

UNIT I CONCEPT OF LIMITED WAR –KOREAN WAR

1. Causes of Korean War
2. Main events
3. Role of UNO

UNIT II VIETNAM WAR

1. Causes
2. Main Events
3. Lessons Learnt

Vietnam War.

The history of Vietnam has been dominated by war for 30 years of the 20th century. The conflict escalated during the 60's. Vietnam war also deals with military intervention by the U.S., that happened between 1965 and 1973. During late 50's Vietnam was divided into a Communist North and Anti Communist South. Because, of the cold war anxiety of the time, the general feeling was that, North Vietnamese Communist win, the remainder of Southeast Asia would be fall to communism. When president John F. Kennedy took office in 1961. He swore that he would not let that happen.

The more conventionally trained army of South Vietnam was clearly no match for the Guerilla tactics of the north. So in February 1965 America decided to get involved with 'Operation Rolling Thunder'. North Vietnam was supported by China.

The Soviet Union and other communist countries and the Vietnam Cong. a south Vietnamese communist group.

The struggle for control of Vietnam, which had been a French colony since 1887, lasted for the first part of three decades. The war was between French and Vietnam. The Vietnamese nationalist led by the communist Ho Chi Minh and continued for 1946 until 1954. The second part of the war between the United States and South Vietnam on one hand and the North Vietnam and the National Liberation front on the other. Ending with the victory of later in 1975. The communist side, strongly backed by the Soviet Union and mainland China. Sought to increase the number of those who lived behind the Bamboo curtain. Both the US and Soviet Union regarded the conflict not a civil war between North and South Vietnam.

CHINA



NORTH VIETNAM

LAOS

HAINAN (CHINA)

GULF OF TONKIN

THAILAND

SOUTH VIETNAM

CAMBODIA

SOUTH CHINA SEA

GULF OF THAILAND



Causes for Vietnam War :

A parallel increase in support to the North from both China and the Soviet Union.

An insurgency of communist Vietnamese (known as the Vietcong) against the south Vietnam Army beginning in the late 1950's that grew into an ongoing guerilla campaign.

Attack on two U.S. destroyer by North Vietnamese Torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin on August 5, 1964, which greatly escalated U.S. Military involvement in the region and led to the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, Giving the U.S. president new authority to wage wars.

Increasing financial and Military aid the U.S., the south Vietnam in an attempt to limit the spread of communism in the area.

The defeat of the France in the French - Indo China war in 1954, which produced a communist government in the Victorious North Vietnam (above the 17th parallel) and the democratic government in the french influenced South Vietnam.

An insurgency of communist Vietnamese against the South Vietnam army beginning in the late 1950's that grew into an ongoing guerilla campaign.

MAAGI [Military Assistant Advisory Group]

In september 1950, US president Harry Truman sent the MAAGI to Vietnam to assist the French in the first Indo-China war. The president claimed they were not sent as combat troops. But to supervise the use of 10 million worth of U.S. military equipment to support the french in their effort to fight the Vietnamin forces. By 1953, aid increased dramatically to \$350 million to replace old military equipment owned by the french.

The French Army however was reluctant to take U.S. advice and would not allow the Vietnamese army to be trained to use the new equipment, because it went against french policy. They were supposed to not only defeat enemy forces but to solidify themselves as a colonial power and they could not do this with a Vietnamese army. French commanders were so reluctant to accept advice that would weaken the time honoured colonies role that they got in the way of the various attempt by the MAAG.

In 1954, the commanding general of the French forces in Indo-China Gen. Henry Navarre allowed the United States to send liaison officers to Vietnamese force. But it was too late because of the seige and fall of Dien Bien Phu. in the spring.

By stated by Geneva Accords
France was forced to surrender the
northern half of Vietnam and to
withdraw from South Vietnam by
April 1956.

At a conference in
Washington D.C. on February 12, 1955
between official of the U.S. state
department and the french minister
of overseas affairs, it was agreed
that all U.S. aid would be funneled
directly to South Vietnam and that
all major military responsibility
would be transferred from the
French to the MAAG under the
command of Lieutenant Gen. John O. Danie

The next few years
saw the rise of the communist insurgency
in South Vietnam and president Diem
looked increasingly to US Military
assistance to strengthen his position.
Attack on US Military advisors in
Vietnam became more frequent on
October 22, 1957, MAAG Vietnam and
USIS intallation in Saigon were ~~abandoned~~
bombed injuring U.S. Military advisors.

In the Summer of 1959, Communist guerillas stage an attack on the Vietnamese military base in Bien Hoa, killing and wounding several MAAG personnel. Newly elected president John F. Kennedy agreed with MAAG Vietnam calls for increase in ARVN troops level and the U.S. Military commitment in both equipment and men.

At the peak of the war in 1968, 9,430 Army personnel acted as advisors down to the district and battalion level to train, advice and mentor the Army of Republic Vietnam, Republic of Vietnam Marine Corps, Republic of Vietnam Navy and Republic of Vietnam Air force.

Arrest and Assassination of - Ngo Dinh Diem:

Diem's political career began in July 1954, when he was appointed the prime minister of the States of Vietnam by former Emperor Bao Dai, who was head of the state. At that time Vietnam had been partitioned at the Geneva Conference after the defeat of the French Union forces at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu, with the states of Vietnam ruling the country south of the 17th parallel North. The partition was intended to be temporary, with national election schedule for 1956 to create a government of a reunified nation. In the meantime, Diem and Bao Dai were locked in a power struggle. Diem refused to hold the reunification elections on the basis that the state of Vietnam was not a signatory to the Geneva Accords. He then proceeded to strengthen his autocratic and nepotistic rule over the country.

He then proceed

Diem kept the control of the nation firmly within the hands of his brothers and their in laws and promotions in the ARVN were given on the basis of religion and royal loyal rather than merit two unsuccessful attempts had been made to depose Diem in 1960, a paratroop revolt was quashed after Diem in 14 stalled negotiations to buy time for loyalties to put down the coup attempt. while 1962 palace bombing by two Republic of Vietnam Air Force politos failed to kill him. South Vietnam's Buddhist majority had long been discontented with Diem's strong Vietnam's Buddhist towards catholics. Public servants and army officers had long been promoted on the basis of religious preference and government contacts. US economic assistance business and favours and tax concessions were preferentially given to catholics. The catholic church was the largest land owner in the country.

The key turning point came shortly after midtime on 21st August, when Nhu's special forces raided and vandalised Buddhist pagodas across the country, arresting thousands of monks and causing a death toll estimated to be in the hundreds. Numerous coup plans had been explored by the army before, but the plotters intensified their activities with increased confidence after the administration of the U.S. president John F. Kennedy authorised the U.S. embassy to explore the possibilities of a leadership change. Then he looked back at Nhu, who was lying to the floor, twitching. He put a bullet into his head too. Neither Diem nor Nhu ever defended themselves.

Gulf of Tonkin:

The Gulf of Tonkin incident occurred in August 1964. North Vietnamese ~~was~~ warship purportedly attacked United States warship, the U.S.S. Maddox and U.S.S.C. Turner Joy on two separate occasions in the Gulf of Tonkin, a body of water neighbouring modern day Vietnam. President Lyndon Baines Johnson claimed that the U.S. did nothing to provoke these attacks by supporting south Vietnamese commander operating in North Vietnam. There remains no doubt that the North Vietnamese attacked the U.S. Maddox in the first incident, which occurred on August 2, 1964. Although it does appear that the U.S. provoked this attack.

The second attack which took place on August 4, 1964 continues to be the subject of debate. There are witnesses who say the attack took place and those who say the attack did not because it take place during the night. The details are uncertain operational commander on the two sides in the Gulf of Tonkin that night were convinced an attack did take place eyewitness evidence from highly trained experienced sailors, marines and commanders reveals radar detection of torpedo boats, thick black smoke from the target and lights from boat moving at high speed. A detailed investigation and testimony to the senate committee on foreign federation included a ranking North Vietnamese commander who reported he participated in the attack and stated that it did take place.

However the national security agency (NSA) choose to classify more than 140 top secret documents and oral history concluded there was no second attack on U.S. ships in Tonkin by North Vietnamese torpedo boats.

Operation Rolling Thunder:

Operation Rolling Thunder was the title of graduate and sustained aerial bombardment campaign conducted by U.S. 2nd Air division (later 7th Air Force) U.S. Navy and Republic of Vietnamese Air Force (RVNAF) against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) from 2nd March 1968 until 2nd November 1968, during the Vietnam war.

The four objectives of the operation were to boost the sagging moral of the Saigon regime in the Republic of Vietnam to cease its support from the communist insurgency in South Vietnamese without sending ground forces into communist North Vietnam; to destroy North Vietnam's transportation system, industrial base, and air defenses and to half the flow of men and material into South Vietnam. Attainment of these objectives was made difficult by both the restraint imposed upon the U.S. and its allies by cold war exigencies by the military aid and assistance received by North Vietnamese from its communist allies the Soviet Union, The People's Republic of China and North Korea.

The operation became the most intense air/ground battle waged during the cold war period. It was the most difficult such as campaign fought by the U.S. since the aerial bombardment of Germany during World War II supported by communist allies, North Vietnam fielded a potent mixture of sophisticated air to air and surface to surface weapons that creates one of the most effective air defense ever faced by American Military aviators.

From 1965 to 1968 about 6,43,000 tons of bombs were dropped on North Vietnam, and a total of nearly 900 U.S. aircrafts were lost during operation Rolling Thunder. The operation continued, with occasional suspensions, until president Johnson under increasing domestic political pressure, halted it on October 31, 1968.

U.S. Bombing Cambodia :

In March 1969, President Richard Nixon authorised secret bombing raids in Cambodia. A move that escalated opposition to the Vietnam war was in Ohio and across the U.S.

Nixon believed that North Vietnam has transportating troops and supplies through neighbouring Cambodia into South Vietnam. He hoped bombing the supply routes ~~we~~ in Cambodia would weaken the U.S.'s enemies.

The bombing of Cambodia lasted until August 1973. While the exact numbers of Cambodian casualties remains unknown, most experts estimated that 1,00,000 Cambodians lost their lives, with an additional two million people becoming homeless, enhancing the destruction in April 1970. President Nixon ordered U.S. troops to occupy the parts of Cambodia.

Nixon claimed that the soldiers were protecting the U.S. withdrawal from South Vietnam. American Soldiers Quickly Withdraw. But, their presents along with their air strikes, convinced many Cambodians to overthrow their government leading to the rise of the Khmer Rouge, a communist and despotic government.

Many American opposed the Vietnam war. When media outlets publicized the events in Cambodia, critics of the war became more vocal. College students across U.S. became increasingly outspoken in their opposition to the war. In Ohio at Kent State, the National Guardsmen open fire on protestors at the campus. With four students during, students at their college with the rest of the U.S continued to protest the Vietnam war and its escalation into Cambodians.

Kent States Shooting:

The Kent States Shooting also known as the May 4 Massacre and the Kent State Massacre, where the killings of four and wounding of nine unarmed Kent States University students by Ohio, 40 miles south of Cleveland.

The killing took place during a peace rally opposing the expanding involvements of the Vietnam war into neutral Cambodia by U.S. military force as well as protecting the national guard presence on campus. The incident marked the first time that a student had been killed in an anti-war gathering in United States history.

28 National guard soldiers fired approximately 67 rounds over a period of ~~21~~ 13 seconds killing four students, wounding nine others, students Allison, Beth Krause (19), Jeffrey Glenn Miller (20), Sandra Lee Schewer (20) and William Knox Schoreder (19)

were killed and nine others were injured, one of them suffered permanent paralysis. All died at the scene ~~by~~ except Schroeder, who was pronounced dead at Robinson Memorial Hospital in nearby Ravenna shortly afterward.

Krause and Miller were among the upward of 300 students who gathered to protect the expansion of the Cambodian campaign, which president Richard Nixon had announced in April 30 TV address one week earlier. Schewer and Schroeder were in the cloud of several hundred others who had been observing the proceedings at the distance of more than 300 feet from the firing lines like most of the observers, they were watching the protest during a break between their classes.

The fatal shooting triggered immatics and massive outrange on campus around the country. More than 4 million students participated in the organized walk out at hundreds of universities, colleges and high schools, the large students strike in the History of U.S. at that time. The students strikes of 1970 further affected public opinion at an already socially contentious time over the role of the U.S. in the Vietnam war.

TET Offensive:

The Tet offensive or officially called the general offensive or uprising or tet mail than 1968 was a major escalation and one of the largest military campaigns of the Vietnam war.

TET OFFENSIVE:

BURMA

LAOS

NORTH VIETNAM

GULF OF TONKIN

THAILAND

COMBODIA

GULF OF THAILAND

SOUTH VIETNAM



[*] → Tet attack, 1968

It was launched on January 30, 1968 by forces of the Viet. Cong. and North Vietnamese people's army of Vietnam against the forces of the South Vietnam Army of the Republic of Vietnam. The U.S. Armed forces and their allies. It was a campaign of surprise attacks against military and civilian command and control centers throughout South Vietnam. The name of the offensive comes from the Tet holiday. The Vietnamese new year when the first major attack took place.

The offensive was launched prematurely in the late night hours of 30 January in the I and II Corps tactical zones of the South Vietnam. This early attack allowed allied forces some time to prepare defensive measures.

when the main operation began in the next morning, the offensive was country side and well co-ordinated, eventually more than 80,000 PAVN/VC troops struck more than 100 towns and cities including 36 of 44 provincial capitals five of the six autonomous cities. 72 of 24 districts was the largest military operation conducted by either side up to that point in the war.

Hanoi had launched the offensive in the belief that it would trigger a popular uprising leading to the collapse of the south Vietnamese government. Although the initial attacks stunned the allies, causing them to lose control of several cities temporarily, they quickly regrouped beat back the attack and inflicted heavy casualties on PAVN/VC forces.

The popular uprising anticipated by Hanoi never happened. During the Battle of Hue, intense fighting lasted for a month, resulting in the destruction of the city. During their occupation the VC executed thousands of people in the massacre at Hue. Around the U.S. Comback base at the Khe Sanh, fighting continued for two more months. The offensive was a military defeat for North Vietnam. However this offensive had far reaching consequences due to its effects on the views of the Vietnam war by the American public. General Westmoreland reported that defeating the PAV/VC would require 2,00,000 more American Soldiers and the activation of the reserves, prompting over loyal supporters of the war to see that the current war strategy requires re-evaluations.

The offensive had a strong effect on U.S. government and shocked the U.S. public, which had been led to believe by its political and military deeds that the North Vietnamese being defeated and incapable of launching such as ambitious military operations. American people support was declined as a result of the tet casualties and the ramping up of drafts calls and subsequently the U.S. sought negotiations to the war.

The term tet offensive used to the January-February 1968 offensive. But, it can also include the so-called 'Mini-Tet' offensive that took place in May and the phase III offensive on August or the 21 weeks of unusually intense between which followed the initial attacks in January.

Battle of Hue:

The Battle of Hue (21 January 1968 - 2nd March 1968) also called as the seige of the Hue was a major military engagement in the Tet offensive, launched by North Vietnam and Viet. Cong. during Vietnam after that initially losing control of most of Hue and its surroundings. The combined South Vietnamese and American force gradually recaptured the city over one month of intense fighting. The battle was one of the largest and bloodiest of the war, and the battle negatively affected American public preception of war.

By the beginning of North Vietnamese Tet offensive large conventional American forces had been committed to combat operations on Vietnamese soil for almost three.

Highway 1. Passing through the city of Hue was an important supply line for Army of Republic of Vietnam and U.S. forces from the coastal city of Da Nang to the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) the de facto border between North and South Vietnam cities. only 50 km. to the North of Hue. It also provided access to the perfume river at the point of where river ran through Hue, dividing the city into Northern and Southern part. Hue was also a plate for united states Navy supply boats. Due to the tet holidays large number of ARVN forces were on leave and the city was poorly defended.

while the ARVN 1st division had been cancelled all Tet leave and was attempting to recall its troops, The South Vietnamese and American forces in the city were unprepared when the Viet. Cong and the people of Vietnam launched the Tet offensive, attacking hundreds of military targets and population centers across the country, including Hue. The PAVN - VC forces rapidly occupied most of the city over next month, they were gradually driven out during intense house-to-house fighting led by the Marines and ARVN. In the end, Although the allies declared the military victory, the city of Hue was virtually destroyed, and more than 5,000 civilians were killed 2,800 of them executed by the PAVN and VC, while South Vietnamese force killed a 1000-2000 people after the battle.

The PAVN-VC lost an estimated 5,133 killed, while allied forces lost 668 deaths and 3,707 wounded.

Fall of Saigon:

The fall of Saigon also known as the Liberation of Saigon, was captured of Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, by the people's army of Vietnam and the Viet. Cong. on 30 April 1975. The event marked the end of the Vietnam war and the start of a transition period to the formal reunification of Vietnam into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The PAVN under the command of Gen. Van Tien Dung began their final attack on Saigon on April 29, 1975 with the Army of the Republic of Vietnam forces commanded by general Nguyen Van Toan suffering a heavy artillery bombardment. By the afternoon of the next day the PAVN had occupied

the important point of the city and raised their flag over the South Vietnamese presidential palace. The city was renamed Ho Chi Minh City after late North Vietnamese president Ho Chi Minh. The capture of the city was preceded by operation Frequent Wind.

Attack on US Embassy:

On 1968, as a part of the tet offensive a squad of Viet Cong guerillas attacks the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. The soldiers seized the embassy and held it for six hours until an assault force of U.S. paratroops landed by helicopters on the building roofs and routed the Viet Cong.