

1  **Proxy Wars**

2  **The Korean War**

- While the hostilities in Berlin remained essentially non-violent, hostilities did erupt in Asia, which became a proxy war between the Communist and American forces fighting the Cold War

3

- Korea had been a Japanese colony until WWII, then temporarily split at 38<sup>th</sup> parallel between USSR and USA

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- Communist backed North Korea invaded South Korea in an attempt to reunify the peninsula
- Thought by Americans to be backed by the Soviets, so Truman Doctrine was used to justify getting involved
- Truman was afraid of repeating the mistakes of Chamberlain

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- Truman wanted international justification for involvement, so he went to the U.N.
- first act of peace making
- Soviet Union was boycotting the Security Council in protest of China's seat not being given to the new communist government, so they were unable to veto the motion

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7  **Vietnam**

8  **Foreign Rule In Vietnam**

- France conquered Vietnam in 1880s – 1940, WWII - Japan takes over
- French fight to regain control in 1946
- Nationalist Independence Movement (Communist) - leader:

Ho Chi Minh

- USA stayed out: Ho Chi Minh stated he only wanted independence
- 1949 Mao Zedong won control of China and USA fears Minh is China's puppet government
- USA pays France \$ Millions/year to help with the war and set up rival government in South.
- Eventually, French are crushed at the battle of Dien Bien Phu (1954)
- Geneva Peace Conference: French agreed to leave and Vietnam was left divided

#### 9 **INDEPENDENCE AND CONTAINMENT**

- 1956 Elections for unified government prevented because of fears of communist takeover
  - 1957 Ho Chi Minh uses sabotage and terrorism to attempt to control Vietnam (Vietcong)
- President Eisenhower: Domino Theory
  - US afraid if one country fell to communism, other south-east Asian nations would fall
    - Eastern Europe fell to Russia, Asia would fall to China
    - = money, weapons and soldiers used to train South Vietnamese, eventually US starts to fight directly
- Russia and China responded by supporting the North

#### 10 **The Vietnam War (1957?-1975)**

- Guerilla warfare was main tactic
  - USA became frustrated and began using Agent Orange / Napalm
  - Innocent villagers were often victims (My Lai Massacre)
- Role of media
  - By the late 1960s Americans could no longer stand to see war on their TV = widespread protests (Kent State)

- 1969 Richard Nixon “Vietnamisation” (strengthen South Vietnamese troops)
- US withdrawal offered for North cease-fire
  - North slow to respond so the US started carpet bombing again to persuade them
- 1973 Agreement was reached and US leaves
- 1975 War ended with Communist capture of Saigon – Ho Chi Minh City

11 12  **The cost**

*Containment had failed  
1,800,000 people killed  
(55,000 Americans)  
at a cost of \$150 Billion*

13 14 

- Canada refused to directly participate in the war, although some Canadian troops joined the US military, and Canada took in many draft dodgers (group in B.C. wanted to erect a monument to them, but the United States protested). Long after the war deserters were granted an amnesty and allowed to return to the US
- Movies: Apocalypse Now, Platoon, The Deer Hunter, Hamburger Hill, Full Metal Jacket, Good Morning, Vietnam, Born on the Fourth of July, the Rambo films, We Were Soldiers, as well as Jacob's Ladder

15 16  **Expansionism**

- Afghanistan
  - The Shah is deposed and communist-

friendly government takes over

- Several coups follow
- Christmas 1979 - USSR "invited" to help restore stability
- Atrocities committed by Soviet army (and Cold War relations) = US covert involvement (along with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia)

17  **Containment**

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