






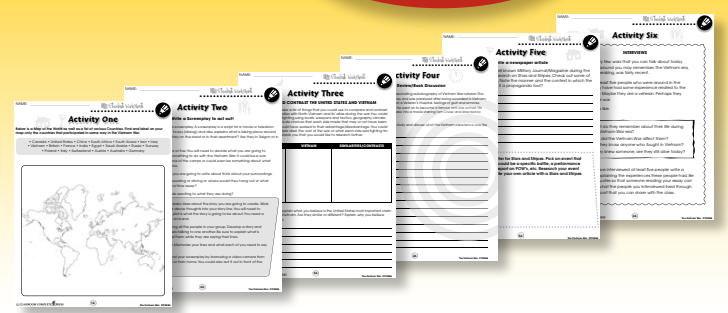
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## Background and Causes

1. Can you explain the difference between a Communist Government and a Democratic Government?

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2. Is America Democratic or Communist?

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3. Have politics ever played a role in other wars? If so, name some current or past.

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4. What do you know about the Cold War? Did Cold War politics play a role in American policies in Indochina?

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## Background and Causes

**A**merican involvement in Vietnam began after 1954. During World War II Vietnam was occupied by Japanese forces. In 1945 when the Second World War ended Vietnam was divided in two with Great Britain controlling the south and China controlling the north until Japanese troops could be rounded up and returned to Japan. During this period Great Britain supported the return of the French to Vietnam. The French had controlled Vietnam (or Indochina) as a colonial possession before World War II. France fought a nine year war in Vietnam and was heavily supported by the United States government but in the end French forces were defeated at Dien Bien Phu in 1954, leaving the north in the control of the communist Viet Minh and their leader Ho Chi Minh.



After the French lost control of Indochina, the United States moved into the south of Vietnam hoping to help the South Vietnamese develop a democratic government based on American democracy. As time went

**What year did American involvement start in Vietnam?**




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## Background and Causes

1. Circle the word **TRUE** if the statement is TRUE or Circle the word **FALSE** if it is FALSE.

- a) The French controlled Vietnam prior to World War II.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- b) Vietnam was a democratic country.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- c) The Soviet Union was an American ally.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- d) The United States backed the leadership of Ngo Dinh Diem.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- e) President Kennedy was assassinated in Texas during the Vietnam War.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**
- f) Lyndon Johnson was less aggressive with the actions he took.  
**TRUE**      **FALSE**

2. Complete each sentence with a word from the list.

leadership	democratic	Japanese	supported
South	defeated	nine	

During World War II Vietnam was occupied by \_\_\_\_\_ forces. During this period Great Britain \_\_\_\_\_ the return of the French to Vietnam. France fought a \_\_\_\_\_ year war in Vietnam before being \_\_\_\_\_ in 1954. The United States moved into \_\_\_\_\_ Vietnam hoping to help the South Vietnamese develop a \_\_\_\_\_ government. The United States backed the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ngo Dinh Diem.

## Diary of a Soldier

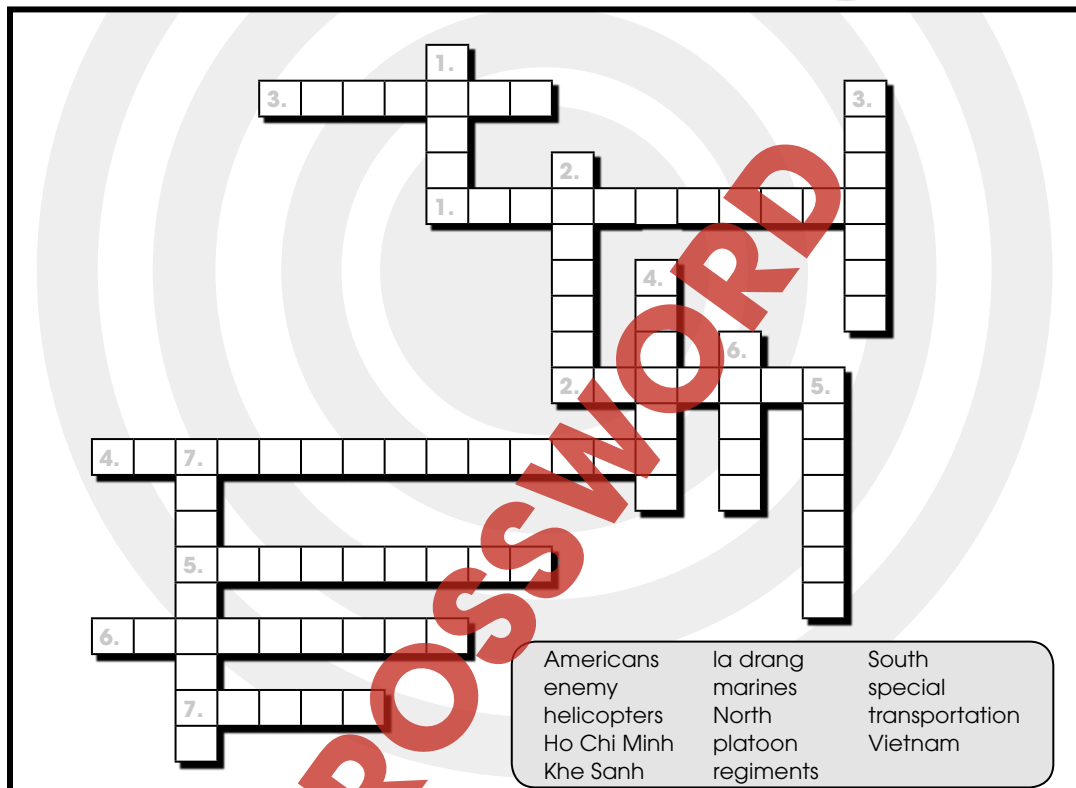
A great variety of American Forces personnel served in Vietnam. Each had their own unique experiences and daily routines. Imagine what their lives may have been like. Pick a person from the list below and research what their daily routine may have been.

- Helicopter pilot
- Soldier at Khe Sanh
- Jet fighter pilot
- SEAL team member
- Prisoner of War
- Navy Officer
- Navy man on a patrol boat
- Or a person of your own choosing

When you have picked a person and researched them write a three day diary of that person's experiences. You could talk about things like location, the terrain, what the weather was like, how they felt ... etc



# Crossword Puzzle!



Americans	la drang	South
enemy	marines	special
helicopters	North	transportation
Ho Chi Minh	platoon	Vietnam
Khe Sanh	regiments	

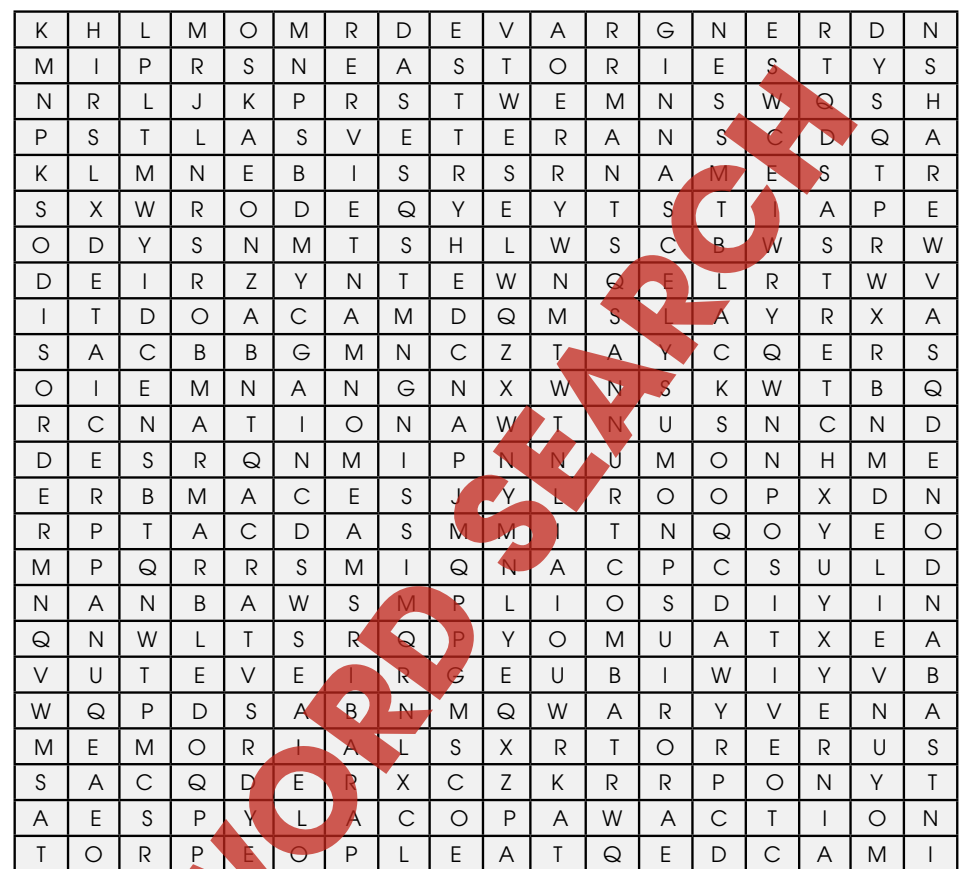
### Across

- Air Transportation
- These soldiers man the base at Khe Sanh
- A movie about Vietnam
- a tank or jeep
- Army unit smaller than a division
- Prime Minister of Communist party
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pole

### Down

- Opposite of North
- \_\_\_\_\_ War
- Base near demilitarized zone
- Large battle taking place in 1965
- Forces with elite skills
- Opposite of friend
- People full of pride

# Word Puzzle



- |            |           |               |          |
|------------|-----------|---------------|----------|
| ABANDONED  | GRIEVE    | PLATOON       | UNVEILED |
| ACTION     | KILLED    | POORLY        | VETERANS |
| APOCALYPSE | MARBLE    | POSITIVE      | VIETNAM  |
| BLACK      | MEMORIALS | RAMBO         | WALL     |
| COMBAT     | MISSING   | SHARE         | WAR      |
| DISORDER   | NAMES     | STORIES       |          |
| ENGRAVED   | NATION    | STRETCH       |          |
| GATHER     | PEOPLE    | UNAPPRECIATED |          |

# Comprehension Quiz

### Part C

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- Can you name 4 topographical features found in Vietnam? 2  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How long was the U.S. involved in the Vietnam War? 2  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How did William Westmoreland believe the Vietnam War would be won? 2  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Name 3 types of antiwar movements that the American people used to help show the government how they felt. 2  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Name four types of water vessels the Blue Water Navy used. 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

SUBTOTAL: /10

## C-130 Airplanes lined up at Hue Phu Bai Battle of Hue-1968



