

Class Notes 2-11

- Reflection on Civil Rights movement
- Lower class drafted more than upper class
- Wealthy were able to wiggle their way out of the draft
- Influx of college students in late 60s to avoid draft
- Vietnam is proxy war. USA vs. Communism
- Have absolutely zero clue what we're doing
- Essentially a war of independence
- Neither USA or USSR know how to handle superpower status
- Involvement in 'Nam 1959-1975
- Vietnam split in half in 1954. Ho Chi Minh in North, Diem in South
- Vietnam colonized for its rubber
- Ho Chi Minh actively tried to get America as an ally
- Even if communist would Vietnam follow USSR tendencies?
- France declares war on Vietnam in 1946
- War lasts 8 years. 200,000 Viet Minh overwhelm French forces
- Republic of Vietnam (artificially made) in 1956
- SEATO, basically NATO in southeast Asia
- Viet Cong waging guerrilla warfare on the South
- 1955-1960 America training RVN Army
- Diem becoming an embarrassment
- 800 US troops in 1960. 1963=16,000 troops
- Damn Trees!
- By 1966 U.S. military basically runs RVN government
- LBJ unaware of situation in Vietnam when he assumes office
- Bomb NV into submission
- Gulf of Tonkin Aug, 1964-> Gulf of Tonkin Resolution= blank check for Vietnam War
- 1965 500,000 troops in Vietnam
- Casualty numbers become skewed
- Jan 1968 Tet offensive
- Credibility gap. LBJ loses Walter Cronkite

Class Notes 2-13

- Milton Friedman. Monetism. Govt controls amount of money in the country. Market should be free than controlled. Flat and negative income tax.
- Burn My Heart at Wounded Knee. Most significant events of Native American treatment. First real account of the atrocities being recognized by Americans
- Custer Died For Your Sins. Indian manifesto. American experience very different for NA. Relations with White Americans very strained. Church a tool of assimilation. Red Power vs. Black Power
- Ken Burns is a documentary wizard
- Presentation of war changes after Tet offensive

- Nixon "Secret Plan" to win the war
- Major distrust with American government. Pentagon Papers
- Distrust also with media, church, education, medicine
- Ballad of Green Berets, war propaganda?
- Vietnamese very willing to fight this war