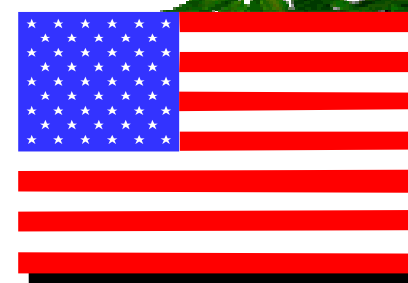


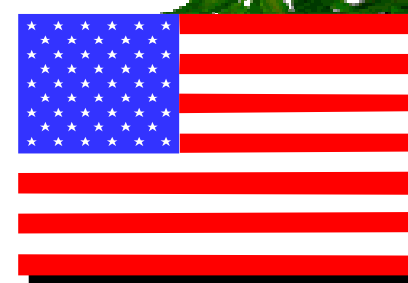


Anti-War Demonstrations



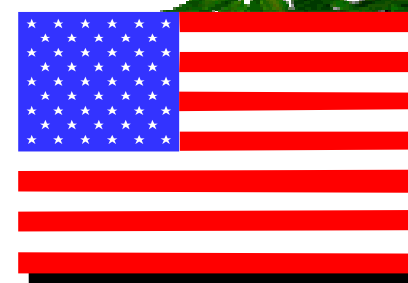
Columbia University, 1967

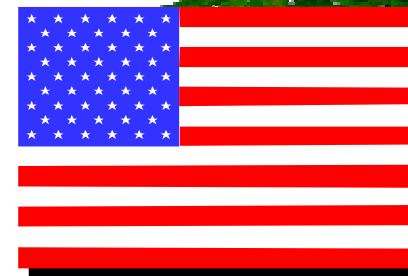
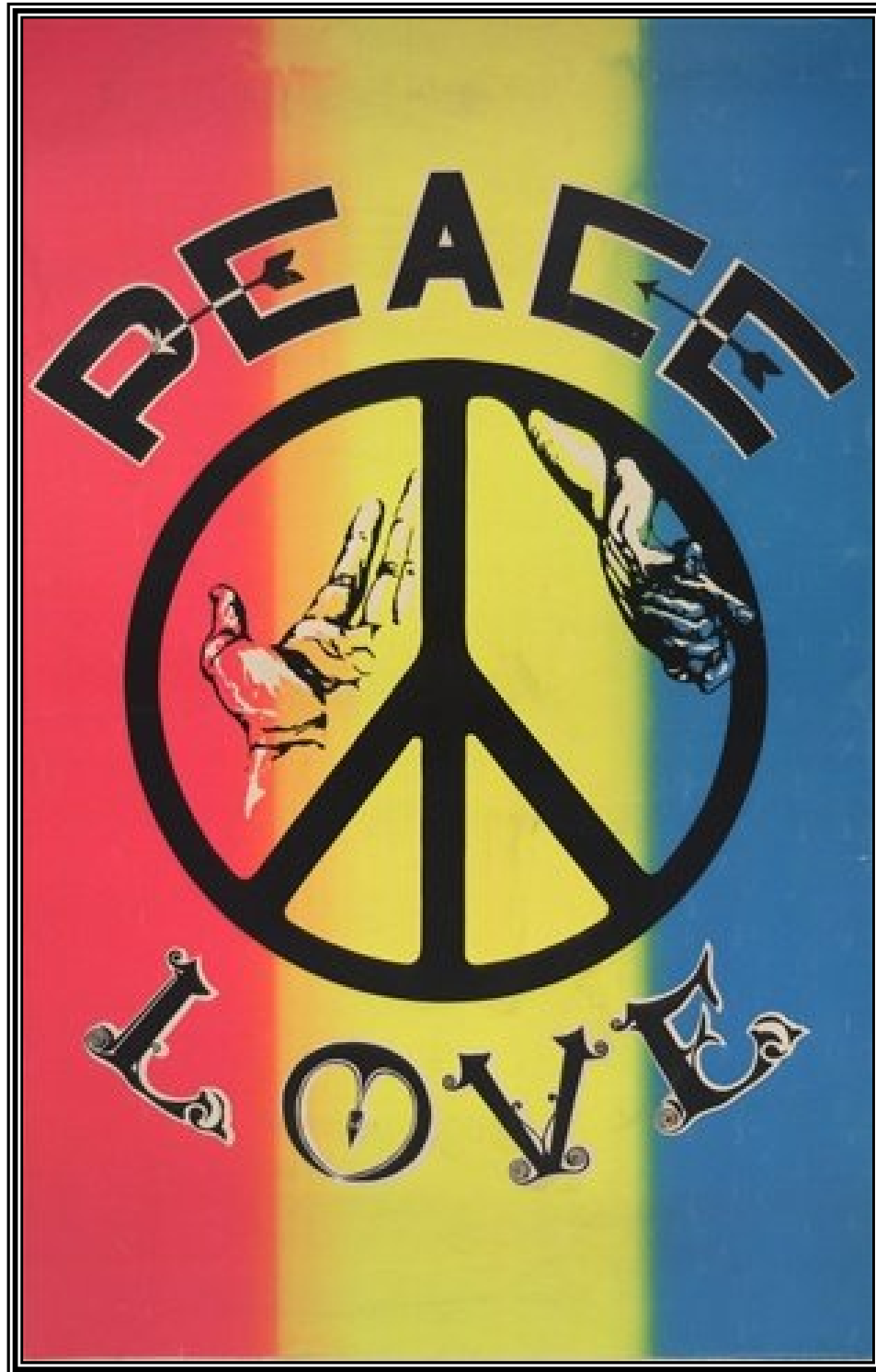






Anti-War Demonstrations





Student Activism in the 1960s

- **Generation Gap** — Young Americans in the 1960s had many opportunities unknown to previous generations; many also questioned the values of their parents. These factors contributed to a wider **generation gap** between college-aged youths and their parents.
- **Students for a Democratic Society and the New Left** — Organized in 1960, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) had a major impact on the **New Left**, a political movement that advocated radical changes to deal with problems such as poverty and racism.
- **The Free Speech Movement** — Student protests for free speech at the University of California at Berkeley inspired similar movements elsewhere, including challenges to social restrictions on campuses.
- **The Teach-in Movement** — Begun at the University of Michigan in March 1965, **teach-ins**, or special sessions at which issues concerning the war could be discussed, soon became a popular means of expressing antiwar sentiment.
- **Continued Protests** — Hundreds of demonstrations continued at colleges and universities around the country. One of the most dramatic, at Columbia University in New York City, linked the issues of civil rights and the war.

Draft Resistance

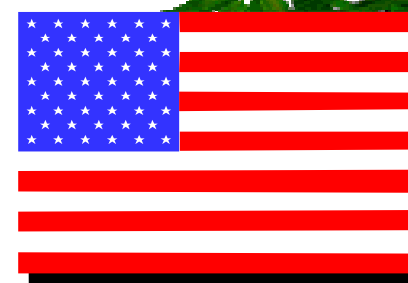
- Most of those who refused to be drafted in the early 1960s were **conscientious objectors**, people who opposed fighting on moral or religious grounds.
- As the Vietnam War progressed, the draft-resistance movement grew, with many young men burning their draft cards or fleeing the country to avoid the draft.
- At first, college students could receive a **deferment**, or postponement of their call to serve. Deferments were eliminated in 1971 in response to complaints that they were unfair to those who could not afford college.

Johnson Decides Not to Run

- **Continuing protests and an increasing number of casualties steadily decreased popular support for Johnson's handling of the war.**
- **After the Tet Offensive, Johnson rarely left the White House for fear of angry protesters.**
- **Two other Democratic contenders, antiwar candidate Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy, brother of John Kennedy and a senator from New York, campaigned against Johnson for the party's nomination.**
- **On March 31, 1968, Johnson announced in a nationally televised speech that he would not seek another term as President.**



Impact of the Vietnam War



Johnson announces (March, 1968):



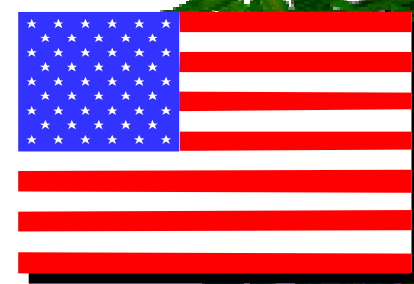
☞ *I do not believe that I should devote an hour or a day of my time to any personal partisan causes, or to any duties other than the awesome duties of this office, the Presidency of your country.*

☞ *Accordingly, I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination of my party for another term as your President.*





American Morale Begins to Dip



- ⌚ Disproportionate representation of poor people and minorities.
- ⌚ Severe racial problems.
- ⌚ Major drug problems.
- ⌚ Officers in combat 6 mo.; in rear 6 mo.
Enlisted men in combat for 12 mo.



The Election of 1968

The Democratic Convention

- At the time of the Democratic Convention in Chicago, Eugene McCarthy was thought too far out of the mainstream, and Robert Kennedy had been assassinated.
- During the convention, police attacked protesters, with much of the violence taking place in front of television cameras.
- Vice President Hubert Humphrey won the Democratic nomination, but the party had been further torn apart by the convention's events.

The Nation Chooses Nixon

- Richard M. Nixon received the Republican Party's nomination for President.
- Nixon soon took the lead in national polls, allowing his running mate Spiro Agnew to make harsh accusations, while Nixon stayed "above the fray."
- Independent candidate George C. Wallace drew many votes. Additionally, many disillusioned Democrats did not vote.
- In a close race, Nixon won the presidency in the 1968 election.

DIVIDED AMERICA divided US

ESTABLISHMENT

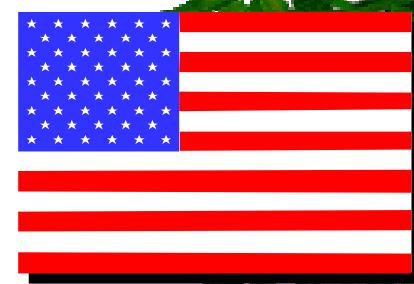
- * Called Middle America, the Silent Majority
- * Supported Vietnam War
- * Traditional American values: hard work, family and patriotism
- * Feared and disliked new styles of music and dress of youth
- * Against use of illegal drugs

ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT

- * Called counterculture, Hippies, Flower Children
- * Opposed Vietnam War
- * Disillusioned with values of money, status, power; emphasized love, individual freedom, cooperation
- * Music and fashion emphasized movement toward new society, greater freedom
- * Used "mind-expanding" drugs, LSD



Nixon in Vietnam



☯ Nixon's 1968 Campaign promised an end to the war: *Peace with Honor*

☯ Appealed to the great "Silent Majority"

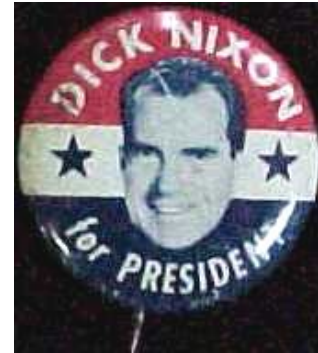
☯ *Vietnamization*

☯ Expansion of the conflict – The "Secret War"

♏ Cambodia

♏ Laos

☯ *Agent Orange* – chemical defoliant



The First Vietnam War
draft lottery, requiring
mandatory military
service based on date
of birth.

Ho Chi Minh
dies at age 79

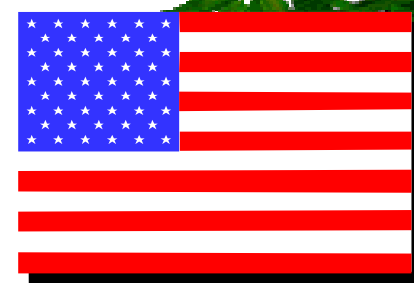
1969

*** Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird**
announces the policy of
“Vietnamization”

- **Diminished role for the U.S. Military**
- **The role of defeating the communists shifts to the South Vietnamese Army.**
- **Gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops**



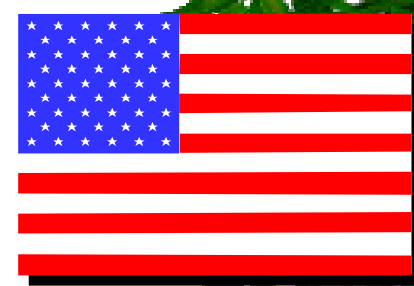
Nixon Policy



- ★ **Peace with honor in Vietnam**
 - All POWs must return
 - NOT turn over SVN to Reds
- ★ **South Vietnam must fight its war with US \$\$\$**
 - Secret bombing in Cambodia (invaded 1970)
 - All US ground combat ends 1970; air war?
- ★ **End of containment policy**
 - Détente with USSR ... friendship?
 - Détente with China ... friendship?
- ★ **play off China vs. USSR**
 - fear each other
 - both stop helping Hanoi; US can now bomb



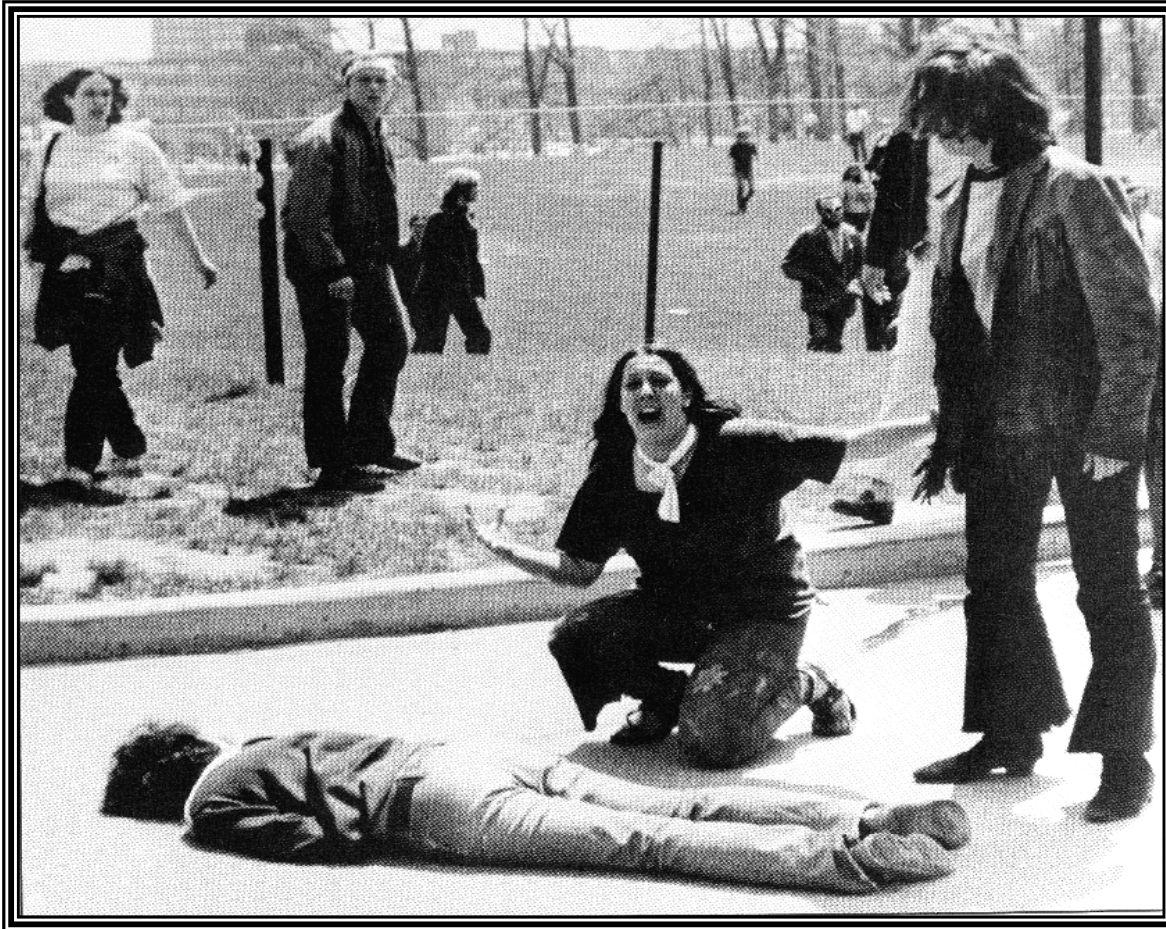
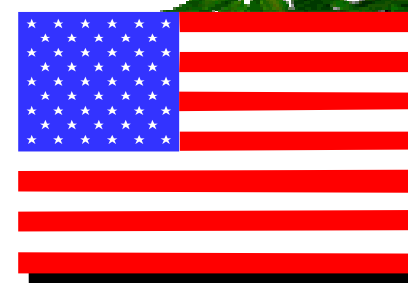
Vietnamization, 1969-72



- ★ **SVN government & army built up**
 - pacification 1969-71; 90% of population safe (many moved to cities)
 - Viet Cong lose base; US victory!
 - now a conventional war of NV vs SV
- ★ **Secret bombings of Cambodia ineffective; US invasion 1970 [more protests]**
- ★ **US ground troops exit 1971**



Anti-War Demonstrations



Kent State University

☯ **May 4, 1970**

☯ **4 students
shot dead.**

☯ **11 students
wounded**

☯ **Jackson
State University**

☯ **May 10, 1970**

☯ **2 dead; 12
wounded**



Nixon Calls for Law and Order

The Silent Majority

- Nixon had campaigned promising a return to law and order. As President, he strengthened this position, discouraging protest against the war.
- In a 1969 speech, Nixon appealed to those who, he felt, quietly supported his policies. He referred to this group of Americans as “the **silent majority**.”

Kent State and Jackson State

- When student antiwar protesters at Kent State University in Ohio reacted angrily to Nixon’s invasion of Cambodia, Nixon ordered the National Guard to Kent State. After students threw rocks at the guardsmen, the troops opened fire, killing and wounding both protesters and bystanders.
- The violence at Kent State, and a similar incident at Jackson State in Mississippi, horrified Americans.

1970

★ National Security Advisor, Henry A. Kissinger begins secret peace talks with North Vietnamese leaders in Paris.

★ President Nixon withdrew 40,000 troops as part of the Vietnamization process.

Troop levels:	
South Vietnamese	968,000
American	334,600
Australian	6,800
New Zealand	470
South Korea	48,450
Philippines	70
Thailand	11,570



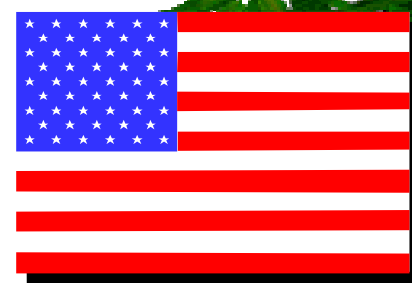
1971

- ★ Nixon withdraws 100,000 troops.
- ★ Defensive role for U.S. ground forces
- ★ Offensive attacks by South Vietnamese Army

Troop Levels:	
South Vietnamese	1,046,250
American	156,800
Australian	2,000
New Zealand	100
South Korea	45,700
Philippines	70
Thailand	6,000



“Pentagon Papers” 1971



- ☞ Former defense analyst *Daniel Ellsberg* leaked government documents regarding war efforts during Johnson’s administration to the *New York Times*.
- ☞ Documents → Government misled Congress & American People regarding its intentions in Vietnam during mid-1960s.
 - ☞ Primary reason for fighting not to eliminate communism, but *to avoid humiliating defeat*.
 - ☞ *New York Times v. United States* (1971)



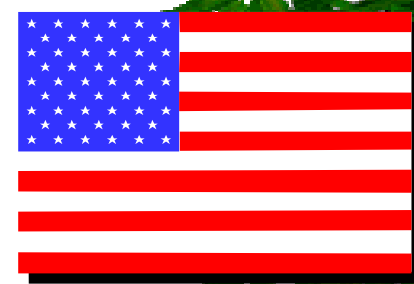
1972

Troop Levels:	
South Vietnamese	1,048,000
American	24,200
Australian	130
New Zealand	50
South Korea	36,790
Philippines	50
Thailand	50





The Ceasefire, 1973



☾ ***Peace is at hand*** – Kissinger, 1972

♈ North Vietnam attacks South

♈ Most Massive U.S. bombing commences

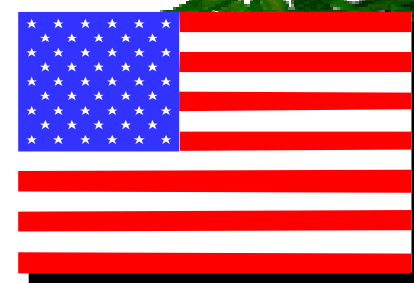
☾ **1973: Ceasefire signed between**

♈ U.S., South Vietnam, & North Vietnam

☾ ***Peace with honor*** (Nixon)



Peace Negotiations



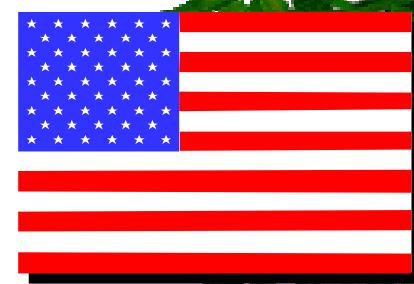
☯ US & Vietnamese argue for 5 months over size of conference table.

Dr. Henry Kissinger & Le Duc Tho





The Ceasefire, 1973



☯ Conditions:

1. U.S. to remove all troops
2. North Vietnam could leave troops already in South Vietnam
3. North Vietnam would resume war
4. No provision for POWs or MIAs

☯ Last American troops left South Vietnam on March 29, 1973

☯ 1975: North Vietnam defeats South Vietnam

☯ Saigon renamed *Ho Chi Minh City*

1973

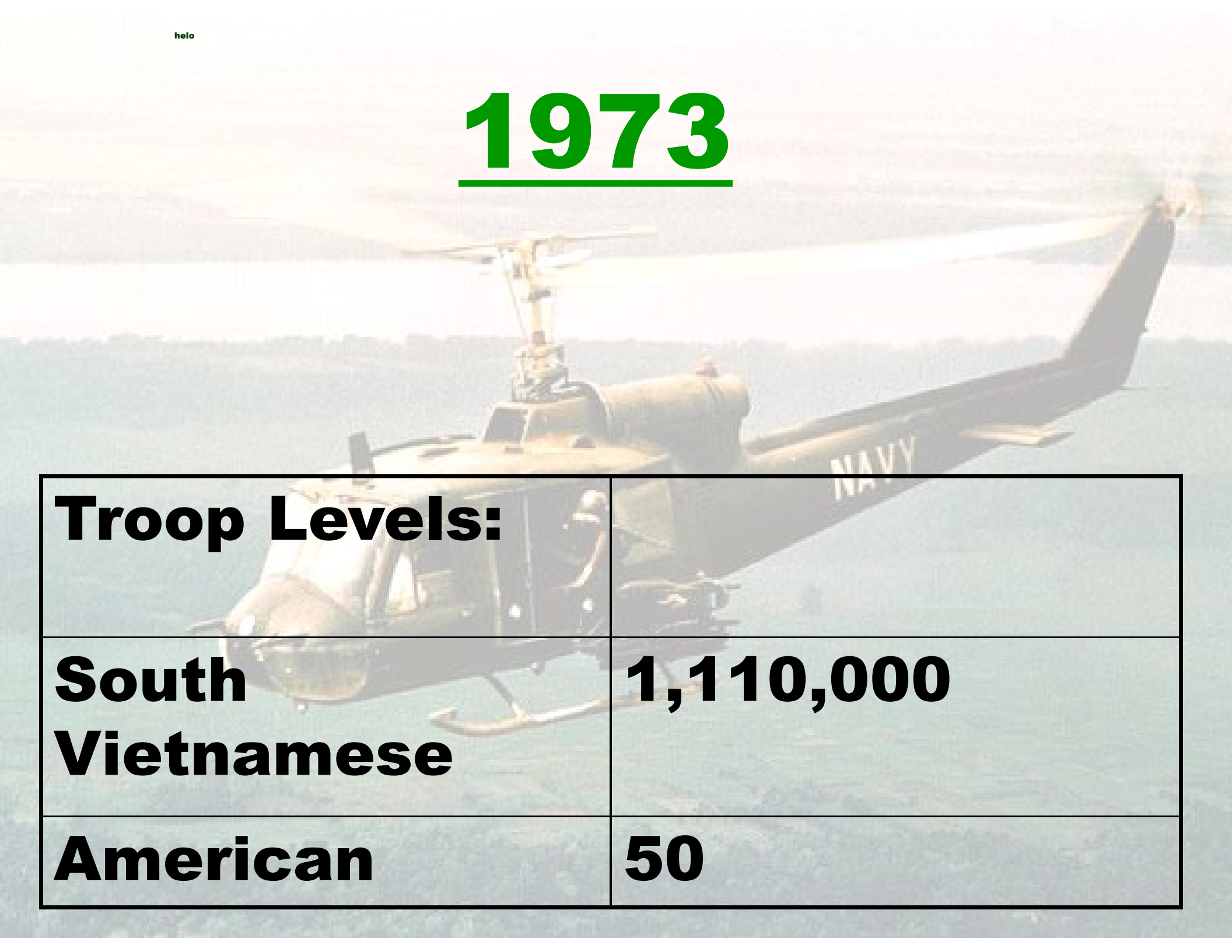
Troop Levels:

**South
Vietnamese**

1,110,000

American

50



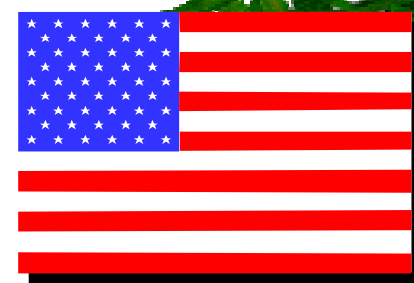
1974

❖ **Nixon's Impeachment Hearings / Resignation**

❖ **South braces for huge Communist invasion.**



The Fall of Saigon

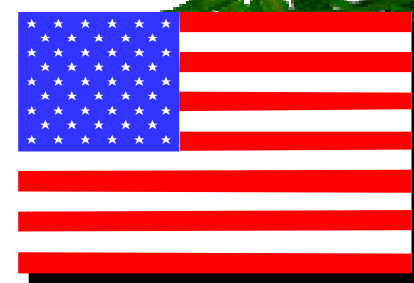


South Vietnamese Attempt to Flee the Country





The Fall of Saigon



April 30, 1975

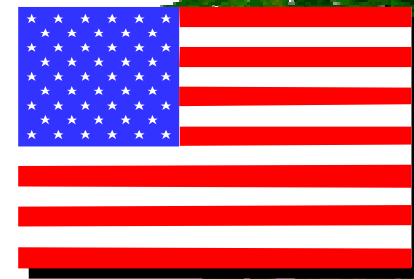


America Abandons Its Embassy





The Fall of Saigon



North Vietnamese at the Presidential Palace

The ancient capital city of Hue falls to the North Vietnamese Army.

In case there was any doubt who won the war, the communists later rename Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City.

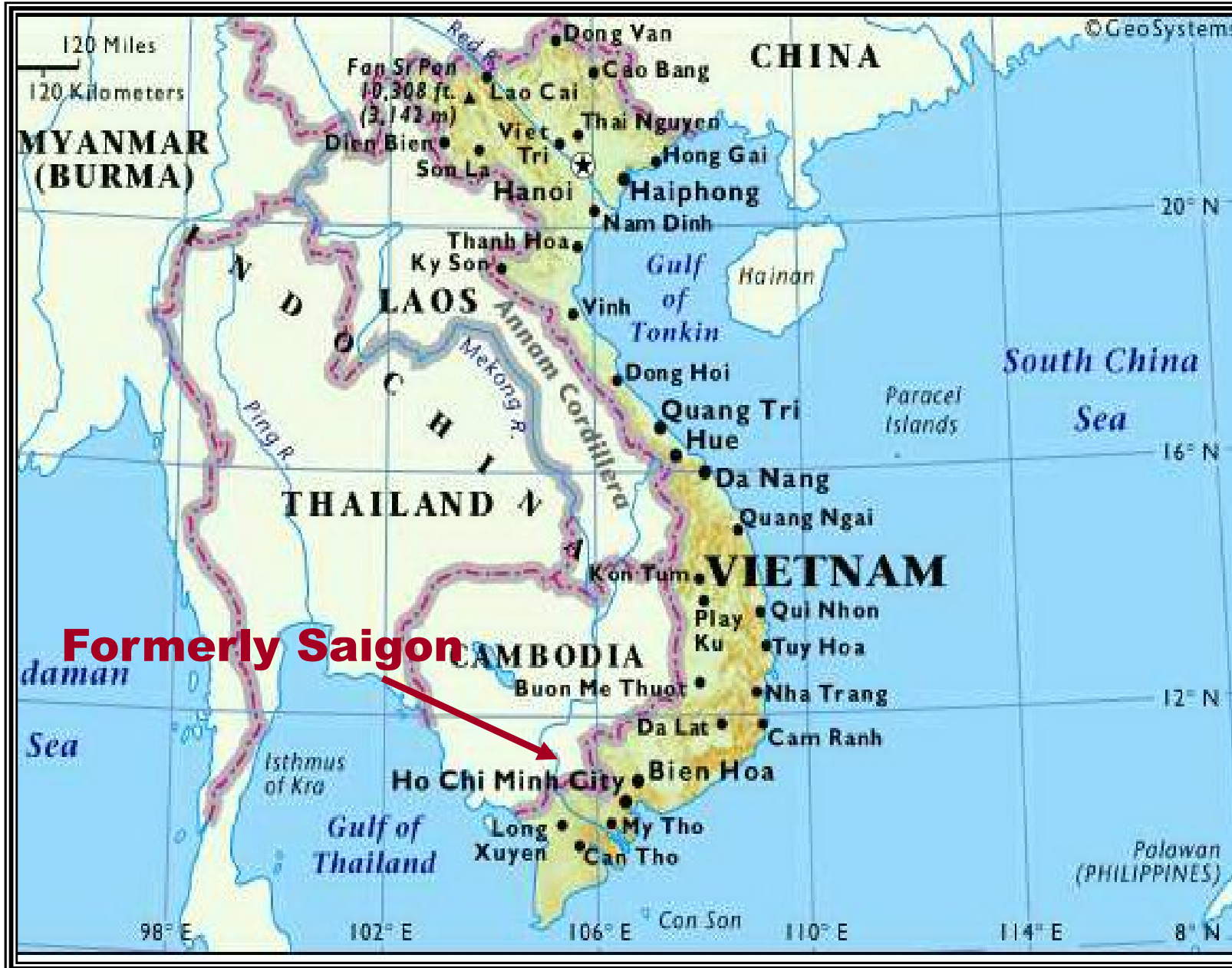
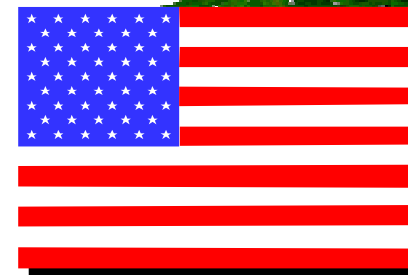
1975

President Gerald Ford declared the war “finished.”

Last Americans evacuate as communists take Saigon.

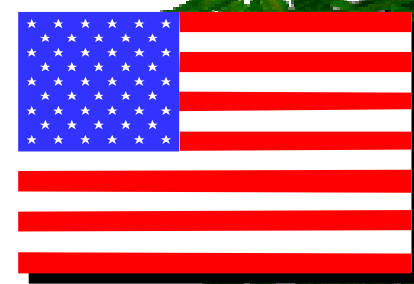


The New Vietnam





The Impact

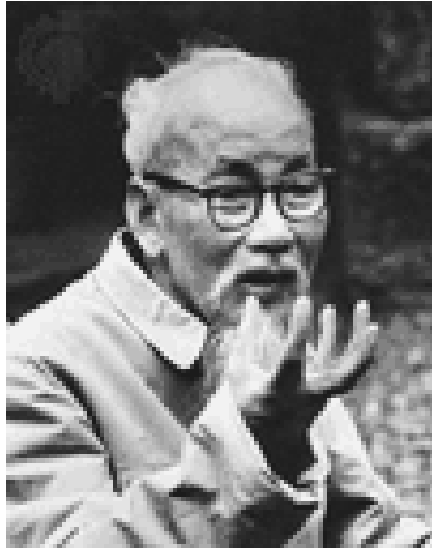
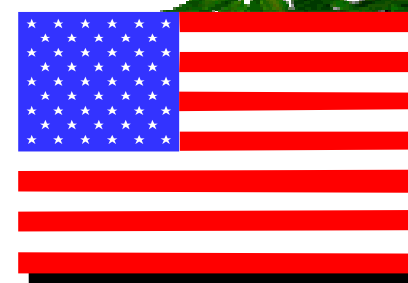


- ☞ **26th Amendment: 18-year-olds vote**
- ☞ **Nixon abolished the draft → all-volunteer army**
- ☞ **War Powers Act, 1973 ***
 - ℳ **President must notify Congress within 48 hours of deploying military force**
 - ℳ **President must withdraw forces unless he gains Congressional approval within 90 days**
- ☞ **Disregard for Veterans → seen as “baby killers”**
- ☞ **POW/MIA issue lingered**





And in the End....



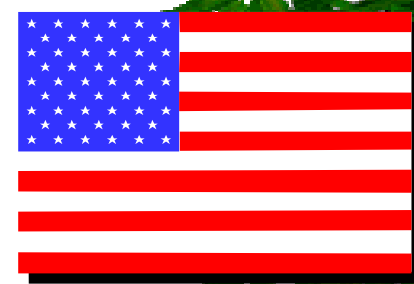
Ho Chi Minh:

If we have to fight, we will fight. You will kill ten of our men and we will kill one of yours, and in the end it will be you who tires of it.





The Costs

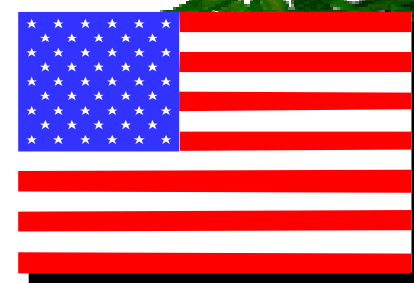


- ❖ **3,000,000 Vietnamese killed**
- ❖ **58,000 Americans killed**
 - ❖ **300,000 wounded**
- ❖ **Of those that died 11,465 were teenagers**
- ❖ **10,000 dead from accidents**
- ❖ **153,000 hospitalized & survive**
- ❖ **2,590,000 Americans in Vietnam**
- ❖ **Great Society programs under-funded**
- ❖ **\$150,000,000,000 in U.S. spending**
- ❖ **U.S. morale, self-confidence, trust of government decimated**





The Costs

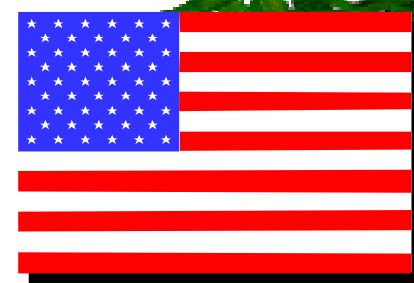


- ❖ 1,200 airplanes crash
- ❖ 6,727,084 tons of bombs were dropped
- ❖ 3,750 fixed wing aircraft
&
- ❖ 4,865 helicopters were lost.
- ❖ 500,000 acres of Vietnam were sprayed with defoliants, Agent Orange
- ❖ The effects of Agent Orange may last up to 100 years.





Lessons for U.S. Presidents



- 1. Wars must be of short duration**
- 2. Wars must yield few American casualties**
- 3. Restrict media access to battlefields**
- 4. Develop and maintain Congressional and public support**
- 5. Set clear, winnable goals**
- 6. Set deadline for troop withdrawals**















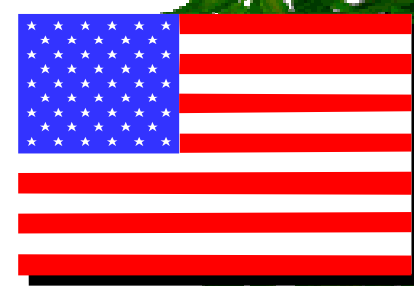


bombing





bombing



**President Clinton
formally
recognized
Vietnam on
July 11, 1995**

