Vietnam Jigsaw-7

1. Iraq another Vietnam?

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| Vietnam | Iraq |
| Decade of Fighting | 3 weeks of fighting |
| No clear winner | Obvious winner |
| Multiple Allies | No Allies |
| Rough terrain | Plain terrain |
| 20 death a day in war | 1 death a day in war |
| support from the citizens | no support from the citizens |
| no threat to the U.S | A threat to the U.S |
| Powerful media attention | Little media attention |

* 1. In Vietnam, there was a huge anti-war movement. Now during the Iraq war, there aren’t any protests.
  2. At the current rate, it will take another 180 years to reach the death toll in Vietnam compared to the present war with Iraq.

1. In the Vietnam War, there was a draft, whereas in Iraq, there was enlarged selection of volunteers.
2. There wasn’t any strategic plans in the Vietnam war as there are in the current Iraq war.
3. Military generals misled their superiors in Washington.

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Vietnam Jigsaw-6

1. Communism did not spread to other countries as the domino theory though.
2. Communism is dying to its own faulty system.
3. Vietnamese favored communism because they were desperate for food.
4. To win a war you must have a large army, well thought out plan, and a clear goal.
5. The domino theory is no longer valid in the 21st century.
6. At the time, Vietnam was a reasonable cause to fight for. Looking back to it we realized it was a mistake.
7. The idea of containment is what brought us into the Vietnam War. It wasn’t just one man’s decision.
8. With the advancement of technology and the lessons learned from the Vietnam War, we will not have to fight the same style of war.
9. Public support is required to win a war.
10. It is difficult to win a war when you are on unfamiliar territory.

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1. Baby Boomers: Born after WWII between 1946-1964. Many of the Baby Boomer generation opposed the Vietnam War, but the rest of America largely supported it.
2. Due to the Vietnam War Johnson had decided not to run for re-election

-LBJ had stopped the bombings in Vietnam in an attempt to gain favor, and support, yet Nixon had won the election, and had then announced his Vietnamization Program

-In the summer of 1969, the program was intended to train, and arm the South Vietnamese in order for the U.S troops to withdraw.

1. There was a large student protest at Kent State University, the National Guard had shown up to calm the protesters resulting in clashes between students, and the National Guard, resulting in the deaths of four students, and eight injured.
2. In 1972 after Nixon had won re-election, a ceasefire was negotiated allowing American ground troops to leave Vietnam.

-By 1971 there were less than 200,000 American soldiers in Vietnam

-Through the ceasefire 50,000 American POW’s and soldiers came home.

-By 1968 30,000 Americans had been killed in the Vietnam War.

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Vietnam Jigsaw-4

1. Vietnam War was much different and uglier than any other war.
   1. The civil war had more of a problem with disease. Not like the Desert Storm where the enemy was easy to spot.
2. Fighting in Vietnam (unfamiliar land) was a disadvantage; Enemy was hard to spot.
3. Vietnamese Claim to be victorious, but Americans won’t admit defeat. America just became uninvolved.
4. Pre-war & Military Power = “Hawks”
   1. Against battle or Peaceniks = “Doves”
5. Tet Offensive: Vietnamese had a massive attack killing 45,000 American soldiers, but there was no winner or loser of the battle.
6. Ho Chi Minh was confident in winning but there was no clear objective.
   1. The Vietnamese were fighting to fight, Americans were fighting for change)
7. For the age and time period of this war, our troops were not emotionally prepared for the battle in Vietnam.
8. The Tet Offensive was demoralizing & turned the public against President Johnson.
9. The U.S wanted to end the war, but the Vietcong wanted to make the war last.
10. No true winner, but communism didn’t spread.

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Vietnam Jigsaw-3

1. Leaders of the military lied to everyone, including each other, leading to more troops deployed in Vietnam.
2. 550,000 deployed, over 200 dead came back every week.
3. The public was distracted from the war due to the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy along with other news.
4. In 1969, 250,000 Americans protested the war in Washington, D.C.
5. On several campuses, students protested and took over the presidents office’s for days.
6. Nixon was an unlike president although he approved the voting age of 18, ended the war, and stopped the draft.
7. This was the first televised war, allowing the public to see the horrors of war, leading to protests.
8. The war went on for 7 years from 1965 to 1972.

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Vietnam Jigsaw-2

1. President Kennedy - Tried to expand US involvement in Vietnam, other Purists have concluded that he ended to retreat and end U.S involvement altogether.
2. Excuse - Kennedy didn’t want to prepare for military involvement in Vietnam
3. Lyndon Johnson - won the election of 1964.
4. Drafted - You were selected to go to war.
5. About 40% of eligible boomer males eventually were drafted
6. A lot of drafters moved away to escape from being drafted
7. If you decided to go to the army instead of being drafted you could pick your specialty.
8. 27 million men were draft age, 2 million served in Vietnam. 2.5% chance of being killed in combat.
9. They had a lottery system where they would pull a number based on date of birth.
10. Kennedy was very aggressive, not afraid to use military strength.
11. At age 18 you were required to register for the military draft.
12. Prior to 1970, men eligible for the draft (18-26 years old), were selected by age, oldest went first.

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Vietnam Jigsaw-1

1. Domino Theory - The idea that if one country became communist, eventually all countries would become communist.
2. Real concern of the US was that communism might overtake the U.S
   1. Hitlers attempts to dominate were still fresh
3. Ho Chi Minh - Although France tried protecting Vietnam from communism, Ho Chi Minh declared it a free, communist country, and after 1954, controlled North Vietnam, while South Vietnam remained free.
4. Boomers - refers to the 76 million adolescent approaching draft age.
   1. The cold war, Vietnam, and the boomers were like three trains heading directly at eachother.
5. Despite their differences in governing, the U.S and U.S.S.R became allies.
6. In 1950, the U.S said that they would help any countries being invaded by communist forces.
7. Vietnam is a small country located south of China in Southeast Asia.

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