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The Vietnam War

1955-1975



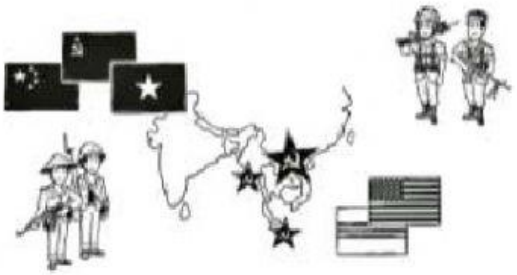
The main facts about the Vietnam war.

The Vietnam war began as a regional conflict and became one of ..... 's worst humanitarian catastrophes. It also changed the way that wars are fought and gave birth to a ..... movement that is strong .....

Since 1954, a proxy ..... had been brewing in South Asia. Communist guerrillas backed by North Vietnam, the ..... and ..... (known as the "Viet Cong") had been fighting the Western-backed South. The "Viet Cong" wanted to unite the ..... under a ..... flag. With the forces of the South losing the war, and fearing ..... expansion, the USA entered the conflict to help ..... the army of the North. The fighting quickly escalated and successful ..... turned the tide of the war in the Viet Congs' favour. By 1967, there were more than half a million American troops in Vietnam. In the USA, the ..... movement was growing. Originally seen as communist sympathisers, this small group grew into a popular ..... movement. As Ordinary Americans became ..... about the deaths of ..... and civilians, and the shocking reports about the military use of Napalm and the toxic herbicide, agent orange.

After the deaths of four ..... protesters in 1970, public opinion turned against the US government and it found itself fighting a war on two fronts. The failure to win hearts and minds at home eventually led to the US withdraw. Almost 60,000 American personnel had been killed and over 150,000 had been wounded. The conflict was a ..... disaster for the USA, both at home and overseas.

Although technically a ..... for the North Vietnamese, up to half a million civilians had been killed. The total amount of casualties, both civilian and military is believed to be over 3 million. Both sides had committed war crimes. The ripples of Vietnam can be still felt today. Such huge losses mean that even now the USA is unwilling to commit ground troops to ..... . But if one positive lesson was learned, it was that ordinary people would no longer tolerate the loss of ..... lives in their names. This is a direct result of the peace movement... that lives on throughout the world today. ..... than ever.





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