



War in Southeast Asia

Chapter 15
Section 4



French Indochina

- In the 1800s, the French rule the area in SE Asia called French Indochina (now called Vietnam)
- During WWII, Japan invaded that region, but faced resistance from **guerilla** fighters
- After the war, the French tried to re-establish authority in Vietnam
- However, forces led by communist leader **Ho Chi Minh** fought the colonialists

Ho Chi Minh – Communist Leader





French Indochina



Vietnam

- The French left Vietnam in 1954, after a Vietnamese victory at **Dienbienphu**
- After that, Ho Chi Minh controlled the northern part of Vietnam while the United States supported the non-communist government in the south
- Ho wanted to unite Vietnam
- He provided aid to the National Liberation Front, or **Viet Cong**, a communist guerilla organization
- American leaders saw Vietnam as an extension of the Cold War and developed the **domino theory**





THE VIETNAM WAR



FROM THE DELTA TO THE DMZ
FROM POLITICS TO HIPPIES

Battle of Dien Bien Phu



American Soldier Fighting in Vietnam



Tank in Vietnam War



Attack Helicopter in Vietnam



American Navy Hovercraft in Vietnam





River Gunboat in Vietnam



U.S. Air Force Jets in Vietnam



Marines on Patrol in Vietnam



Troops Relax During Christmas Cease Fire



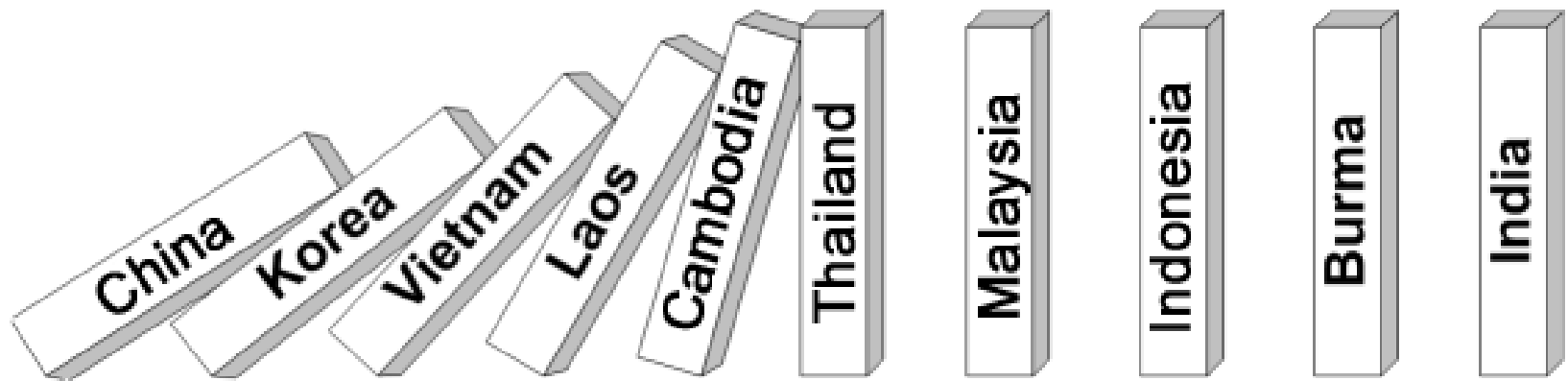


Domino Theory

- **Domino Theory** = the belief that if communists won in South Vietnam, then communism could spread to other governments in SE Asia
- After a North Vietnamese attack on a U.S. Navy destroyer, Congress authorized the president to take military measures to prevent further communist aggression in SE Asia



Domino Theory





Vietnam War

- Despite massive American support, the South Vietnamese failed to defeat the Viet Cong and their North Vietnamese allies
- During the **Tet Offensive**, the North Vietnamese attacked cities all over the south
- Even though the communists were not able to hold any cities, it marked a turning point in U.S. public opinion
- Upset by civilian deaths from the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam as well as growing casualties, many American began to oppose the war

Tet Offensive





End the Vietnam War

- President Nixon came under increasing pressure to terminate the conflict
- The Paris Peace Accord of 1973 established a ceasefire and American troops began to withdraw
- Two years later (1975) communist North Vietnam conquered South Vietnam

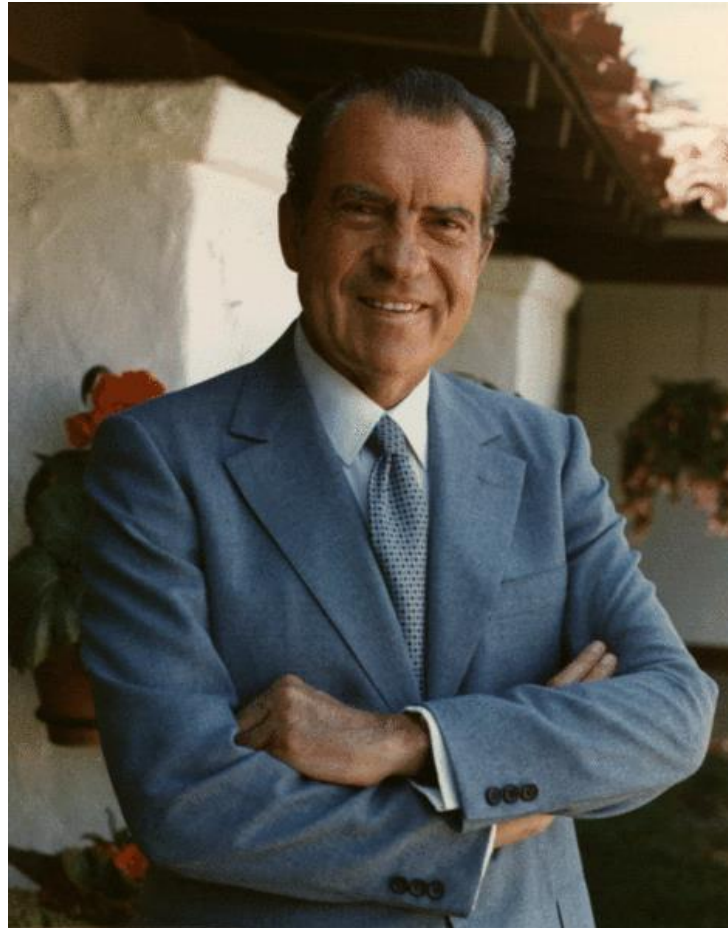


“We are not against the soldiers, we
are against the war”

- Watch this brief anti-Vietnam War video clip:
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NI58QbpVLHw>



President Richard M. Nixon





Cambodia and Laos

- Neighboring Cambodia and Laos ended up with communist governments
- In Cambodia, guerillas called the **Khmer Rouge** came to power
- Led by the brutal dictator **Pol Pot**, their policies led to a genocide that killed about one-third of the Cambodian population
- When Vietnam invaded Cambodia, the genocide ended
- Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge were forced to retreat
- Communism did not spread further in SE Asia

Cambodia and Laos





Pol Pot



As dictator, he murdered an estimated one to three million Cambodian citizens

Skulls of Pol Pot's Victims





Powerpoint Questions (14 points)

1. What was Vietnam formerly called?
2. Who was the leader of communist North Vietnam?
3. What battle loss finally convinced the French to leave Vietnam?
4. What were the North Vietnamese communists called?
5. Explain *domino theory*.



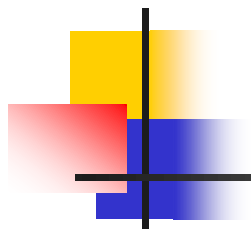
Powerpoint Questions (14 points)

6. What marked a turning point in U.S. public opinion against the Vietnam War?
7. Which American president was pressured to end the Vietnam War?
8. What 1973 agreement established a ceasefire and gradual withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam?
9. In what year did North Vietnam decisively defeat the South Vietnamese army?
10. The Vietnam War extended into what two countries? (2 points)



Powerpoint Questions (14 points)

11. Who were the Cambodian guerrilla fighters?
12. Who was the ruthless, brutal dictator of Cambodia?
13. Approximately what percentage of the Cambodian population was exterminated under this bloodthirsty dictator?



The End