

ANTICIPATION GUIDE**Quick background information:****The Vietnam War**

- Vietnam is a small country in Southeast Asia. It is a bit larger than New Mexico.
- On September 2, 1945, Vietnam gained independence from France.
- An international conference in Geneva on November 1, 1955 split Vietnam into a communist North and a noncommunist South.
- The start of United States involvement in the Vietnam War is not definitive. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, United States support of South Vietnam increased.
- During the Vietnam War, the United States supported noncommunist South Vietnam against communist North Vietnam and their allies in the South, the Viet Cong.
- The United States withdrew combat forces from Vietnam in 1973.
- On April 30, 1975, North Vietnam gained control of Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, ending the war and reunifying Vietnam under communist rule.
- Saigon is now called Ho Chi Minh City, and it is the most populous city in Vietnam.
- Over 3 million people, including 58,000 Americans, were killed in the Vietnam War.



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