

Visual Review

Vietnam and the Cold War
The United States backs several alternatives to a Vietnamese government led by Ho Chi Minh.

American Commitments to South Vietnam
The United States supplants France as the principal supporter of the noncommunist south.

The 1963 Turning Point
The United States plans remain in flux after dropping support for President Ngo Dinh Diem.

Background to a War, 1945–1963

THE VIETNAM ERA, 1961–1975

An American War, 1964–1967

Decisions for Escalation, 1964–1965

The United States increases its military commitments to Vietnam.

Ground and Air War, 1966–1967

The U.S. strategy focuses on attrition of the enemy.

The War at Home

The Vietnam War grows increasingly unpopular in the United States.

1968: Turmoil and Turning Points

The Tet Offensive

North Vietnam launches a massive offensive into South Vietnam.

The Agony of 1968

1968 is among the most turbulent years in U.S. history, filled with assassinations, protests, and riots.

Nixon and the World

From Vietnamization to Paris

The Nixon administration adjusts strategy while seeking a peace plan.

The End of the Vietnam War

Peace never takes hold and the North Vietnamese take over control of the south while the United States disengages.

Reduction of Cold War Tensions

President Richard Nixon eases tensions with the Soviet Union.

Domestic Policy and the Abuse of Power

Curtailing the Great Society

The Nixon administration curtails Great Society programs, but enacts new laws protecting the environment, workers, and consumers.

Watergate

President Nixon resigns due to the Watergate scandal.