

# World Regional Geography

David Sallee

Lesson 12

# VIETNAM ERA

- Rock and Roll
- Free Love
- Drugs
- Race to the Moon
- Vietnam War
- Protests/Demonstrations
- Race Riots
- Women's Lib
- Assassinations
- Segregation/Integration
- Busing
- Selective Service

"It was the best of times.  
It was the worst of times."  
Charles Dickens

# Martin Luther King

Lincoln Memorial during the 1963 Civil Rights Protests  
Photograph courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration, #306-3314-59-63-4732

Martin Luther King, Jr., making his "I have a dream" speech  
National Park Service Photograph

# I Have a Dream...

The Lincoln Memorial has been the site of civil rights demonstrations for nearly six decades. On its steps Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke of his dream for America:

...In spite of the difficulties of the moment, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state, sweltering with the heat of injustice and oppression will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

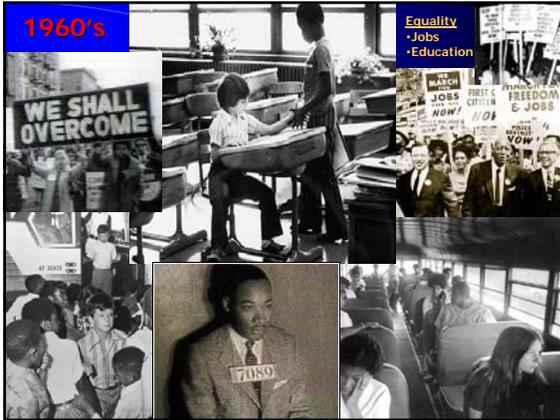
I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day the state of Alabama...will be transformed into a situation where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls...I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight...

...From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

When we let freedom ring...we will be able to speed up that day when all God's children...will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we're free at last!"



## Jim Crow Laws: Texas

More than 400 state laws, constitutional amendments, and city ordinances legalizing segregation and discrimination were passed in the United States between 1865 and 1867.

Twenty-seven Jim Crow laws were passed in the Lone Star state. The state enacted one anti-segregation law in 1871 barring separation of the races on public carriers. This law was repealed in 1889.

1915: Miscegenation [State Code]  
The penalty for intermarriage is imprisonment in the penitentiary from two to five years.

1919: Public accommodations [Statute]  
Ordered that Negroes were to use separate branches of county free libraries.

1922: Voting Rights [Statute]  
"...in no event shall a Negro be eligible to participate in a Democratic party primary election held in the State of Texas..." Overturned in 1927 by U.S. Supreme Court in Nixon v. Herndon.

1925: Education [Statute]  
Required racially segregated schools.

1925: Public accommodations [Statute]  
Separate branches for Negroes to be administered by a Negro custodian in all county libraries.

1925: Miscegenation [Penal Code]  
Miscegenation declared a felony. Nullified interracial marriages if parties went to another jurisdiction where such marriages were legal.

## Jim Crow Laws: Texas cont.

1926: Public carriers [Statute]  
Public carriers to be segregated.

1935: Public carriers [State Code]  
Directed that separate coaches for whites and blacks on all common carriers.

1943: Public carriers [State Code]  
Ordered separate seating on all buses.

1949: Employment [Statute]  
Coal mines required to have separate washrooms.

1950: Public accommodations [Statute]  
Separate facilities required for white and black citizens in state parks

1951: Miscegenation [Statute]  
Unlawful for person of Caucasian blood to marry person of African blood.  
Penalty: Two to five years imprisonment.

1953: Public carriers [Penal Code]  
Public carriers to be segregated.

1956: Public accommodations [Municipal Ordinance]  
Abolished previously required segregation in the city of San Antonio's swimming pools and other recreational facilities.

1958: Education [Statute]  
No child compelled to attend schools that are racially mixed. No desegregation unless approved by election. Governor may close schools where troops used on federal authority.

Dallas, 1955  
Protesting segregation of the Texas state fair--R.C. Hickman Collection

Richmond, VA  
Historical marker posted in the 1920s



This 1911 photo shows an example of the repression faced by African Americans during the days of white supremacist rule. This graffiti was found at the county line between Edwards and Kimble Counties. R.S. means Rock Springs in Edwards County. J.C. means Junction City in Kimble County. African Americans were not welcome in either county. Photographed July 8, 1911 by L.K. Smoot and presented to the Texas State Library the same year. Prints and Photographs Collection, Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

# SPACE RACE



**10 YEARS TO THE MOON**




*One Small Step For Man... One Giant Leap For Mankind*

# SPACE RACE

It fell to President Kennedy to take the space race seriously



In May 1961 President Kennedy grasped the nettle, and set the USA on course for the moon.

*"I believe this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth,"* he said, in what became one of the most famous speeches of his presidential career.

# SPACE RACE

The United States and the U.S.S.R. spent huge amounts of money trying to outdo each other in the 'race for space', a contest which drove scientific advancement along at a phenomenal pace, providing new materials and technologies such as 'Teflon' and the laser. The spaceflight program also brought us new heroes, tragedy and excitement which peaked with the first manned lunar landing on the Sea of Tranquility at 09:18 BST on 20th July 1969. Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the surface of the moon at 03:56 BST on 21st July 1969, causing millions of us to stay up all night watching the television reports and live picture coverage.



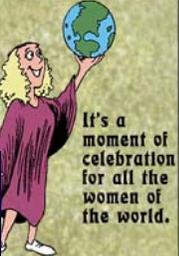
<http://www.sixtiescity.com/Events/SixtiesEvents.shtml>



**John Glenn shows Kennedy the space capsule in which Glenn circled the globe three times.**







It's a moment of celebration for all the women of the world.



# WOMEN'S LIB




# WOMEN'S LIB



Because woman's work is never done and is underpaid or unpaid or boring or repetitious and we're the first to get fired and what we look like is more important than what we do and if we get raped it's our fault and if we get beaten we must have provoked it and if we raise our voices we're nagging bitches and if we enjoy sex we're nymphomaniacs and if we don't we're frigid and if we love women it's because we can't get a "real" man and if we ask our doctor too many questions we're neurotic and/or pushy and if we expect childcare we're selfish and "unfeminine" and if we don't we're typical weak females and if we want to get married we're out to trap a man and if we don't we're unnatural and because we still can't get an adequate safe contraceptive but men can walk on the moon and if we can't cope or don't want a pregnancy we're made to feel guilty about abortion and... for lots and lots of other reasons we are part of the women's liberation movement.



Herstory

The National Organization for Women is the largest organization of feminist activists in the United States. NOW has 500,000 contributing members and 550 chapters in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since its founding in 1966, NOW's goal has been "to take action" to bring about equality for all women.

# VIETNAM ERA TIMELINE



## 1960

- North Vietnam Imposes Universal Military Conscription
- Sit-In Demonstrations Begin at Greensboro, North Carolina Lunch Counters
- Soviets Shoot Down US Spy Plane, Capture Pilot  
On the eve of a US-Soviet summit, U2 pilot Francis Gary Powers is shot down while flying a spy mission over the Soviet Union. Powers is taken prisoner, the Eisenhower administration is forced to own up to the mission, and Khrushchev cancels the summit.
- Kennedy Elected President  
John F. Kennedy narrowly defeats Richard Nixon for the presidency. In his inaugural address, Kennedy declares that Americans will be ready to "...bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."
- Diem Survives Coup Attempt
- Vietcong Formed  
Hanoi forms National Liberation Front for South Vietnam. Diem government dubs them "Vietcong."

## 1961

- Battle of Kienhoa Province  
400 guerillas attack village in Kienhoa Province, and are defeated by South Vietnamese troops.
- Peace Corps Program Launched
- Bay of Pigs Debacle  
A plot to invade Cuba and overthrow Fidel Castro goes miserably wrong when air support at the Bay of Pigs fails to materialize. Kennedy's leadership skills are called into question, and Kennedy himself develops doubts about heeding the advice of the military.
- Kennedy Meets Khrushchev in Vienna
- Vice President Johnson Tours Saigon  
During a tour of Asian countries, Vice President Lyndon Johnson visits Diem in Saigon. Johnson assures Diem that he is crucial to US objectives in Vietnam and calls him "the Churchill of Asia."
- Kennedy Authorizes Green Berets  
President Kennedy authorizes "Green Berets," -- a Special Forces operation activated at Fort Bragg, NC. The Special Forces will specialize in counterinsurgency.

## 1962

- US Military Employs Agent Orange  
US Air Force begins using Agent Orange -- a defoliant that came in metal orange containers--to expose roads and trails used by Vietcong forces.
- James Meredith Enrolls at "Ole Miss"
- US-Soviet Showdown Over Cuban Missile Crisis  
Photos taken from a US spy plane reveal the Soviets placing offensive missiles on Cuban soil. Sensing a direct challenge to US resolve, Kennedy orders a naval quarantine around Cuba to prevent the Soviets from delivering additional missiles.
- Richard Nixon tells press, "You won't have Nixon to kick around anymore..."
- Diem Palace Bombed in Coup Attempt
- Mansfield Voices Doubt on Vietnam Policy  
Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield reports back to JFK from Saigon his opinion that Diem had wasted the two billion dollars America had spent there.

## 1963

- Battle of Ap Bac  
Vietcong units defeat South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) in Battle of Ap Bac
- Martin Luther King Delivers his "I Have a Dream" Speech in Washington, DC
- Betty Friedan's The Feminine Mystique Published
- President Kennedy Assassinated in Dallas  
Kennedy's death meant that the problem of how to proceed in Vietnam fell squarely into the lap of his vice president, Lyndon Johnson.
- Buddhists Protest Against Diem  
Tensions between Buddhists and the Diem government are further strained as Diem, a Catholic, removes Buddhists from several key government positions and replaces them with Catholics. Buddhist monks protest Diem's intolerance for other religions and the measures he takes to silence them. In a show of protest, Buddhist monks start setting themselves on fire in public places.
- Diem Overthrown, Murdered  
With tacit approval of the United States, operatives within the South Vietnamese military overthrow Diem. He and his brother Nhu are shot and killed in the aftermath.

## 1964

- General Nguyen Khanh Seizes Power in Saigon  
In a bloodless coup, General Nguyen Khanh seizes power in Saigon. South Vietnam junta leader, Major General Duong Van Minh, is placed under house arrest, but is allowed to remain as a figurehead chief-of-state.

- Gulf of Tonkin Incident

On August 2, three North Vietnamese PT boats allegedly fire torpedoes at the USS Maddox, a destroyer located in the international waters of the Tonkin Gulf, some thirty miles off the coast of North Vietnam. The attack comes after six months of covert US and South Vietnamese naval operations. A second, even more highly disputed attack, is alleged to have taken place on August 4.

- Debate on Gulf of Tonkin Resolution

The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution is approved by Congress on August 7 and authorizes President Lyndon Johnson to "take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression." The resolution passes unanimously in the House, and by a margin of 82-2 in the Senate. The Resolution allows Johnson to wage all out war against North Vietnam without ever securing a formal Declaration of War from Congress.

- Vietcong Attack Bienhoa Air Base

- LBJ Defeats Goldwater

Lyndon Johnson is elected in a landslide over Republican Barry Goldwater of Arizona. During the campaign, Johnson's position on Vietnam appeared to lean toward de-escalation of US involvement, and sharply contrasted the more militant views held by Goldwater.

## 1965

- Operation "Rolling Thunder" Deployed

Sustained American bombing raids of North Vietnam, dubbed Operation Rolling Thunder, begin in February. The nearly continuous air raids would go on for three years.

- Marines Arrive at Danang

The first American combat troops, the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, arrive in Vietnam to defend the US airfield at Danang. Scattered Vietcong gunfire is reported, but no Marines are injured.

- Heavy Fighting at Ia Drang Valley

The first conventional battle of the Vietnam war takes place as American forces clash with North Vietnamese units in the Ia Drang Valley. The US 1st Air Cavalry Division employs its newly enhanced technique of aerial reconnaissance to finally defeat the NVA, although heavy casualties are reported on both sides.

- US Troop Levels Top 200,000

- Vietnam "Teach-In" Broadcast to Nation's Universities

The practice of protesting US policy in Vietnam by holding "teach-ins" at colleges and universities becomes widespread. The first "teach-in" -- featuring seminars, rallies, and speeches -- takes place at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in March. In May, a nationally broadcast "teach-in" reaches students and faculty at over 100 campuses.

## 1966

- B-52s Bomb North Vietnam

In an effort to disrupt movement along the Mu Gia Pass -- the main route used by the NVA to send personnel and supplies through Laos and into South Vietnam -- American B-52s bomb North Vietnam for the first time.

- South Vietnam Government Troops Take Hue and Danang

- LBJ Meets With South Vietnamese Leaders

US President Lyndon Johnson meets with South Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky and his military advisors in Honolulu. Johnson promises to continue to help South Vietnam fend off aggression from the North, but adds that the US will be monitoring South Vietnam's efforts to expand democracy and improve economic conditions for its citizens.

- Veterans Stage Anti-War Rally

Veterans from World Wars I and II, along with veterans from the Korean war stage a protest rally in New York City. Discharge and separation papers are burned in protest of US involvement in Vietnam.

- CORE Calls "Banquet On Minorities and Poor" in Vietnam

The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) issues a report claiming that the US military draft places "a heavy discriminatory burden on minority groups and the poor." The group also calls for a withdrawal of all US troops from Vietnam.

## 1967

- Operation Cedar Falls Begins

In a major ground war effort dubbed Operation Cedar Falls, about 16,000 US and 14,000 South Vietnamese troops set out to destroy Vietcong operations and supply sites near Saigon. A massive system of tunnels is discovered in an area called the Iron Triangle, an apparent headquarters for Vietcong personnel.

- Bunker Replaces Cabot Lodge as South Vietnam Ambassador

- Martin Luther King Speaks Out Against War

Calling the US "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world," Martin Luther King publicly speaks out against US policy in Vietnam. King later encourages draft evasion and suggests a merger between antiwar and civil rights groups.

- Dow Recruiters Driven From Wisconsin Campus

University of Wisconsin students demand that corporate recruiters for Dow Chemical -- producers of napalm -- not be allowed on campus.

- McNamara Calls Bombing Ineffective

Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, appearing before a Senate subcommittee, testifies that US bombing raids against North Vietnam have not achieved their objectives. McNamara maintains that movement of supplies to South Vietnam has not been reduced, and neither the economy nor the morale of the North Vietnamese has been broken.

## 1968

- January

- Cambodia Allows Pursuit of Vietcong into Cambodia

- North Vietnamese Launch Tet Offensive

In a show of military might that catches the US military off guard, North Vietnamese and Vietcong forces sweep down upon several key cities and provinces in South Vietnam, including its capital, Saigon. Within days, American forces have back the onslaught and recapture most areas. From a military point of view, Tet is a huge defeat for the Communists, but turns out to be a political and psychological victory. The US military's assessment of the war is questioned and the "Tet of fumes" seems very far off.

- February

- Battle for Hue

The Battle for Hue wages for 26 days as US and South Vietnamese forces try to recapture the city seized by the Communists during the Tet Offensive. Previously, a religious retreat in the middle of a war zone, Hue was nearly leveled in a battle that left nearly 36 of its population homeless. Following the US and ARVN victory, mass graves containing the bodies of thousands of people who had been executed during the Communist occupation are discovered.

- Westmoreland Requests 206,000 More Troops

- July-Lai Massacre

On March 16, the angry and frustrated men of Charlie Company, 11th Brigade, Americal Division entered the village of My Lai. "This is what you've been waiting for -- search and destroy -- and you've got it," said their superior officers. A short time later the killing began. Witnesses of the atrocities surfaced. It soon spreads through the US political establishment, the military's chain of command, and an already divided American public.

- March

- LBJ Announces He Won't Run

With his popularity plummeting and dismayed by Senator Eugene McCarthy's strong showing in the New Hampshire primary, President Lyndon Johnson quits the nation and announces that he will not be a candidate for re-election.

- April

- Ho Chi Minh Dies

- May

- Paris Peace Talks Begin

Following a lengthy period of debate and discussion, North Vietnamese and American negotiators agree on a location and start date of peace talks. Talks are slated to begin in Paris on May 10 with W. Averell Harriman representing the United States, and former Foreign Minister Xuan Thuy heading the North Vietnamese delegation.

- June

- Democratic Party Reopens

- August

- Democratic Party Reopens in Chicago

As the liberal Democratic party prepares to hold its nominating convention in Chicago, city officials gear up for a deluge of demonstrations. Mayor Richard Daley orders police to crackdown on anyone protesting. As the nation watches on television, the area around the convention erupts in violence.

- November

- Richard Nixon Elected President

Running on a platform of "law and order," Richard Nixon barely beats out Hubert Humphrey for the presidency. Nixon takes just 43.4 percent of the popular vote, compared to 42.7 percent for Humphrey. Third-party candidate George Wallace takes the remaining percentage of votes.

## 1969

- Nixon Begins Secret Bombing of Cambodia

In an effort to destroy Communist supply routes and base camps in Cambodia, President Nixon gives the go-ahead to "Operation Breakfast." The covert bombing of Cambodia, conducted without the knowledge of Congress or the American public, will continue for fourteen months.

- Policy of "Vietnamization" Announced

Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird describes a policy of "Vietnamization" when discussing a diminishing role for the US military in Vietnam. The objective of the policy is to shift the burden of defeating the Communists onto the South Vietnamese Army and away from the United States.

- Ho Chi Minh Dies at Age 79

- News of My Lai Massacre Reaches US

Through the reporting of journalist Seymour Hersh, Americans read for the first time of the atrocities committed by Lt. William Calley and his troops in the village of My Lai. At the time the reports were made public, the Army had already charged Calley with the crime of murder.

- Massive Antiwar Demonstration in DC

1970

**Sihanouk Ousted in Cambodia**  
Prince Sihanouk's attempt to maintain Cambodia's neutrality while war waged in neighboring Vietnam forced him to strike opportunistic alliances with China, and then the United States. Such vacillating weakened his government, leading to a coup orchestrated by his defense minister, Lon Nol.

**Kent State Tragedy**

National Guardsmen open fire on a crowd of student antiwar protesters at Ohio's Kent State University, resulting in the death of four students and the wounding of eight others. President Nixon publicly deplors the actions of the Guardsmen, but cautions: "...when dissent turns to violence it invites tragedy." Several of the protesters had been hurling rocks and empty tear gas canisters at the Guardsmen.

• Kissinger and Le Duc Begin Secret Talks  
• Number of US Troops Falls to 280K

1971

• Lt. Calley Convicted of Murder

• Pentagon Papers Published

A legacy of deception, concerning US policy in Vietnam, on the part of the military and the executive branch is revealed as the New York Times publishes the Pentagon Papers. The Nixon administration, eager to stop leaks of what they consider sensitive information, appeals to the Supreme Court to halt the publication. The Court decides in favor of the Times and allows continued publication.

• Nixon Announces Plans to Visit China

In a move that troubles the North Vietnamese, President Nixon announces his intention to visit the People's Republic of China. Nixon's gesture toward China is seen by the North Vietnamese as an effort to create discord between themselves and their Chinese allies.

• Thieu Re-elected in South Vietnam

1972

• Nixon Cuts Troop Levels by 70K

Responding to charges by Democratic presidential candidates that he is not moving fast enough to end US involvement in Vietnam, President Nixon orders troop strength reduced by seventy thousand.

• Secret Peace Talks Revealed

• B-52s Bomb Hanoi and Haiphong

In an attempt to force North Vietnam to make concessions in the ongoing peace talks, the Nixon administration orders heavy bombing of supply dumps and petroleum storage sites in and around Hanoi and Haiphong. The administration makes it clear to the North Vietnamese that no section of Vietnam is off limits to bombing raids.

• Break-In at Watergate Hotel

• Kissinger Says "Peace is At Hand"

Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho reach agreement in principle on several key measures leading to a cease-fire in Vietnam. Kissinger's view that "peace is at hand," is dimmed somewhat by South Vietnamese President Thieu's opposition to the agreement.

• Nixon Wins Re-election

1973

• Cease-fire Signed in Paris

A cease-fire agreement that, in the words of Richard Nixon, "brings peace with honor in Vietnam and Southeast Asia," is signed in Paris by Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho. The agreement is to go into effect on January 28.

• End of Draft Resistance

• Last American Troops Leave Vietnam

• Hearings on Secret Bombings Begin

The Senate Armed Services Committee opens hearing on the US bombing of Cambodia. Allegations are made that the Nixon administration allowed bombing raids to be carried out during what was supposed to be a time when Cambodia's neutrality was officially recognized. As a result of the hearings, Congress orders that all bombing in Cambodia cease effective at midnight, August 14.

• Kissinger and Le Duc Tho Win Peace Prize

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to Henry Kissinger of the United States and Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam. Kissinger accepts the award, while Tho declines, saying that a true peace does not yet exist in Vietnam.

1974

• Thieu Announces Renewal of War

• Report Cites Damage to Vietnam Ecology

According to a report issued by The National Academy of Science, use of chemical herbicides during the war caused long-term damage to the ecology of Vietnam. Subsequent inquiries will focus on the connection between certain herbicides, particularly Agent Orange, and widespread reports of cancer, skin disease, and other disorders on the part of individuals exposed to them.

• Communists Take Mekong Delta Territory

• Nixon Impeachment Hearings Begin

In May, impeachment hearings against President Richard Nixon are begun by the House Judiciary Committee. Among the articles of impeachment introduced is a resolution condemning Nixon for the secret bombing of Cambodia.

• Nixon Resigns

• Communists Plan Major Offensive

With North Vietnamese forces in the South believed to be at their highest levels ever, South Vietnamese leaders gird themselves for an expected Communist offensive of significant proportions.

1975

• Communist Forces Capture Phuoc Long Province

The South Vietnamese Army loses twenty planes in a failed effort to defend Phuoc Long, a key province just north of Saigon. North Vietnamese leaders interpret the US's complete lack of response to the siege as an indication that they could move more aggressively in the South.

• Hue Falls to Communists

• Communists Take Aim at Saigon

The North Vietnamese initiate the Ho Chi Minh Campaign -- a concerted effort to "liberate" Saigon. Under the command of General Dung, the NVA sets out to capture Saigon by late April, in advance of the rainy season.

• Phnompenh Captured by Khmer Rouge

The Khmer Rouge accept the surrender of Cambodian leader Lon Nol on April 16. The Khmer Rouge's victory ends five years of fighting in Cambodia and ushers in a period of genocide and forced "re-education" engineered by Pol Pot.

• Ford Calls Vietnam War "Finished"

Anticipating the fall of Saigon to Communist forces, US President Gerald Ford, speaking in New Orleans, announces that as far as the US is concerned, the Vietnam War is "finished."

• Last Americans Evacuate as Saigon Falls to Communists

South Vietnamese President Duong Van Minh delivers an unconditional surrender to the Communists in the early hours of April 30. North Vietnamese Colonel Bui Tin accepts the surrender and assures Minh that "... Only the Americans have been beaten. If you are patriots, consider this a moment of joy." As the few remaining Americans evacuate Saigon, the last two US servicemen to die in Vietnam are killed when their helicopter crashes.

# VIETNAM WAR



William Westmoreland

Commanded US military operations in Vietnam from 1964-68. His highly publicized, positive assessments of US military prospects in Vietnam were shattered by the 1968 Tet offensive, in which Communist forces boldly attacked cities and towns throughout South Vietnam. Westmoreland later served as the Army's chief of staff.

## United States Weaponry



Bell UH-1 Helicopter



F-4 Phantom Fighter Plane



M-16 Rifle



Mark 2 anti-personnel hand grenade



M60 General Purpose Machine Gun



B-52 Stratofortress

## Vietnamese Weaponry



The Soviet MIG-21 served as the primary high-altitude fighter in the North Vietnamese arsenal.

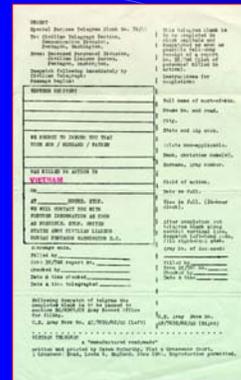


SK-47 rifle

Although most of their weapons, uniforms, and equipment were provided by the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, the North Vietnamese also carried arms captured from the French and even the Japanese in the earlier Indochinese wars. NVA troops more often used standard-issue gear; their Viet Cong counterparts dressed as the peasants in whose villages they sought harbor, and frequently employed improvised weapons.



You did not want to get too close to the FNG's 'cause they probably wouldn't survive very long



**THE ONGOING AND** escalating war in Vietnam was the focus of many of the major protests during the sixties. At the time of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, United States military forces in Vietnam numbered less than 15,000. Under President Lyndon Johnson the numbers grew dramatically, and by 1966 more than 500,000 troops were deployed in the area.

Special Purpose Telegram Blank No. 74/50  
Marvin Tatum Collection of Contemporary Literature

## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



1,000  
+1,000  
2,000



Napalm, or jellied gasoline, is a flammable liquid fuel weapon invented in 1942. It is usually deployed as an incendiary bomb. The liquid is formulated to burn at a specific rate and stick to objects and people. In 1980, its use against civilian populations was banned by a United Nations convention. The name is a portmanteau of naphthenic palmitic acids which were added to gasoline to create the original napalm developed by the United States during World War II.

## NAPALM



Napalm AirStrike South Vietnam 1966

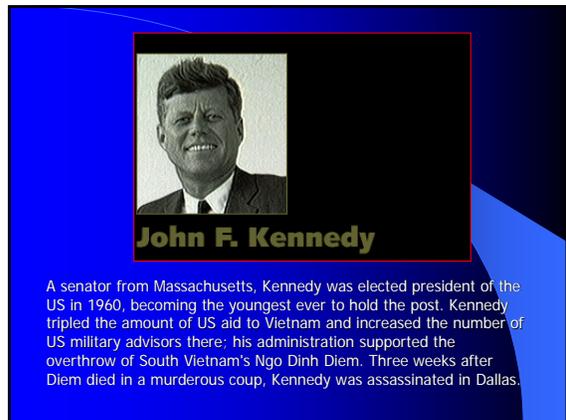
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napalm>



The case of the Vietnam veteran's exposure to dioxin through Agent Orange presents the most complex epidemiological problem ever imagined. The test is this: How do you determine, among 2.5 million Vietnam veterans, who was exposed to Agent Orange, to what degree and extent, and what if any, is the resultant harm of that exposure?

Some of the difficulties encountered when confronting this problem include:

1. An estimated 2.5 million men and women served in Vietnam. During their tour or tours, they may have been highly mobile, moving about the countryside throughout an area as big as the state of California. Tracking a single individual for every day of their tour is extraordinarily difficult; tracking large numbers is almost impossible.
2. How can exposure be quantified with precision? "Exposure" in epidemiological means the person had the "opportunity" for contact in some manner with the chemical. But what constitutes? Does this mean direct contact, such as physically being sprayed with the products, or does it include more remote opportunities, such as contact through airborne particulates, or contact through the food and water chain?
3. Degree of exposure: This is sometimes called the dose/response factor in science. In order to estimate the health effect of an exposure, it is useful (some say critical) to be able to estimate "how much" exposure a person may have had, in quantity, frequency, and duration as well as means of exposure.
4. Effect: Science looks for "cause and effect" in determining health outcomes. It is extremely difficult to accurately state that a behavior or exposure causes an outcome. For example, it is widely accepted that cigarette smoking may cause lung cancer, but this does not account for those who smoke for years and never get cancer, or those who never smoked and got the disease.
5. Delay: Many diseases, including cancer, have extremely long latency periods. It is possible, therefore, for a person to be exposed to a toxin, and not have the effect of that exposure manifested for twenty years or more. During the years, however, a person may have been "insulted" with other additional exposures through the workplace or the environment. It becomes extremely difficult assessing and separating these "confounding" exposures when looking for the source of a disease.





**Lyndon B. Johnson**

John F. Kennedy's vice president, Johnson assumed the presidency when Kennedy was assassinated in 1963. Johnson's domestic initiatives pumped money into education, housing, transportation, and the environment. He easily won a second term, but despite campaign promises to the contrary, he steadily increased US involvement in Vietnam, and his popularity plummeted. On March 31, 1968, Johnson publicly announced that he had reduced bombing campaigns in North Vietnam and that he would not seek reelection.



**Richard M. Nixon**

Nixon served as a senator from California, then as Dwight D. Eisenhower's vice president. Defeated by John F. Kennedy in the presidential race of 1960, he came back to win two terms as president in 1968 and 1972. In his first term, Nixon carried out a "Vietnamization" policy, whereby many US troops were withdrawn from Vietnam and replaced by members of the South Vietnamese army. Nonetheless, US troops remained on the ground, and the Nixon administration continued to provide supplies and air support for the Vietnamese, and expanded the war into Laos and Cambodia. The last US troops left Vietnam during Nixon's second term. Nixon resigned in 1974 after being implicated in the Watergate scandal.



**Ho Chi Minh**

Born Nguyen Sinh Cung, and known as "Uncle Ho," he led the Democratic Republic of Vietnam from 1945-69. Ho embraced communism while living abroad in England and France from 1915-23; in 1919, he petitioned the powers at the Versailles peace talks for equal rights in Indochina. He later moved to Hong Kong, where he founded the Indochinese Communist Party. After adopting the name Ho Chi Minh, or "He Who Enlightens," he returned to Vietnam in 1941 and declared the nation's independence from France. Ho led a nearly continuous war against the French and, later, the Americans until his death in 1969.

### **My Lai Massacre**

On March 16, 1968 the angry and frustrated men of Charlie Company, 11th Brigade, American Division entered the village of My Lai. "This is what you've been waiting for -- search and destroy -- and you've got it," said their superior officers. A short time later the killing began. When news of the atrocities surfaced, it sent shockwaves through the US political establishment, the military's chain of command, and an already divided American public.



My Lai lay in the South Vietnamese district of Son My, a heavily mined area of Vietcong entrenchment. Numerous members of Charlie Company had been maimed or killed in the area during the preceding weeks. The agitated troops, under the command of Lt. William Calley, entered the village poised for engagement with the elusive Vietcong.

As the "search and destroy" mission unfolded it soon degenerated into the massacre of over 300 apparently unarmed civilians including women, children, and the elderly. Calley ordered his men to enter the village firing, though there had been no report of opposing fire. According to eyewitness reports offered after the event, several old men were bayoneted, praying women and children were shot in the back of the head, and at least one girl was raped, and then killed. For his part, Calley was said to have rounded up a group of the villagers, ordered them into a ditch, and mowed them down in a fury of machine gun fire.



**Lt. William Calley**

Convicted of murder for his role in the March 1968 My Lai massacre. Calley ordered the men of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, American Division to shoot everyone in the village. He, himself, rounded up a group of villagers, ordered them into a ditch, and then mowed them down with machine gun fire. Sentenced to life in prison, Calley was seen as a scapegoat for the Army's failure to instill morale and discipline in its troops. Upon appeal, his sentence was reduced and he was eventually released from prison in 1974.

### **Kent State - Massacre**

#### **May 1**

43 windows are broken in downtown Kent during a spontaneous, militant rampage by hundreds of angry anti-war students and some anti-war Vietnam veterans too. Mostly banks, loan companies, public utility offices and other "political" windows were vandalized. Only \$5,000 worth of damage occurred but major anti-war momentum was created that continued until May 4.



## Kent State - Massacre

**May 2**




Kent State University's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) building, a rickety, old, wooden military science barracks, was attacked and burned to the ground. It's true that 2,000 angry students surrounded the building, attempted to ignite the longstanding target and prevented firefighters from extinguishing the flames.

However, the mysterious lack of police intervention for 90 minutes and the suspicious fire AFTER the ROTC building was finally under control by law enforcement officials leaves many unanswered questions.

Did the authorities stay away so the students would burn the building and create an excuse to bring the Ohio National Guard to Kent State? Did the inept arson attempts by the students fail?

Why did the building burn AFTER the students were chased away? Why has no student ever been convicted of arson at Kent State in 1970? Who really burned the ROTC building at Kent State? Why?

All these questions aside, the National Guard arrived on the Kent State campus while the building was afire during that night of May 2. Two days of anti-property violence by Kent students on May 1 and 2 was followed by two days of anti-student violence by the Ohio National Guard on May 3 and 4.

## Kent State - Massacre

**May 3**

The conservative Republican, pro-war, Ohio Governor James Rhodes arrived at KSU for a tour of the damage and a news conference. Rhodes was facing a tough May 5 US Senate primary election and he was behind in the pre-election polls. This desperate politician exaggerated the situation to further his own political election and career. He condemned the Kent students as "the worst type of people we harbor in America . . . worse than the Communists . . . We're going to eradicate the problem!"

The angry rhetoric of a desperate politician worsened the situation at Kent State. Hours later, Ohio National Guardsmen attacked peaceful students with tear gas and rifles. Several students were slashed and stabbed by the bayonets on the ends of National Guard rifles.

The stage was set for May 4, 1970, a day of tragedy for Kent State, Ohio and America.




## Kent State - Massacre

**May 4**

My frightened girlfriend stayed in my apartment after I prepared two black protest flags. I purposefully chose black material to match my dark mood of despair and anger following the recent death of my friend Bill Caldwell in Vietnam. Four hundred Ohio national guardsmen (ONG) were in the city of Kent and 800 were on the campus. Leaving my apartment, I walked past many of these soldiers, went several blocks east to the Kent State campus, and joined my friends on the KSU Commons at noon. About 1,000 students had joined the protest rally, but classes were being held on campus as usual.

We assumed we still could exercise our Constitutional rights of freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom to dissent. Immediately as our peaceful anti-war rally began, approximately 75 members of the Ohio National Guard attacked our peaceful gathering. As these guardsmen wearing helmets and gas masks marched and fired tear gas, we ran away from the KSU Commons up over "Blanket Hill" and down into the Prentice Hall dormitory's parking lot.

The armed guardsmen followed us over the hill and then settled on a practice football field for perhaps 10 minutes. During this time, a stand-off occurred as a few rocks were thrown back and forth by both students and guardsmen.



## Kent State - Massacre

**May 4**

We were quite shocked when, at the hilltop, perhaps a dozen members of Troop G simultaneously stopped, turned and aimed their rifles. What followed was a 13 second barrage of gunfire, mostly from M-1 rifles, into our crowd of unarmed students. Some other guardsmen from Company A also fired non-lethal shots. A total of 67 bullets were fired by the guardsmen from the hilltop. Most of the bullets were fired over 300 feet into the distant Prentice Hall parking lot. Two of the students killed, Allison Krause and Jeff Miller, were protesters. Two others, Sandy Scheuer and Bill Schroeder were bystanders. Jeff was killed 275 feet away from his killer. Allison was 350 feet away. Sandy and Bill were approximately 390 feet away.

Nine others, including myself, were wounded. Dean Kahler remains in a wheelchair after he was shot in the back.

As the bullets began to fly, my survival instinct caused me to make a quick dash behind an oak tree a few feet away--the only tree in the direct line-of-fire. Because I had been taunting the guardsmen, I am convinced they shot at me (and others) intentionally. As I ran behind the tree during the first seconds of gunfire I felt a sharp pain in my right wrist. An M-1 rifle bullet passed through my right wrist.



### WHO ARE THESE

hippies and what the hell do they want? It all happened so fast--suddenly young men were wearing long hair and growing beards, young women were dressing like peasants and wearing psychedelic colors, all of them seemed dirty, drugged, and disrespectful of their elders and society at large.





They were dropping out of college, starting up rock bands, living in communes, and traveling to the far reaches of the planet.

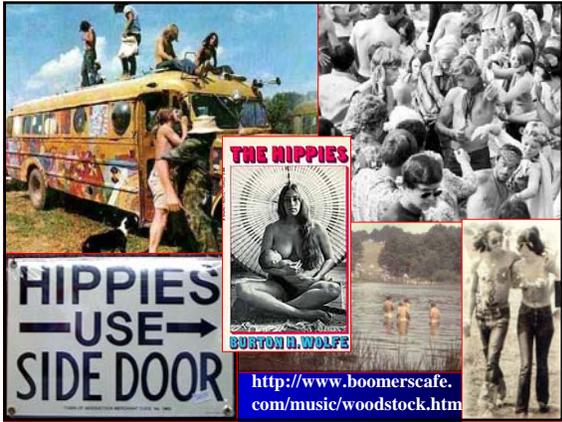
The Hippie's Handbook  
Ruth Bronsteyn

**ONE OF THE** major social changes brought about by the sixties was the widespread use of illicit drugs, primarily the hallucinogens, marijuana and LSD. Before this time, marijuana was primarily used by jazz musicians and hip characters in the inner cities.

LSD, which was virtually unknown to American society in the early sixties and still legal until 1966, gained widespread recognition as a result of the very public exploits of so-called acid gurus, Timothy Laary and Ken Kesey. By the mid-sixties, seemingly overnight, marijuana and LSD use was common across the country, especially among the young.







## Woodstock '69

On the negative side, according to police reports, there were 2 deaths (but there were also 2 births!). Although there were more than a few drug busts, there were no reports of burglary or *violent* crime in the surrounding communities. (Trespassing was a definite problem though and one judge did get his lights knocked out!). On the positive side, 500,000 young citizens were virtually left on their own and discovered the words Sharing, Helping, Consideration, and Respect to be very powerful. Thousands left the Woodstock event with a totally different outlook on life. And through it all,

*the Music Flowed...*




## Awesome Musicians!

- Joan Baez
- Arlo Guthrie
- Tim Hardin
- Incredible String Band
- Ravi Shankar
- Richie Havens
- Sly and the Family Stone
- Bert Sommer
- Sweetwater
- Ozzy
- Canned Heat
- Creedence Clearwater Revival
- Jefferson Airplane
- The Who
- Grateful Dead
- Keef Hartley



- Blood, Sweat and Tears
- Crosby, Stills & Nash (& Young)
- Santana
- Jeff Beck Group
- The Band
- Ten Years After
- Johnny Winter
- Jimi Hendrix
- Janis Joplin
- Joe Cocker
- Mountain
- Melanie
- Sha-Na-Na
- John Sebastian
- Country Joe and the Fish
- Paul Butterfield Blues Band



**JANIS JOPLIN**



**JIMI HENDRIX**



**ROGER DALTREY**  
The Who



**JERRY GARCIA**  
**BOB WEIR**  
Grateful Dead



*Bus for sale - wipers don't work and neither does guru*



*If you really love a balloon, you will set it free*

*Legalize what, tie-dye or pot?*



*The following public domain information is a transcript from the US Congress House Committee on Internal Security, Travel to Hostile Areas, HR 16742, 19-25 September, 1972, page 7671. From the CompuServe Military Veteran's Forum. [Radio Hanoi attributes talk on DRV visit to Jane Fonda: from Hanoi in English to American servicemen involved in the Indochina War, 1 PM GMT, 22 August 1972. Text: Here's Jane Fonda telling her impressions at the end of her visit to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam; (follows recorded female voice with American accent):]*

**Hanoi North Vietnam**  
July 1972

★ Hanoi

While I was In An Son

**Jane Fonda**  
*Helps man a North Vietnamese Anti Aircraft Gun*



This is Jane Fonda. During my two week visit in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, I've had the opportunity to visit a great many places and speak to a large number of people from all walks of life-workers, peasants, students, artists and dancers, historians, journalists, film actresses, soldiers, militia girls, members of the women's union, writers.

I cherish the way a farmer, evacuated from Hanoi, without hesitation, offered me, an American, their best individual bomb shelter while US bombs fell near by. The daughter and I, in fact, shared the shelter wrapped in each others arms, cheek against cheek. It was on the road back from Nam Dinh, where I had witnessed the systematic destruction of civilian targets-schools, hospitals, pagodas, the factories, houses, and the dike system.

As I left the United States two weeks ago, Nixon was again telling the American people that he was winding down the war, but in the rubble-strewn streets of Nam Dinh, his words echoed with sinister (words indistinct) of a true killer. And like the young Vietnamese woman I held in my arms clinging to me tightly-and I pressed my cheek against hers-I thought, this is a war against Vietnam perhaps, but the tragedy is America's.

One thing that I have learned beyond a shadow of a doubt since I've been in this country is that Nixon will never be able to break the spirit of these people; he'll never be able to turn Vietnam, north and south, into a neo-colony of the United States by bombing, by invading, by attacking in any way. One has only to go into the countryside and listen to the peasants describe the lives they led before the revolution to understand why every bomb that is dropped only strengthens their determination to resist.



But now, despite the bombs, despite the crimes being created-being committed against them by Richard Nixon, these people own their own land, build their own schools-the children learning, literacy- illiteracy is being wiped out, there is no more prostitution as there was during the time when this was a French colony. In other words, the people have taken power into their own hands, and they are controlling their own lives.

And after 4,000 years of struggling against nature and foreign invaders-and the last 25 years, prior to the revolution, of struggling against French colonialism-I don't think that the people of Vietnam are about to compromise in any way, shape or form about the freedom and independence of their country, and I think Richard Nixon would do well to read Vietnamese history, particularly their poetry, and particularly the poetry written by Ho Chi Minh.



*"I will go to my grave regretting the photograph of me in an anti-aircraft carrier, which looks like I was trying to shoot at American planes." Fonda told O, The Oprah Magazine.*  
*"It hurt so many soldiers. It galvanized such hostility. It was the most horrible thing I could possibly have done. It was just thoughtless."*



Ho Chi Minh said that he won the Vietnam war not in the jungles of Vietnam but on the streets of America where protesters fought the war for him.

**JANE: CALL HOME  
1-800-HANOI**

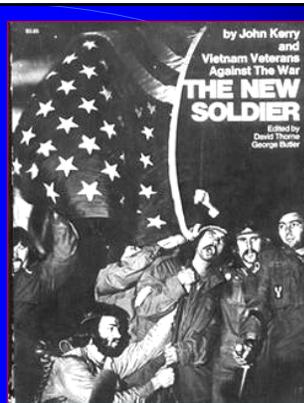
In his 1985 memoir about the war, Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap wrote that if it weren't for organizations like Kerry's Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Hanoi would have surrendered to the U.S. - according to Fox News Channel war historian Oliver North.



Because of her actions, John Wayne cut off all contact with her, in spite of the fact that he was a close friend of her father Henry Fonda.



Mr. Kerry spoke at the 1970 rally, the culmination of a three-day protest hike from Moorestown, N.J., to Valley Forge, which featured a speech by Miss Fonda



•Sen. John McCain revealed that his North Vietnamese captors had used reports of Kerry-led protests to taunt him and his fellow prisoners. Retired General George S. Patton III angrily noted that Kerry's actions had "given aid and comfort to the enemy."

"It wasn't my war--you asked me, I didn't ask you...and I did what I had to do to win....Then I came back to the world and I see all those maggots at the airport, protesting me, spitting on me, calling me a baby-killer....."  
 John Rambo

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/database/subfiles.cfm?titleID=171>



Bob Hope during a U.S.O. show in Vietnam, 1968. For nearly six decades, he traveled the globe to entertain U.S. troops.

## USS WILTSIE DD-716



- Gearing (Sumner)
- Class Destroyer:
- Displacement: 2,425 tons
- Length: 390"6"
- Beam: 40"10"
- Draft: 18'6"
- Speed: 35 knots
- Armament: 3x2 5"/38 DP, 2x4 40mm, 2x2 40mm, 11 20mm, 2x5 21" torpedo tubes, 2 depth charge tracks, 2 depth charge projectors
- Complement: 355
- High-pressure super-heated boilers, geared turbines with twin screws, 60,000 h.p.
- Built at Federal Shipbuilding, Port Newark, and commissioned 12 January 1946



On 23 August, Wiltsie became part of TG 75.9, operating off the Northern Military Region I. While providing gunfire support for Operation "Lam Son 72," the destroyer fired some 1,803 rounds of 5-inch shells to support the ARVN 147th Brigade in efforts to destroy enemy forces in their area. Typhoon "Elsie," which was approaching near the DMZ, temporarily suspended Wiltsie's gunfire support operations while she sidestepped the tropical disturbance by moving to safer waters. Resuming her operations after three days of typhoon evasion, Wiltsie returned to the "gun line" and supported ARVN operations around Quang Tri City. Ordered to proceed south on 6 September, Wiltsie departed the waters off northern South Vietnam to fire gunnery missions supporting the 2d ARVN Division in the vicinity of Chu Lai.

Terminating her operations supporting the 2d ARVN Division to shift to interdiction of waterborne logistics craft and surveillance of merchant ships in the Hon La anchorage in North Vietnam, Wiltsie found diversified operations and hostile fire in store for her. Her 5-inch guns wreaked havoc on storage dumps, coastal defense sites, radar installations, and supply routes. On 14 September, she spotted a crippled A-7 Corsair plunging into the Gulf of Tonkin and soon thereafter rescued the pilot from the water.



Two days later, she conducted a single-ship raid against a bridge on a major North Vietnamese supply route. During the action, she came under fire from North Vietnamese shore batteries that fired some 70 rounds at the destroyer. This was the only time that the ship came under hostile fire in Vietnam. The next day, Wiltsie and two other ships conducted a "reactive strike" on the coastal defense site, pounding it with 5-inch gunfire. Supply route and waterborne supply interdiction continued thereafter until Wiltsie, relieved by Henry W. Tucker (DD-875), departed the area on the 20th.

## USS WILTSIE DD-716



After a week of upkeep at Singapore, Wiltsie resumed gunfire support operations in Military Region I near the DMZ. She spent a week firing round-the-clock gunfire support missions before joining Saratoga (CVA-60) with TU 72.0.1, as plane-guard destroyer. Between 21 November and 8 December, she escorted the attack carrier as she launched air strikes against enemy forces ashore. In the predawn hours of 28 November, an A-6 Intruder crashed upon takeoff; and Wiltsie proceeded to the scene of the accident, pinpointing the location and vectoring rescue helicopters from Saratoga to the point. One of the aircraft's crew was rescued quickly and returned to his carrier, but the other pilot, despite the combined efforts of Bainbridge and helicopters from America (CVA-66), was never found.



Returning to Subic Bay for upkeep on the 21st, the destroyer remained in port until 27 September when she sailed for the Gulf of Thailand for gunnery support duties off the west coast of Vietnam. Between late September and early November, Wiltsie operated on station in the Gulf of Thailand. During the gunfire operations, she expended 1,940 rounds of 5-inch into the U Minh forest, supporting the ARVN 21st Division. Gunfire direction was provided by air spotting, but the dense foliage of the U Minh forest often prevented assessment of results.

In addition to her gunfire support duties, Wiltsie was given the task of detecting and tracking waterborne supply traffic. Supported in this operation by P-3 Orion patrol planes, Wiltsie discouraged the enemy from attempting supply by sea along the western coastline of South Vietnam. Henry W. Tucker relieved Wiltsie on 2 November.

Wiltsie proceeded to Hong Kong for rest and recreation and to Kaohsiung for an upkeep alongside Bryce Canyon (AD-36). During this availability, all four of her 6-inch guns were rebarreled due to the excessive wear experienced during her gunfire support deployments. The ship departed Taiwan on 27 December to return to the "gun line."

Arriving on station two days later, she resumed her operations off Quang Tri City, south of the DMZ, and continued these operations until 22 January 1973, when she was detached from TG 75.9 to proceed to Yokosuka. From there, the ship sailed for home, arriving at her new home port, San Francisco, on 16 February.

## USS WILTSIE DD-716



TYPICAL VIEW FROM DECK OF WILTSIE

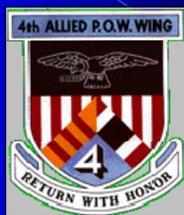
HEY JOE, CAN YOU SAY REST AND RELAXATION?



SUBIC BAY, PHILIPPINES

**VIETNAM PRISONERS OF WAR**

Shot down over Hon Gai Harbor on August 5, 1964, Navy pilot Lt. Everett Alvarez, Jr. became the first American war in Vietnam. He would not be the last. During the course of the conflict, hundreds of Americans served time in Vietnamese prisons in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and China.



Name: John Michael McGrath  
Rank/Branch: O3/United States Navy,  
pilot Unit: VA 146

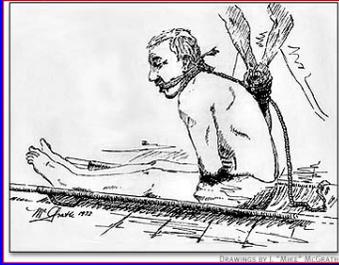
Mike McGrath spent five years and nine months as a prisoner of war in Vietnam. He was captured after a failed reconnaissance mission sent his aircraft to the ground. His captors transported him to the Hanoi Hilton where he endured a life of isolation, torture and misery. The beatings were frequent and the living conditions deplorable. As the war came to an end, Mike and other prisoners who survived were released.



One man held a rusty knife to my throat, while the others savagely ripped and cut away my clothing. One man, in his haste to rip off my boots, managed to hyper-extend my left knee six times. Every time I screamed in pain, the rusty knife would be jabbed harder into my throat.



Within ten hours of my capture, I was en route to Hanoi. At a pontoon bridge, I was taken out of a truck and jammed into a narrow ditch. The soldiers who were guarding the bridge took turns to see who could hit my face the hardest. After the contest, they tried to force dog dung through my teeth, bounced rocks off my chest, jabbed me with their gun barrels, and bounced the back of my head off the rocks that lay in the bottom of the ditch.



Immediately after my arrival in Hanoi, I was taken to the New Guy Village, a section of the Hanoi Hilton, where new arrivals were tortured and interrogated. I was delirious with pain. I was suffering from a badly dislocated and fractured left arm, two fractured vertebrae and a fractured left knee. The Vietnamese dislocated both my right shoulder and right elbow in the manner shown in the drawing. I wished I could die! When the Vietnamese threatened to shoot me, I begged them to do it. Their answer was, "No, you are a criminal. You haven't suffered enough."



Some men were tied to their beds, sometimes for weeks at a time.



One man made a super-human effort to resist. He lasted 33 days on the stool before giving in!



Here, I tried to depict the "Vietnamese rope trick." The arms are repeatedly cinched up until the elbows are forced together. Sometimes at this point the "hell cuffs" are applied. The "hell cuffs" are handcuffs which are put on the upper arms and pinched as tightly as possible onto the arms, cutting off the circulation. The resulting pain is extreme. If the prisoner has not broken down by this time, his arms are rotated until shoulders dislocate.



I was set free on 4 March 1973, and immediately flown to Clark Air Force base in the Philippines. Hot showers, steaks, peanut-butter sandwiches and thousands of smiling faces were on hand to welcome me back.

