

SS7H3e

Explain the reasons for foreign involvement in Korea and Vietnam in terms of containment of Communism.

Concepts:

Conflict Creates Change

Conflict Resolution

# Conflict Creates Change

The student will understand that when there is **conflict** between or within societies, **change** is the result.

When you have conflicts with your friends does it change your friendship?

Can change have intended and / or unintended consequences?

Can change be positive and / or negative?



# Conflict Creates Change



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**Was there conflict between Vietnam and France?**

**How did the Vietnamese gain their independence?**

**Did ALL Vietnamese people want communism as the form of government?**





# Vietnam War

after WWII, the Japanese were forced to leave Southeast Asia; the French saw this as an opportunity to reclaim Indo-China (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia); the Vietnamese, however, wanted self-rule; the French were defeated and an international peace conference divided Vietnam at the 17th Parallel (N); non-communist South Vietnam fought against communist North Vietnam for control of the country; North Vietnam was supported by China and the Soviet Union; South Vietnam was supported by the U.S.





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# 1960s and early 1970s: The Vietnam War

- With a goal of stopping the spread of communism (policy of containment) in Southeast Asia – the United States replaced France in South Vietnam after France was unable to keep Vietnam as a colony.
- North Vietnamese leader Ho Chi Minh was determined to reunite Vietnam under a communist government, while U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson was determined to prevent the spread of communism into South Vietnam.





# The Vietnam War Causes

- The policy of containment by western democracies to keep communism from spreading in Asia created more Cold War tensions, also part of the Domino Theory.





Even the president of the United States needs to know their geography. Here, JFK points to Indo-China and the threat of communism.











Rice paddies  
in Vietnam











# CASUALTIES OF WAR

- The death toll for American soldiers exceeded 58,000 troops
- 2 millions Vietnamese died in the conflict.









**VIETNAM MEMORIAL** in Washington, DC



# Remembering Vietnam



# HOW THE VIETNAM WAR WAS LOST

- Geography - enemy was able to use their geography of jungle coverage & knowledge of the land; Ho Chi Minh Trail (supply line)
- Deception – Vietcong were southern Vietnamese people who were soldiers for the communist forces
- Guerilla warfare -“hit-and-run” battle tactics to evade capture and defeat using tunnel systems











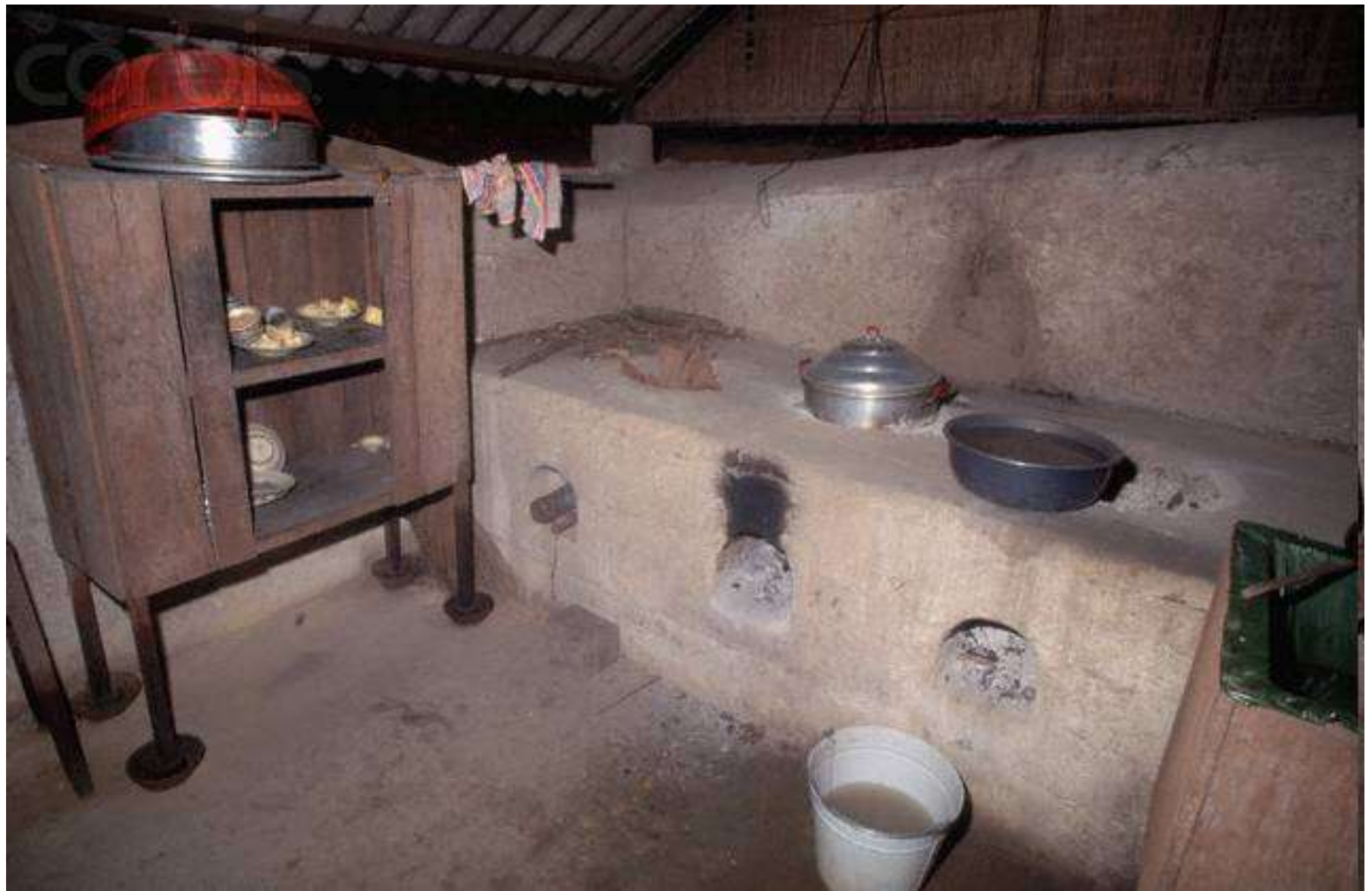
# VIET CONG TUNNEL COMPLEX



- 1** Firing post
- 2** Airtight trapdoor
- 3** First aid post
- 4** Punji stake trap
- 5** Reinforced sleeping chamber

- 6** Blast deflection wall
- 7** Well
- 8** Meeting room
- 9** Storage cache for weapons and food







# Vietnam War

1. What were two main causes of the Vietnam War?

**Answer:** The communists wanted reunification of Vietnam, and the United States feared the domino theory (the spread of communism) in Southeast Asia.

2. Who were the Viet Cong?

**Answer:** Communists in South Vietnam fighting on the side of the North Vietnamese.

3. What is the name of the US policy to stop the spread of communism in Asia?

**Answer:** Policy of containment.

# DRAWING CONCLUSIONS

- What evidence today supports that the United States did not accomplish its goal of containing communism in Southeast Asia?

# DRAWING CONCLUSIONS

- The evidence is that Vietnam is a communist country today. Both the north and the south became reunified (united together) under communist rule.

# WHAT IF ???

- What if the United States was able to defeat the communist forces of North Vietnam... how would Vietnam be a different country today?



# WHAT IF ???

What if Vietnam's independence leader Ho Chi Minh used non-violent protests against France like Mohandas Gandhi of India did against Great Britain... how would Vietnam be different today? Would they be a democracy? Would the Vietnam War still happen?



# Conflict Creates Change



The student will understand that when there is **conflict** between or within societies, **change** is the result.

What are some examples of **conflict** between the US and communist Vietnam?

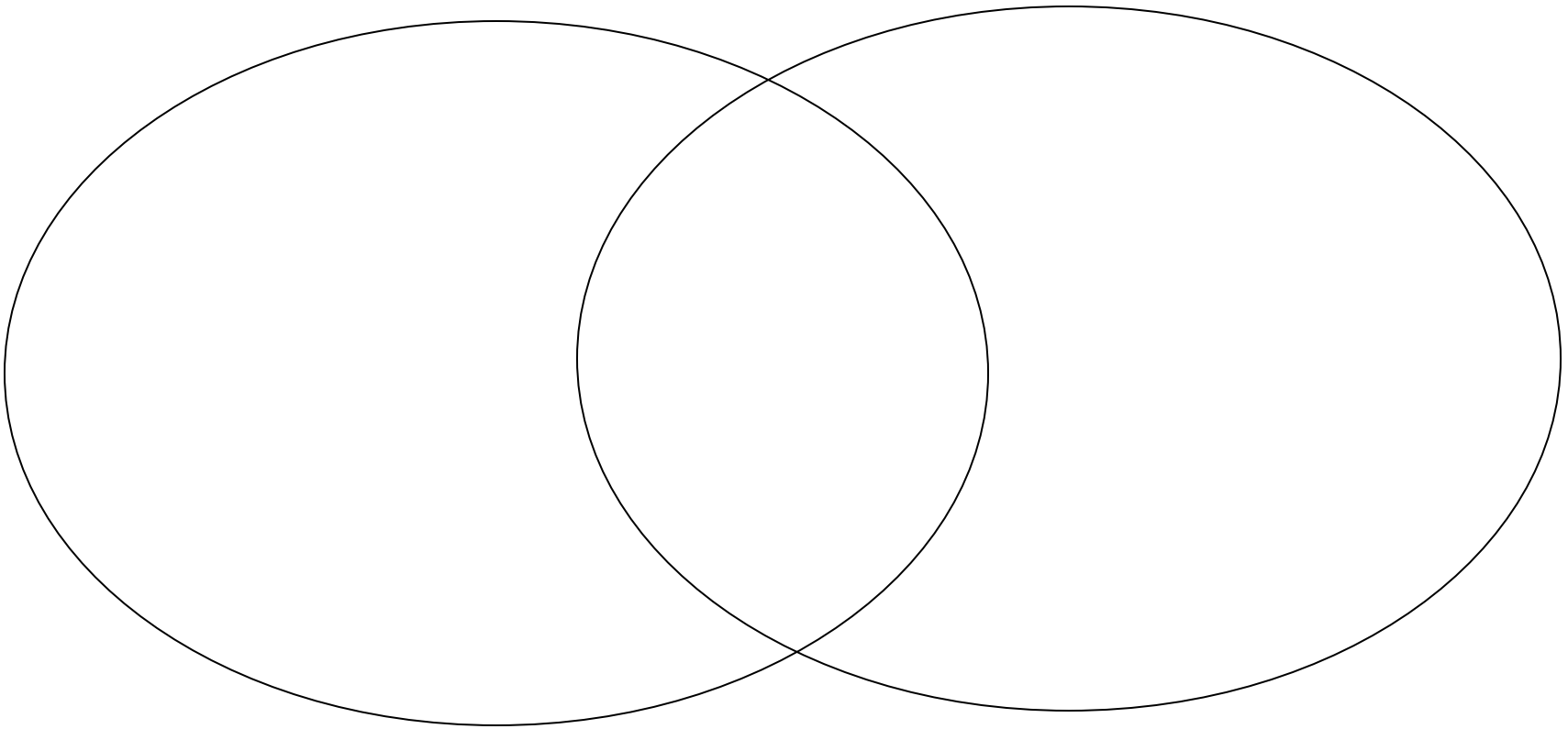
How did the Vietnam war **change** life in both the United States and Vietnam?



# Compare and Contrast KOREAN WAR and VIETNAM WAR

KOREAN WAR

VIETNAM WAR





# Compare and Contrast KOREAN WAR and VIETNAM WAR

## KOREAN WAR

- UNITED STATES WAS ABLE TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM FROM CONTROLLING SOUTH KOREA
- TODAY, THE KOREAN PENINSULA IS DIVIDED BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC SOUTH KOREA AND COMMUNIST NORTH KOREA
- KOREAN WAR IS KNOWN AS THE FORGOTTEN WAR

- Civil war over government (communism vs democracy)
- US involved in conflict to contain the spread of communism
- Both communist revolutions supported by China and the Soviet Union
- Communist governments remain in North Korea and Vietnam

## VIETNAM WAR

- UNITED STATES WAS NOT ABLE TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM FROM CONTROLLING SOUTH VIETNAM
- TODAY, ALL OF VIETNAM IS REUNIFIED UNDER A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT
- MANY AMERICANS REMEMBER THE VIETNAM WAR BECAUSE OF CONTROVERSIES, WAR CASUALTIES, AND FAILURE TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM

# SUMMARIZING ACTIVITY

- Explain the reasons for United States foreign involvement in Korea and Vietnam.

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and Vietnam in terms of  
containment of Communism.

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