. Army helicopters arrive in Vietnam**
- **Sep 1962 - Feb 1963: 5th SF Group established at Nha Trang**
- **12 Jan 62: first “Ranch Hand” missions**
- **13 Jan 62: U.S.A.F. pilots fly first “Farm Gate” missions**
- **8 Feb 62: USMACV established in Saigon**
- **2 Nov 63: Diem and brother assassinated during coup**
- **22 Nov 63: JFK assassinated in Dallas**







No fouling

# Gulf of Tonkin Incident

## August 1964



No fouling



- 2 Aug: attack on *Maddox*
- 4 Aug: attack *Maddox* and *C. Turner Joy*?
- 5 Aug: Operation PIERCE ARROW
- 7 Aug: Gulf of Tonkin Resolution passed

# National Strategy?

- **Guns and Butter**
  - protect Great Society programs
  - expand draft, but no major call up of reserves
  - lack of candor with the news media and public concerning military commitments in SE Asia
- **“Out of country”** -- graduated escalation through airpower
- **“In country”** -- troop buildup and logistic expansion



# American Military Personnel in South Vietnam

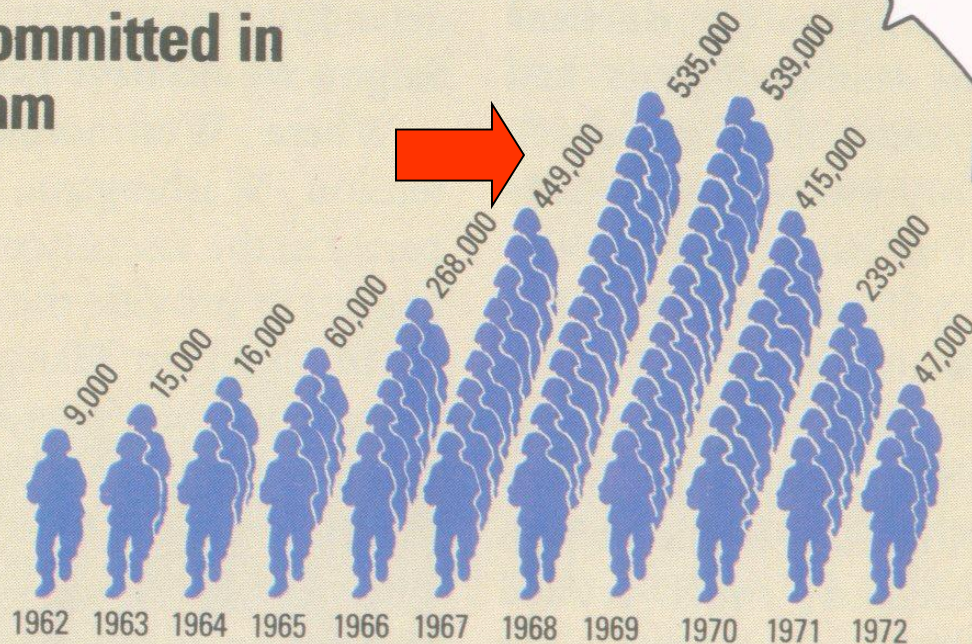


(end of year)	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
U.S. military personnel	875	3,164	11,326	16,263	23,310
Deaths from hostile action	NA	1	31	77	137
USAF sorties flown	NA	NA	2,334	6,929	5,362
U.S. aircraft lost to hostile action:					
Fixed-wing	NA	NA	7	14	30
Helicopters	NA	NA	4	9	22



# US forces committed in South Vietnam

1962-72



# ***The Situation According to Gen Westmoreland (and LBJ)***

**“With 1968 a new phase is now starting... We have reached an important point where the end begins to come into view.”**

**General William Westmoreland  
National Press Club, Washington, DC  
21 Nov 1967**

**“The concept [of his way of conducting the war] is compatible with the evolution of the war since our military commitment [began] and portrays to the American people ‘some light at the end of the tunnel.’ ”**

**General William Westmoreland  
Briefing to MACV Staff, Saigon,  
late 1967**

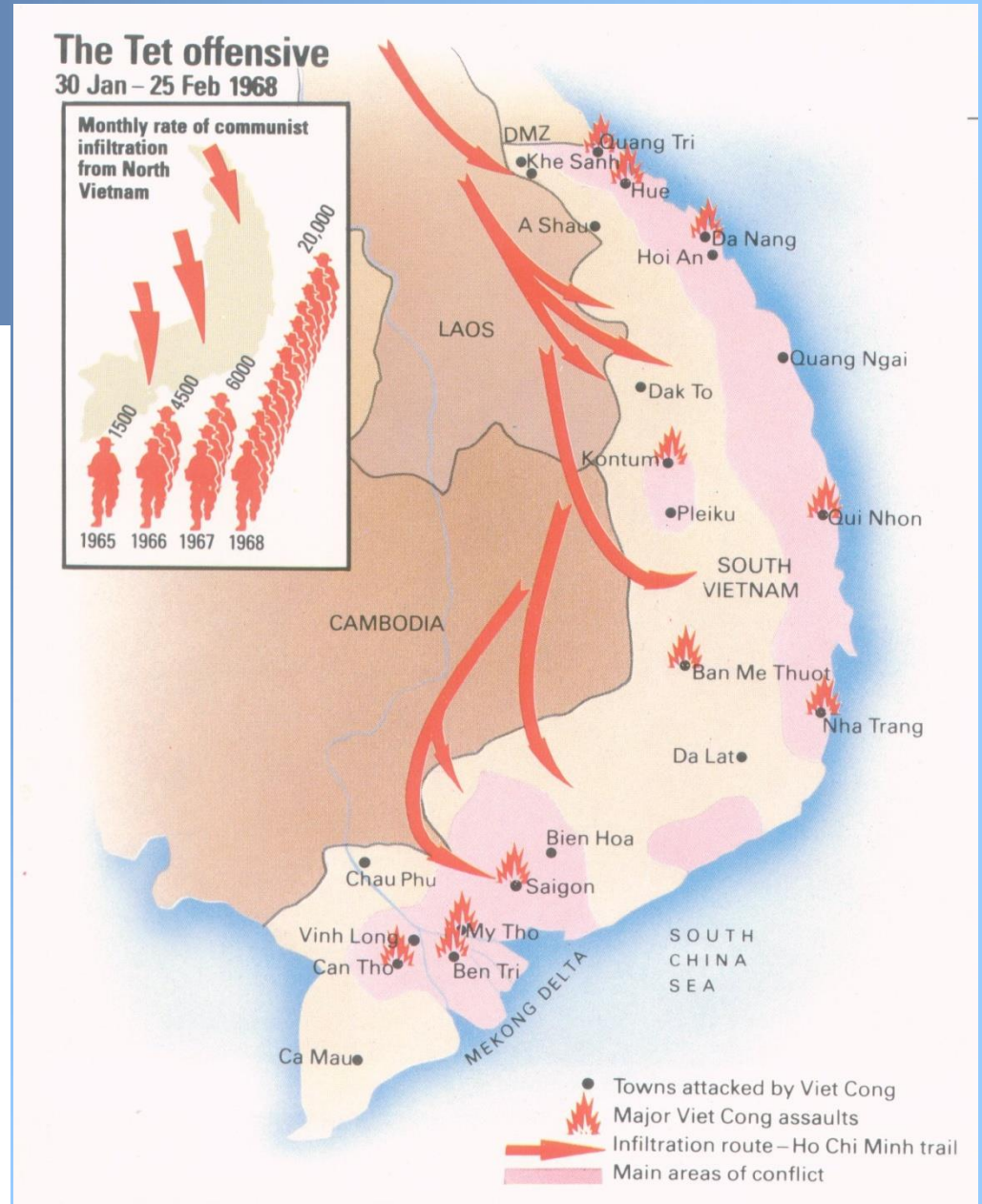


**What Is the Effect of Raising  
Expectations With the American Public ?**



# Tet: Communist Plans - 1968

- General Offensive
- General Uprising
- Forces and Deployment
  - 80,000 NVA and VC troops
  - 36 of 44 province capitals;  
5 of 6 autonomous cities
  - 23 airfields/bases





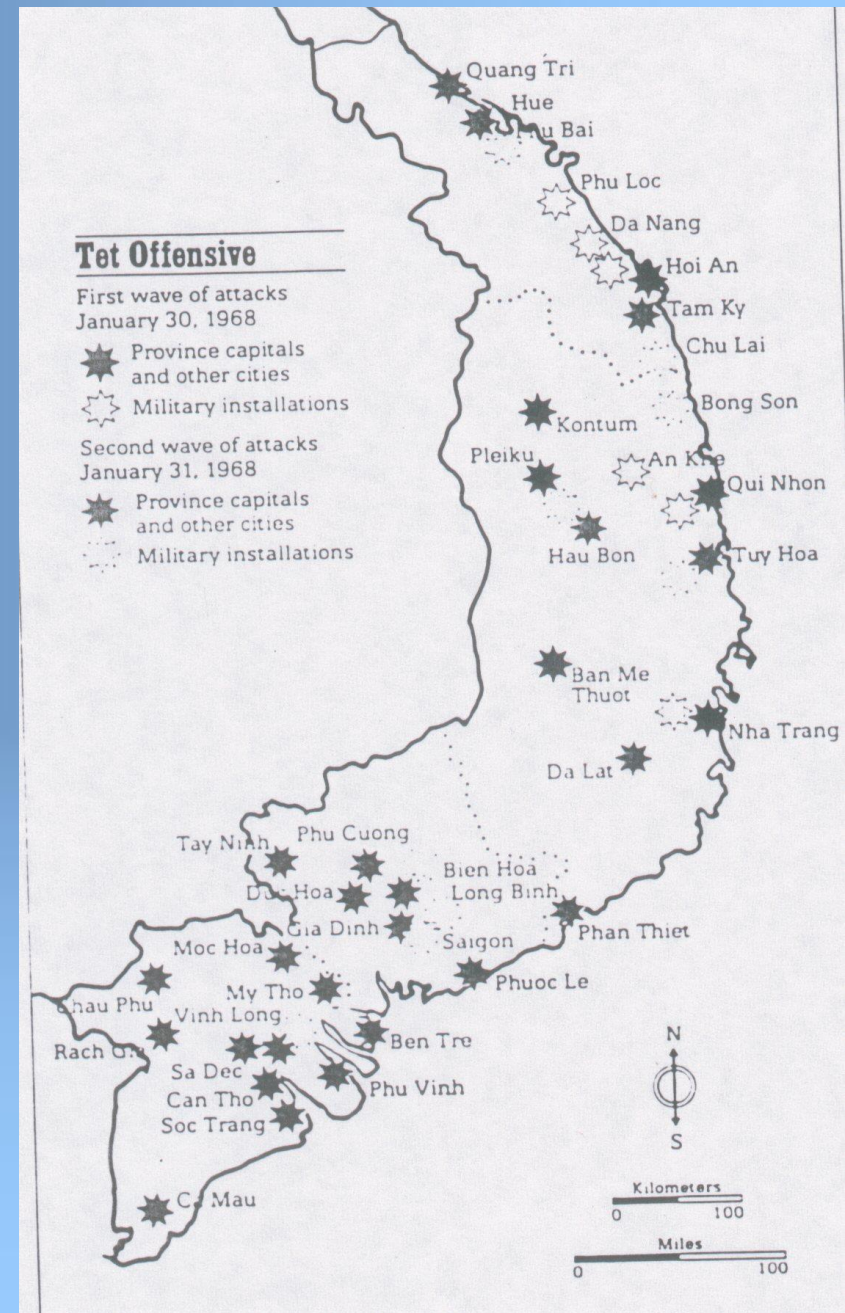
# Tet 1968: the Attack

**21 Jan: Khe Sanh besieged by North Vietnamese forces**

**30 Jan: the attack begins; NVA and VC achieve temporary control of 10 province capitals**

**31 Jan: the attacks on Hue and Saigon**

- 15 VC sappers attack U.S. Embassy
- 5 VC/NVA battalions attack Saigon (Cho Lon)
- 4 NVA battalions and 6 VC battalions attack Hue



# TET 1968:

## Military Results

- ARVN and U.S. forces initially hard pressed, then react quickly to retake most objectives in short time
- Hue and Khe Sanh are most costly battles
- U.S. losses = 1,001 KIA
- Allied losses = 313 KIA; 2,082 RVNAF KIA
- People's Liberation Army and PAVN = 40,000 KIA
- 14,300 South Vietnamese civilians killed



*What are the impacts and effects?*

# TET 1968:

## Political Results

### U.S.:

- Johnson administration's loss of credibility
- 31 March: LBJ announces unilateral bombing halt and decision not to run for re-election
- May: peace talks begin in Paris
- Anti-war sentiment in U.S. grows
- Nixon elected

### NORTH VIETNAM:

- Hanoi leadership admits errors, cuts losses
- VC virtually destroyed
- shifts strategy





# **Tet and the Role of the U.S. Media**

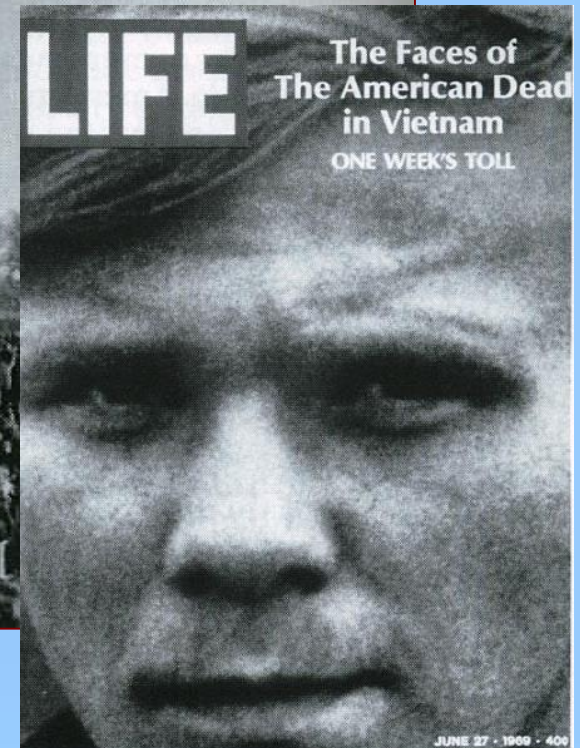


**“To say we are closer to victory today is to believe, in the face of the evidence...optimists who have been wrong in the past. To suggest that we are on the verge of defeat is to yield to unreasonable pessimists. To say we are mired in stalemate seems the only realistic yet unsatisfactory conclusion.**

**It is increasingly clear to this reporter that the only rational way out would be to negotiate...as an honorable people who have lived up to their pledge to victory and democracy and did the best they could.”**

**Walter Cronkite, CBS News  
27 February 1968**

# The Mood In America





# The Mood In America



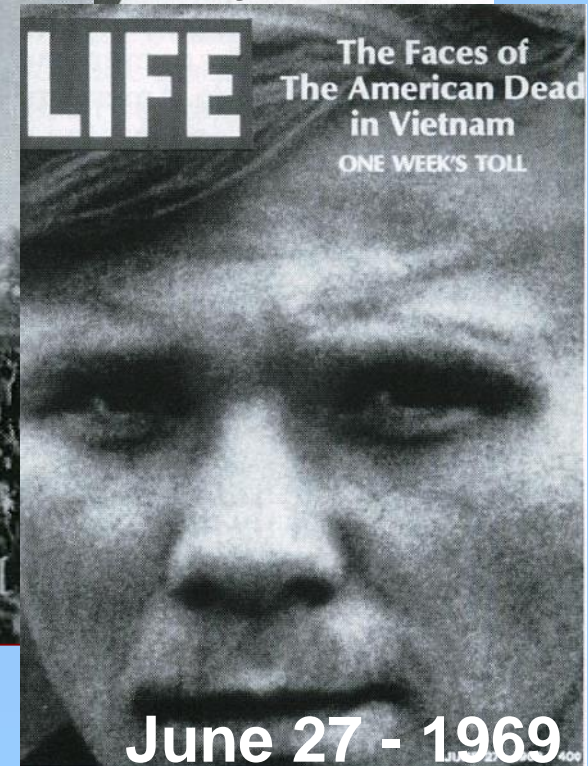
**Kent State - May 4, 1970**



**November 15, 1969,  
Moratorium March on Washington**



**July - 1972**



**June 27 - 1969**



# Vietnamization (1969-1973)

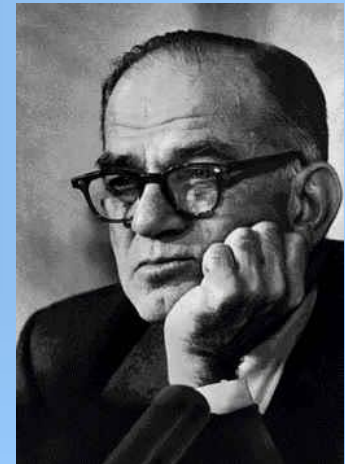
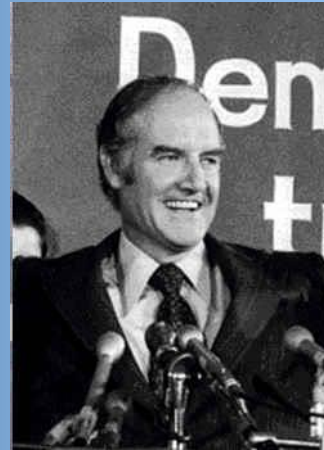
- Increase size of RVNAF
- Equipment and force modernization
- Partnership with U.S. units
- Improve advisory effort (replace MACV)

**Objective: Turn the war over to the South Vietnamese forces as U.S. troops departed**



# Declining U.S. Support

- **Nixon besieged by Watergate scandal**
- **Congress cut all funds for combat action in/over Laos and Cambodia, June 1973**
- **Arab-Israeli War, Oct 1973**
- **Congress passed War Powers Act, 7 Nov 1973**
- **Congress cut military aid to RVN for FY 74**



# U.S. Troop Withdrawals



- Announced By RN In June, 1969
- First increment departed Aug 1969
- 15 increments followed
- Supposedly predicated on enemy activity and progress of Vietnamization
- Once started, achieved its own momentum
- Continued even during 1972 NVA Offensive



# Nixon Resigns



**August 9, 1974**

# **“Poor Man’s War”**

## **1974**

- **U.S. aid cut by \$964 million in 1974**
- **American way of war using up war stocks**
- **drastic shortages of ammo, fuel, and spare parts, etc.**
- **NVA pressuring ARVN**



# The Fall of Saigon

## 30 April 1975





# Myths and Misrepresentations of Vietnam

## 1. The average age of an infantryman fighting in Vietnam was 19.

Assuming the number of KIAs also accurately represented the age groups serving in Vietnam, the average age of an infantryman serving in Vietnam was **actually 22.8**. None of the enlisted grades had an average age of less than 20. The average man who fought in World War II was 26 years of age.

## 2. Most Vietnam veterans were drafted.

2/3 of the men who served in Vietnam were volunteers. 2/3 of the men who served in World War II were drafted. Approximately 70% of those killed in Vietnam were volunteers.

## 4. Blacks Served In Disproportionate Numbers.

Of all the men and women who served in Vietnam, 275,000, or 10.6%, were black. The bulk of the remainder were Caucasian. At the time of the Vietnam War, Blacks represented approximately 12.5% of the total U.S. population. There is also a persistent myth that Blacks were used as “cannon fodder.” This is not supported by the casualty data which indicates that 12.1% of those killed in action were Black.

# Myths and Misrepresentations of Vietnam

## **6. Fraggings Were Common In Vietnam.**

The term “fragging” was coined for the intentional attack of a superior officer or noncommissioned officer, because a fragmentation hand grenade, or “frag”, was the weapon used in some of these incidents. The total number of these incidents (551) over the 10-plus years of American involvement (totaling 2,594,000 troops). These attacks resulted in 86 deaths and more than 700 wounded. which is a percentage of .00332%; and from a percentage standpoint you were far less likely to be a homicide victim in Vietnam than on the streets of Berkeley, California.

## **8. Kim Phuc, the little nine year old Vietnamese girl running naked from the napalm strike near Trang Bang on 8 June 1972, was burned by Americans bombing Trang Bang.**

No American was involved in this incident near Trang Bang that burned Phan Thi Kim Phuc. The planes doing the bombing near the village were VNAF (Vietnam Air Force) and were being flown by Vietnamese pilots in support of South Vietnamese troops on the ground. Even the AP photographer who took the picture, was Vietnamese. There were no Americans involved in any capacity.



**KEEP  
CALM  
ITS TIME FOR THE  
FINAL  
EXAM**

***“Review session  
on Wed.”***

**FINAL EXAM  
(Ch. 25-26)  
Thursday  
Same Bat Time  
Same Bat Room**