# VIETNAM WAR

1957-1975

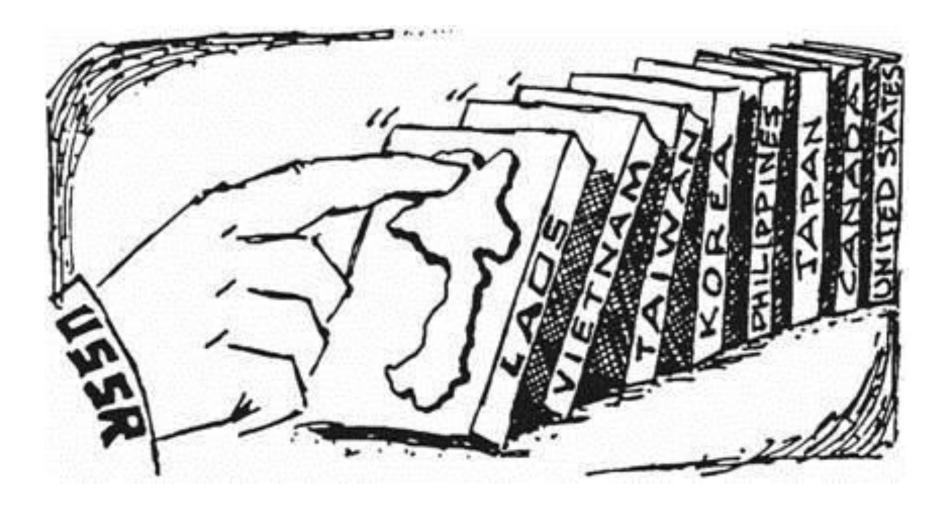


# Ike & Vietnam 1954-61

#### Intro...Review...

- What was the Truman Doctrine?
  - The policy to help countries who are threatened by communism.
- Who was President from 1947-1968?
  - Truman, Ike, JFK, & LBJ
- How does the Truman Doctrine affect U.S. foreign policy?
  - The Truman Doctrine leads to a policy of <u>containment</u>.

### **Domino Theory**



# Origins...

#### • <u>1950</u>:

- U.S. enters Vietnam struggle
- U.S. sends \$15 Billion in aid
  - Ho Chi Minh turns aggressive towards American assistance

#### • <u>1954</u>:

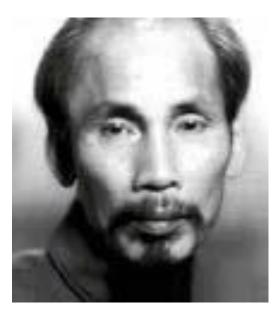
- French lose to nationalist group, "Vietminh"
- Changes to "Vietnam" in 1954
- <u>Division of Vietnam</u>:
  - Geneva Convention splits
    Vietnam at the 17<sup>th</sup> Parallel
    - North: Communist
    - <u>South</u>: Anti-Communist

#### • <u>1956</u>:

- Country wide elections suspended
- <u>1957</u>:
  - "<u>Vietcong</u>" forms in South Vietnam
    - Opposition group to Diem government

#### North and South Vietnam

- North Vietnam
- <u>Capital</u>: Hanoi
  - Communist
  - Ho Chi Minh



- South Vietnam
- <u>Capital</u>: Saigon
  - Democratic-Republic
  - Ngo Dinh Diem









# JFK & Vietnam 1961-63

### Vietnam Under JFK

- JFK adopts Ike's Domino Theory.
  - If South Vietnam falls, the rest of Southeast Asia will fall.
- 1960-1963: Increase in Military Advisors
  - Train South Vietnamese army
  - 16,000 by 1963
- Many in South Vietnam turn against Diem regime
  - Corrupt
  - Restriction of civil liberties

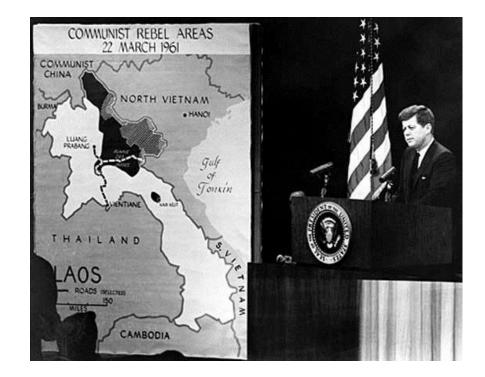
# Buddhist Monk burning himself to protest the Diem regime





### JFK & Vietnam

- JFK orders the overthrow and assassination of Diem
- JFK assassinated 2 weeks later
- 1964
  - South Vietnam spirals into chaos



#### JFK's Last Press Conference 11/14/63





LBJ & Vietnam 1964-1968

#### President Lyndon B. Johnson

• "I'm not going to be the president that saw Southeast Asia go the way China went..."





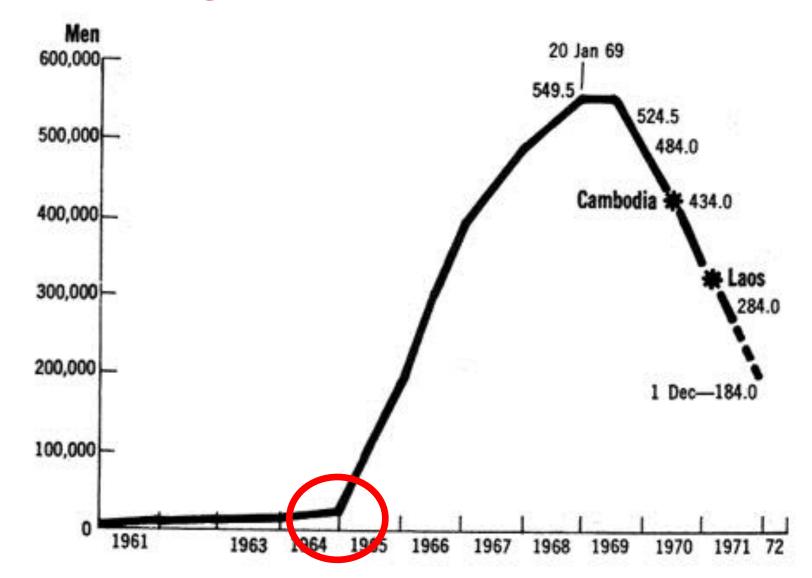
Photo # KN-11060 The Tonkin Gulf Incident, 2 August 1964. Painting by E.J. Fitzgerald



#### 1964

- Tonkin Gulf Resolution, Aug 1964
  - LBJ used an incident that occurred in the Gulf of Tonkin to change U.S. policy & allow U.S. Troops to go into combat.
    - North Vietnamese ships allegedly fired upon U.S. warships
    - LBJ persuaded Congress that a military response was needed
  - Congress approves "Gulf of Tonkin" Resolution
    - Gave the President the right to take all necessary measures to ensure American interests in Vietnam
  - Highly Controversial
    - Use of full scale forces without Congressional approval of war as required by the Constitution.

#### **Escalating the War**



## Escalating the War (Cont.)

#### • 1965

- U.S. begins to expand operations in Vietnam
- Johnson issues
  "Operation Rolling Thunder"
  - Prolonged air attack against North Vietnam
  - B-52 Bombers



## Escalating the War (Cont.)

- Fighting in the Jungle
- Vietcong:
  - "Guerrilla" Tactics: Hit-and-run/ambush
  - Pose as civilians
- Tunnels:
  - Terrain laced with booby traps, land mines laid by U.S. & Vietcong



## Escalating the War (Cont.)

- U.S. wants to stop Vietcong from winning support of rural population
- Use of New Weapons:
  - **<u>Napalm</u>**: gasoline-based bomb that sets fire to jungle
  - <u>Agent Orange</u>: leaf-killing, toxic chemical
- Villagers go to cities, refugee camps:
  - 1967, over 3 million refugees



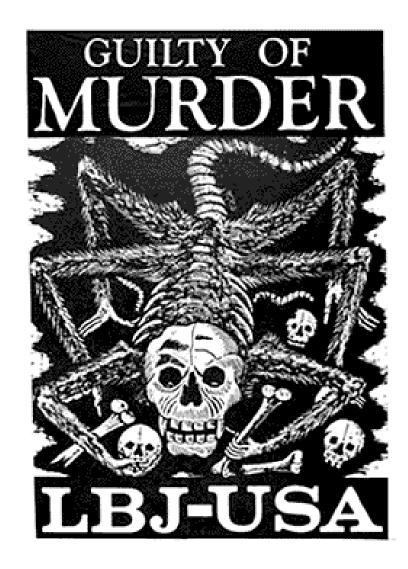


#### LBJ & the Media

- LBJ unable to express the reasoning or cause of the war.
- Misinformation by the military
  - "Body Counts"
  - Credibility Gap
  - Fullbright Hearings









#### HOW MANY KIDS DID YOU RILL TODAY ?

HEV, HEV, LBJ Thet's what everybody's saying all over the US today. And

#### HOW MANY KIDS DID YOU KILL TODAY !

HEV, HEV, LBJ Wherever he goes in the United States - he meets this sign

and hears this shoul. Wherever he goes in the world, he can't escape the accusing cry.

To and from the phoney Manila Conference he heard it from thousands in Hawnii, in New Zealand, in Australia, in Malaye. And in Manila itself thousands of demonstrators fought police and soldiers and never let the shout die down. They knew that the phoney "peace" meeting was preparation for killing more kids.

AND MORE AMERICAN SOLDIERS, TOO I Do you want to go down in history as one of LBJ's killers ! Think if over. Talk if over. Act together Don't let the Babykiller think for you. It's your head. USE IT - DON'T LOSE IT !

HEY, HEY, LBJ HOW MANY KIDS' DID YOU KILL TODAY ?

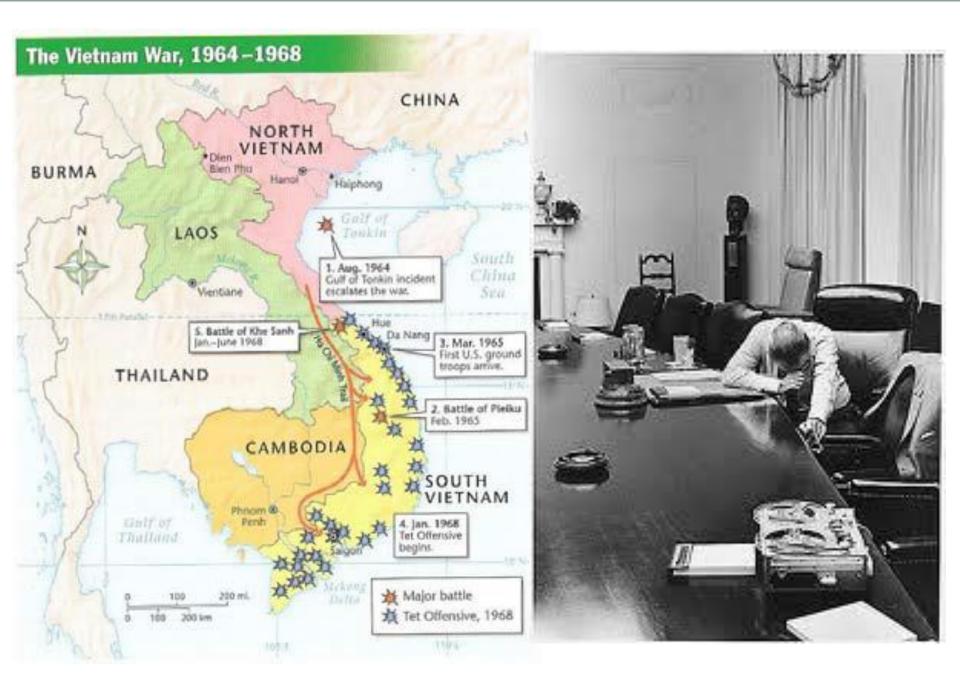
South Vietnam NFL





#### Year of the Tet...1968...

- Vietnamese Lunar New Year
- Vietcong launch all-out surprise attack
  - Attack on all capitals and American bases in South Vietnam
  - Attack looked at as a disaster at home
- Tet Offensive puts LBJ's Vietnam policies in question
- LBJ names new Secretary of State, Clark Clifford
  - Announces that the war is unwinnable
  - LBJ's popularity drops
  - Declines to run for reelection in March, '68





"Murder of a Vietcong by Saigon Police Chief." Vietnam, 1968. Photo Credit: Eddie Adams. Copyright AP.



"I hope the Viet Cong know this!"



#### "If I lost Walter Cronkite..."



#### March 4, 1968





"Gave Proof Through The Night .... "



#### **1968 Democratic Primary**







### June 6, 1968



'FIRED AT POINT-BLANK RANGE'



LA. COUNTY RETURNS

Critically Wounded in Head at Victory Fete

#### BY DARTL K. LENBLE

See. Robert P. Kennedy was shot in the right ear early this memory in a kindem of the Ambasador only a few moments after be bad made a viewery manement after repruring the California Democratic post-

Kennedy Wins Race; Rafferty Apparent

Victor Over Kuchel BY BICHARD BERGBOLL

has surge of some for and Name or intel the shore. Black bred was covered with h

tirularly in Los Angels ale Sen. Robert F. Ker visiter in Cublembry Presidential primary Engine McCariby of Minne an Prets 2 and

dy's major situal its the r context, solid he was annais star t the purity nomination at econvention Aug. 28. differen bellet, Dr. Max sials suppristant exign of Sea light of Ascheim. In GOP whip and a wars on Capitol Hill

### August, 1968 DNC Convention





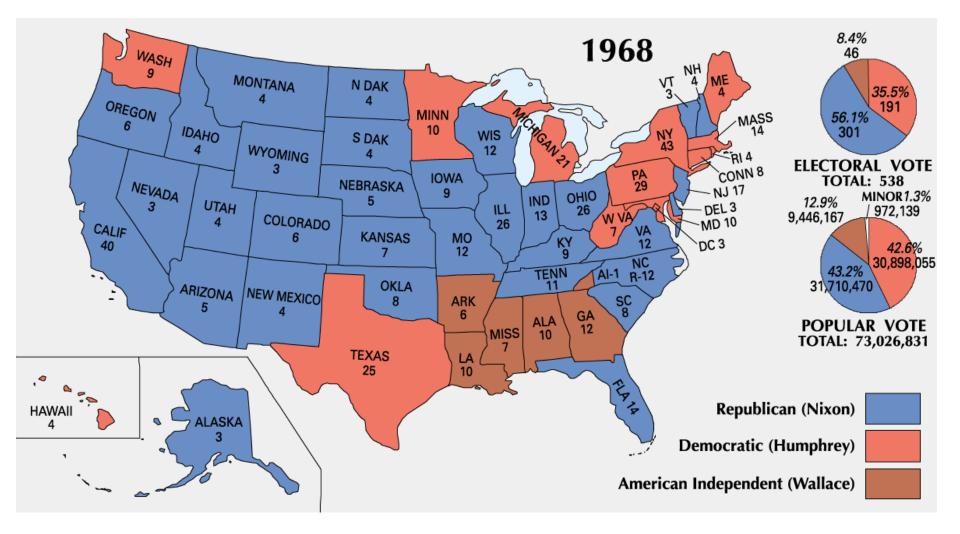




### **Richard Nixon**



### Election of 1968





Nixon & Vietnam 1969-74

## Vietnam Under Nixon

- During the election, Nixon claimed to have a "secret plan" to end the war.
- "Vietnamization"
  - Bringing troops home while increasing air attacks
  - Give South Vietnam money, aid, and military training
    - Same exact plan LBJ implemented during the summer of '68
  - Expansion of the war into Cambodia and Laos
- Nixon's Vietnamization plan brought massive protests across the country and on college campuses.

#### WHERE IT STOPS, NOBODY KNOWS!









# 1st Photos of Viet Mass Slaying

Snow flurries and colder today. High in the upper 20s. Details on Page 5-C.

## THE PLAIN DEALER

128TH YEAR-NO. 324 \* \* \* \*

OHIO'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER CLEVELAND, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1969

96 PAGES 10 CENTS

Stocks & Races

Dow-Jones off 5.21



A clump of bodies on a road in South Vietnam.

Brown of the second sec

### Exclusive

This photograph will shock Americans as it shocked the editors and the staff of The Plain Dealer. It was taken by a young Cleveland area man while serving as a photographer with the U.S. Army in South Vietnam.

It was taken during the attack by American soldiers on the South Vietnamese village My Lai, an attack which has made world headlines in recent days with disclosures of mass killings allegedly at the hands of American soldiers.

This photograph and others on two special pages are the first to be published anywhere of the killings.

This particular picture shows a clump of bodies of South Vietnamese civilians which includes women and children. Why they were killed raises one of the most momentous questions of the war in Vietnam.

Provide the second seco

### Cameraman Saw GIs Slay 100 Villagers

C 1969, Ronald L. Homer

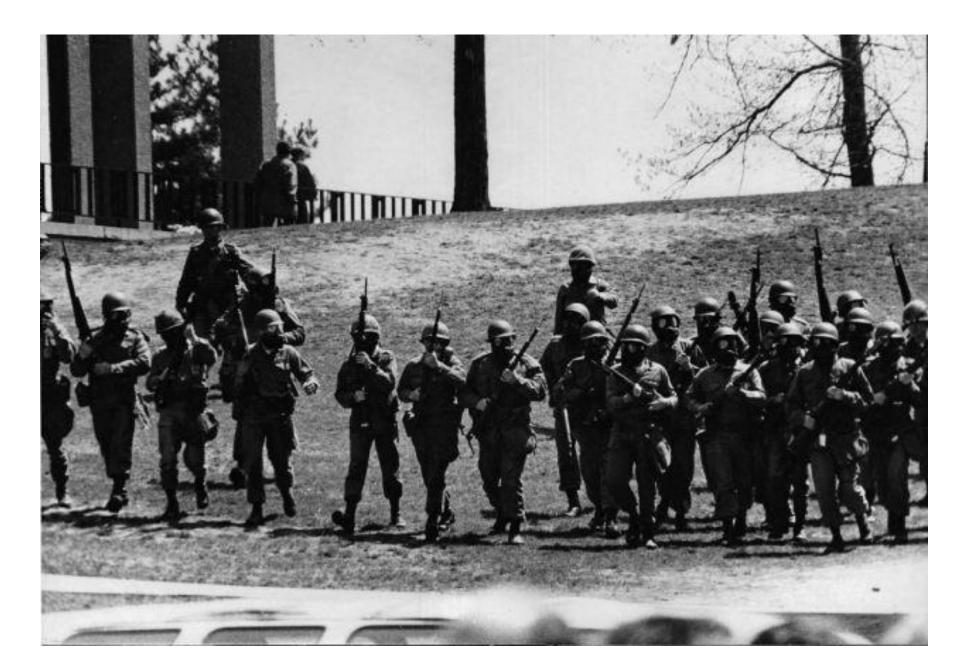
By JOSEPH ESZTERHAS (c) 1969, The Plain Dealer

## Vietnam Under Nixon (Cont.)

### • 1970

- Nixon sent U.S. troops into Cambodia
- Leads to Kent State Massacre
  - Protest lead to 4 student deaths
- US Senate Votes to repeal Gulf of Tonkin Resolution

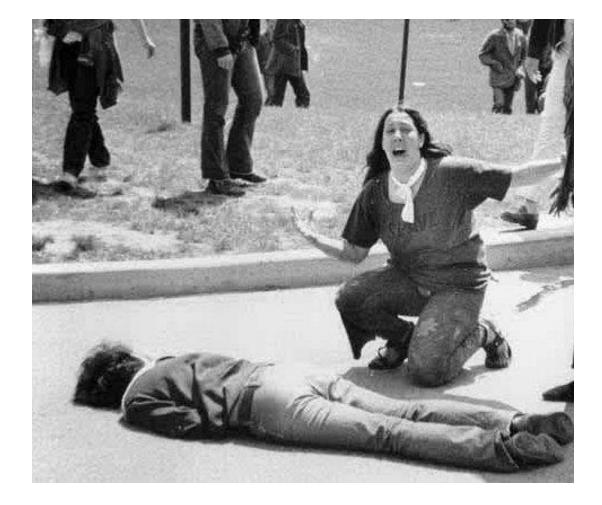


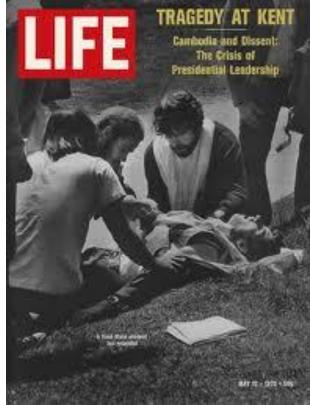




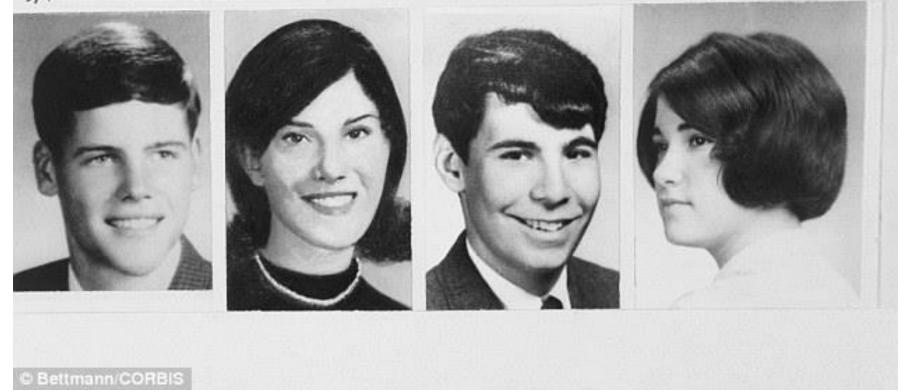








(SEE "A" WIRE STORY 033A BY LOUIS CASSELS) NXP1668401-5/6/70-KENT,OHIO: William Schroeder, Allison Krause, Jeffrey Miller and Sandra Lee Scheuer (L-R) were the four Kent State University students who were killed on the campus 5/4 when students battled with Ohio National Guard troopers. UPI TELEPHOTO from files. tfs



## My Lai Massacre

- 1971, Pentagon Papers Published
  - Memos that show mistakes & deceptions concerning the war.
  - American people learn full extent of the My Lai Massacre





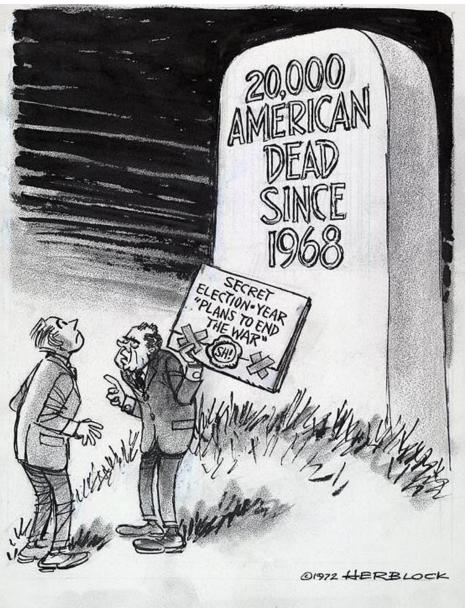












### Nixon Doctrine & Peace Process

- Nixon Doctrine:
  - Asian allies will receive U.S. help <u>without</u> ground forces.
- Early 1972:
  - Nixon and Henry Kissinger conduct secret meetings with North Vietnam
    - Talks breaks down
    - Nixon orders largest bombing campaign of the war
    - After several weeks, North Vietnam agrees to an armistice





MT(HELL LINKED Thousands at Johnson Bier AN ANY MELED

TO \$139,000 FUND

is and Clark Reprived

#### THE BUILDON Transcript of the Speech by President on Vietnam

Says the Agreement Industry and research of Period Doesn't Guarantee Lasting Peace

Interface Conditions Name Box 70

Trinity's Bells Ring Out News of Accord

#### War Leaves Deep Mark on U.

#### TROOPS TO LEAVE

On TV. Nixon Asserts 'Peace With Honor' Is Aim of Pact

ONGRESS UNITED

IN VOICING RELIEF

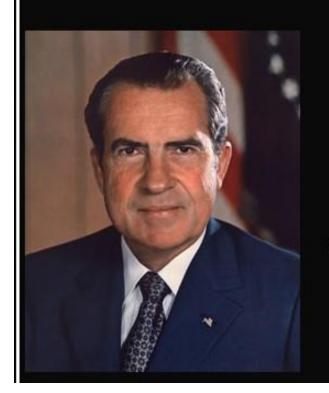
2.727,02723,773

### Paris Accords, 1973

#### Cease fire and a promise of free elections

 U.S. troops stay until 1975





No event in American history is more misunderstood than the Vietnam War. It was misreported then, and it is misremembered now. Rarely have so many people been so wrong about so much. Never have the consequences of their misunderstanding been so tragic.

(Richard Nixon)



Ford & Vietnam 1974-'75

## Fall of Saigon-April, 1975

South Vietnam Embassy evacuated in Saigon



### War Costs 1957-1975

- 58,000 U.S. Soldiers killed in action
- 118 Billion dollars
- Hundreds of thousands of civilian casualties
- Thousands of "MIA/POW's" are left in Vietnam
- Changes American attitudes on war and U.S. Foreign Policy



