

REVIEW TEST #3 STUDY GUIDE

UNITS 9-11

UNIT 9

The Great Depression

Causes: a combination of reckless spending by Americans, irresponsible lending by banks, and selling of stocks in panic led to the start of the Great Depression.

- ☐ The Great Depression was the worst economic collapse in American history
- ☐ Agricultural and industrial overproduction, reckless spending and poor investments, and an unequal distribution of wealth all contributed to the start of the Great Depression.
- ☐ Black Thursday: October 24, 1929; plummeting stocks led investors to sell off in a frenzy
 - ☐ Americans began withdrawing all savings from banks, wiping out bank currency
 - ☐ Americans did not have insurance on money invested in banks, leading millions to lose everything
- ☐ Black Tuesday: October 29, 1929; stock market crash

Ripple Effect of Great Depression: once the Great Depression struck, Americans began losing their jobs at a rapid rate.

- ☐ Americans could not afford to pay loans and installment payments
 - ☐ Result was repossessions and widespread evictions
 - ☐ Businesses had excessive inventory that could not be sold
- ☐ Within a few months, more than 25% of Americans were unemployed
 - ☐ Americans could not afford to pay for utilities, rent, and homes
 - ☐ Hooverilles: unplanned slum developments in major cities during the Great Depression

Life in the Great Depression: the United States underwent a major transformation politically, socially, and economically. The impact varied significantly depending on social class, race, and location.

- ☐ By 1932, more than 30 million Americans were out of work.
 - ☐ Even when work was available it was inconsistent and paid low wages
 - ☐ Many families were forced to share dwellings with extended family
 - ☐ American families became frugal in their standard of living
 - ☐ "Use it up, wear it out, make do or do without"
 - ☐ Families kept kitchen gardens, patched clothing, and reused resources

- ☐ Casseroles and one-pot meals became common
- ☐ Communities grew thrift gardens, sharing herbs and vegetables

FDR & New Deal: Franklin D. Roosevelt became the nation's 32nd president in 1932, defeating incumbent Herbert Hoover. FDR pledged to return the country to prosperity during his campaign.

- ☐ FDR won the election in a landslide, also promising to use the government as an "agency for human welfare".
 - ☐ FDR promoted strong leadership, bold action, and cooperation
- ☐ FDR believed in the "art of the possible"
- ☐ Roosevelt held "fireside chats" by radio, providing encouragement to Americans faced with economic hardship and reassuring Americans that efforts were being made to improve the economy
- ☐ There were three primary purposes of FDR's New Deal initiative; relief, recovery, and reform
 - ☐ **Relief:** immediate assistance to Americans suffering from the Great Depression
 - ☐ Jobs for the unemployed and financial support for families
 - ☐ Relief for farmers
 - ☐ **Recovery:** short-term programs and organizations
 - ☐ **Reform:** long-term programs and organizations
 - ☐ Regulation of banks
 - ☐ Abolishment of child labor
 - ☐ Conservation of farm lands
- ☐ The overall goal of the New Deal was to restore capitalism.
 - ☐ The New Deal led to the rehabilitation of the physical and human aspects of American society
 - ☐ The New Deal, although costly, played a vital role in helping the United States out of the Great Depression

End of Great Depression: the Great Depression lasted approximately 10 years (1929-1939) and created significant long-term programs and policies.

- ☐ Most historians consider the start of World War II to be the end of the Great Depression
- ☐ World War II began on September 1, 1939 when Germany invaded Poland
 - ☐ The United States remained neutral until December 1941
 - ☐ The United States provided aid and resources to the Allied Powers
- ☐ World War II had a profound impact on American industry
 - ☐ Factories needed to meet and exceed high demand for war resources
 - ☐ Americans were able to find stable jobs working in factories

Causes of World War II

Treaty of Versailles: the terms of the treaty, in particular Clause 231, devastated Germany economically, politically, militarily, and socially. Germany was forced to accept blame for starting World War I and was ordered to pay massive reparations.

- ☐ Economic: Germany faced a deep, prolonged economic depression
- ☐ Political: Germany was stripped of a number of territories; “embarrassed before the world”
- ☐ Military: Germany was forced to maintain a small army, no navy
- ☐ Social: Citizens struggled to meet physiological needs; food, water, shelter, clothing

Rise of Adolf Hitler: a veteran of World War I, Hitler’s rise to power in Germany dated back to 1919. As a fiery, passionate speaker, Hitler would eventually become the party leader of the Weimar Republic.

- ☐ The Nazi Party, although politically radical, started out small
- ☐ The desperation and future uncertainty of Germany allowed for the Nazi Party to grow
- ☐ The Nazi Party threatened to overthrow the German government during the Beer Hall Putsch of 1923
 - ☐ Hitler was arrested and charged with treason; once convicted he was sentenced to five years in prison
 - ☐ While imprisoned Hitler wrote the first volume of his autobiography, Mein Kampf
 - ☐ Hitler’s book outlined his plan for restoring Germany to greatness, exalted the Aryan race, and identified Jews as the “destroyer of culture”
- ☐ Upon release from prison in 1929, Hitler began his quest to become Germany’s leader
 - ☐ In 1933, Hitler became chancellor of Germany through a rigged election
 - ☐ Hitler would rule Germany as an absolute dictator
 - ☐ Hitler focused his attention on expanding the Nazi Party, military growth, and military conquest

Policy of Appeasement: efforts to appease Germany’s growth and conquest of Czechoslovakia and Austria and other key areas would eventually backfire.

- ☐ Germany signed a number of treaties and non aggression agreements, but did not honor the terms
- ☐ Hitler and Mussolini formed a “Pact of Steel” alliance; Italy and Germany would become fiercely devoted allies
- ☐ Hitler also negotiated a non aggression pact with France

World War II in Europe

World War II began on September 1, 1939 when Germany invaded Poland in a surprise attack.

- ☐ Two days later, on September 3rd, Great Britain and France declared war on Germany; Italy, in turn, declared war on Great Britain and France
- ☐ The United States remained neutral for the first two years of the war, although supplying the Allied nations with armaments of war and providing money
 - ☐ Poland had a preexisting oath of military support from Great Britain and France in the event of an attack
 - ☐ Poland had more than 1,000,000 soldiers, but did not have adequate armaments of war (tanks, planes, anti tank and anti aircraft weapons)
 - ☐ Germany had the world's best air force at the time, the Luftwaffe
 - ☐ Hitler and Josef Stalin had a secret agreement that Poland would be divided between Germany and the Soviet Union
- ☐ Within a month, Poland fell to Germany

Invasion of France: following conquests of Denmark and Norway, Germany invaded France through the Ardennes Forest. The French were stunned by the German advance through the Ardennes Region, given that the rough terrain was difficult for tanks and heavy artillery.

- ☐ By June 1940, Germany occupied France
- ☐ The Battle of Britain ensued in July; despite fierce fighting the British held off the Germans

Early U.S. Involvement in Europe: following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, U.S. forces were deployed to Europe beginning in January 1942.

- ☐ European Theater
- ☐ U.S. strategy in Europe: "closing the ring"; attack Germany's weakest points first and slowly advance to German soil
- ☐ In May 1943, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and General George Patton led U.S. forces to victory in the North Africa Campaign
 - ☐ The following month, Eisenhower was officially named Supreme Allied Commander in Europe
- ☐ Battle of Monte Cassino: fought over a five-month period, in four phases, from January - May 1944
 - ☐ Allied victory
 - ☐ By June, Allied forces occupied Rome, Italy's capital city
 - ☐ By late-July, Benito Mussolini was no longer in power

Operation Overlord (D-Day): also known as the Battle of Normandy, the operation involving the Allied invasion of Europe was launched on June 6, 1944. The amphibious invasion was the largest in world history.

- ☐ The idea of a cross channel invasion was proposed in May 1943, more than one year before the operation commenced
- ☐ More than 160,000 Allied troops and 30,000 vehicles
- ☐ Invasion area in Normandy covered more than 50 miles
 - ☐ Five codenamed beaches: Omaha, Utah, Juno, Sword, and Gold
 - ☐ The United States was responsible for securing Omaha and Utah, the two most challenging and well-fortified objectives
 - ☐ Hitler's Atlantic Wall was well-fortified and had views of the entire invasion area
 - ☐ The United States suffered approximately 135,000 casualties, of which 29,000 were killed and 106,000 were wounded or missing
 - ☐ The 82nd and 101st Airborne, responsible for destroying German artillery and strongholds behind the beaches, suffered nearly 2,500 combined casualties, of which 338 were killed
- ☐ Between June and August 1944, more than 2.5 million Allied soldiers landed in Europe
 - ☐ In August 1944, Allied troops liberated Paris, which had been under German occupation for more than four years

Battle of the Bulge: once France was fully liberated, U.S. forces turned their attention to liberating Belgium, a neutral country under German occupation. The battle would also serve as Hitler's last major offensive of World War II.

- ☐ Fought between December 1944 and January 1945
- ☐ U.S. forces had limited supplies and proper clothing for the harsh, deadly winter conditions
 - ☐ The average temperature was 20°
 - ☐ The region averaged 8" of snow throughout the battle
- ☐ The U.S. suffered more than 89,000 casualties, of which more than 19,000 were killed
- ☐ American victory marked the beginning of the end for Germany
- ☐ In March 1945, U.S. forces crossed the Rhine River into Germany

End of World War II in Europe: as American and Soviet forces pushed toward Berlin, Germany's capital, Adolf Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945. German soldiers began to surrender by the thousands.

- ☐ On May 7, 1945, General Eisenhower accepted Germany's unconditional surrender
 - ☐ May 7, 1945 was commemorated as V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day)

World War II in the Pacific

Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor: Japan launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Pacific fleet stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in the early morning of December 7, 1941.

- ☐ Four battleships were sunk in the attack
- ☐ More than 2,300 Americans were killed
- ☐ President Roosevelt went before Congress on December 8, 1941 requesting a declaration of war against Japan
 - ☐ Congress approved
- ☐ On December 11, 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States

Early Naval Battles: the United States defeated Japan in two key naval battles in the spring and early summer of 1942.

- ☐ Battle of the Coral Sea: May 1942
- ☐ Battle of Midway: June 1942

Island Hopping & Battle of Guadalcanal: by August 1942 the United States had developed a strategy for defeating Japan in the Pacific Theater.

- ☐ U.S. strategy in the Pacific: island hopping; skipping over heavily fortified islands in order to seize lightly defended locations
 - ☐ Captured islands would serve as staging areas for future amphibious landings
- ☐ Battle of Guadalcanal: also known as the Guadalcanal Campaign, first major land battle between the United States and Japan
 - ☐ Fierce battle fought over six months; August 1942 - February 1943
 - ☐ Nearly 15,000 American casualties, of which nearly 7,100 were killed
 - ☐ Following American victory, the Japanese were put on the defensive in the Pacific Theater

Battle of Peleliu: as U.S. forces continued their advancement toward mainland Japan, the coral island of Peleliu contained a strategic airbase.

- ☐ Fought between September and November 1944
- ☐ The U.S. suffered more than 10,000 casualties, of which more than 2,100 were killed
- ☐ There was controversy over the battle due to the strategic location of Peleliu and its proximity to Okinawa

Battle of Iwo Jima: fierce 36-day battle between U.S. and Japanese forces from February - March 1945. The island, only two miles long by 4 miles wide, offered two key airfields for U.S. advancement to Okinawa.

- ☐ Volcanic island: limited visibility for U.S. forces
- ☐ Mount Suribachi: 554 foot mountain and most prominent physical feature of Iwo Jima

- ☐ Deeply fortified by Japanese: enemy forces had an elaborate tunnel system throughout the island, launching sneak attacks and utilizing snipers.
- ☐ The U.S. suffered 27,000 casualties, of which 7,000 were killed

Battle of Okinawa: 82-day battle and bloodiest battle of World War II in the Pacific. U.S. forces fought a fanatical Japanese resistance.

- ☐ American victory at Okinawa placed U.S. forces within striking distance of Japanese home islands
 - ☐ Japan's Last Stand: Code of Bushido; "death before dishonor"
- ☐ The U.S. suffered more than 50,000 casualties, of which more than 12,500 were killed
- ☐ 90% of island's infrastructure was destroyed and tens of thousands of Okinawans were killed in the battle

Hiroshima & Nagasaki: the Manhattan Project, which involved research, development, and testing of the atomic bomb, led the United States to use atomic weapons of mass destruction at the end of World War II.

- ☐ The United States wanted an unconditional surrender from Japan
 - ☐ No negotiations, no terms, no peace treaty
- ☐ Trinity Test: the atomic bomb was successfully tested in Alamogordo, New Mexico on July 16, 1945
- ☐ On August 6, 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese port city of Hiroshima
 - ☐ Tens of thousands of citizens were killed instantly
- ☐ On August 9, 1945, a second atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Nagasaki
 - ☐ Tens of thousands of citizens were killed instantly
- ☐ Rumors began to circulate that Tokyo, the capital of Japan, may be the next target of an atomic bomb, possibly involving dropping multiple bombs throughout the city
- ☐ On August 15, 1945, Emperor Hirohito ordered the Japanese surrender
 - ☐ The official surrender took place on September 2, 1945

The Holocaust

The Holocaust, the systematic killing of European Jews, among others, led to the deaths of millions of people at the hands of the Nazis.

The Nazis were radically (extremely) anti-semitic, blaming the Jews for Germany's social, political, and economic problems in the aftermath of World War I. In fact, the Nazis had a race-based worldview.

Nazis preached that the Jews would permanently destroy and corrupt German society. As a result, they believed, the Jews needed to be eliminated.

The Holocaust began in 1933 upon Adolf Hitler's appointment as chancellor of Germany.

Four Phases of the Holocaust: Identification, Separation, Deportation, Annihilation

Phase 1: involved identifying the Jews. There were a number of methods of identification.

- ☐ Census records
- ☐ Tax returns
- ☐ Synagogue membership lists
- ☐ Parish records (for converted Jews)
- ☐ Mandatory police registration forms

The Nuremberg Laws were also passed, legalizing discrimination of Jews and allowing for terrorist acts against them.

- ☐ Jews were stripped of their citizenship, prohibited from voting, banned from holding public office, and prohibited from practicing law and medicine.

Phase 2: involved separating and confining the Jews. Ghettos were constructed within towns and cities to confine the Jews.

- ☐ Mandatory curfews
- ☐ Inhumane living conditions
 - ☐ Many died from disease and starvation, or were murdered by the Nazis
- ☐ The largest and most notorious ghetto was located in Warsaw, Poland.

Jews responded with a number of resistance efforts, including smuggling food, medicine, and weapons across ghetto walls.

Phase 3: involved deporting Jews to concentration camps. At the height of deportation, between 1942 and 1944, more than 2 million Jews were sent to concentration camps.

- ☐ Transportation was by truck or train
- ☐ Six concentration camps were labeled as "extermination camps": Chelmno, Treblinka, Sobibor, Belzec, Auschwitz-Birkenau, and Majdanek-Lublin.

The camps were in rural, isolated areas, hidden from public view. They were located near major railroad lines, allowing trains to transport hundreds of thousands of people.

Phase 4: involved the systematic killing of the Jews.

- ☐ One method was mass shooting. German units carried out mass shootings on the outskirts of villages, towns, and cities throughout eastern Europe.
- ☐ The other method was asphyxiation with poison gas. Gassing operations were conducted at killing centers and with mobile gas vans. Zyklon B was the common gas used.

Adolf Hitler himself inspired, ordered, approved, and adamantly supported the killing of the Jews. However, he appointed other Nazi leaders to coordinate, plan, and implement the mass murder.

U.S. and Soviet forces began liberating the concentration camps near the end of the war in Europe. While rumors were rampant that the Nazis used prison camps, no one expected the Nazis to commit mass murder on such an unprecedented scale.

UNIT 10

The Civil Rights Movement

Roots of the Civil Rights Movement: the pursuit of equality for African Americans in the United States may be traced back to several key time periods, especially the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s.

- ☐ Harlem Renaissance: a time in which African Americans celebrated their culture, especially in the areas of literature, art, and music; a cultural “rebirth”
- ☐ Jim Crow South: in the aftermath of the Civil War, during the period of Reconstruction, African Americans faced a “separate but equal” status in society
 - ☐ *Plessy v. Ferguson*: landmark case in which the U.S. Supreme Court determined state-mandated segregation laws to be constitutional
 - ☐ Segregation existed in many public areas, including bathrooms, laundromats, schools, parks, water fountains, restaurants, and transportation

Martin Luther King, Jr. and Nonviolence: Martin Luther King, Jr. became the face of the Civil Rights Movement, due in large part to his nonviolent activism and strong charisma.

- ☐ King emphasized a combination of protest marches, boycotts, assemblies, and sit-ins as part of his initiatives.
- ☐ King was a Southern minister and exceptional public speaker
- ☐ King, as well as other leading civil rights leaders such as Malcolm X and Medger Evers, faced constant threats of violence
 - ☐ All three men gave their lives for the Civil Rights cause
 - ☐ Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968

Montgomery Bus Boycott: challenged segregation in public transportation in the city of Montgomery, Alabama in 1956.

- ☐ Martin Luther King, Jr. led the nonviolent boycott of the city buses, which gained widespread support from Montgomery's large African American population
 - ☐ Rosa Parks became famous for refusing to give up her seat to a white person
 - ☐ The boycott was an immediate success, leading to the desegregation of the city's buses a year later

Brown v. Board of Education: the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in which public schools in the United States were desegregated.

- ☐ At the time of the decision, more than 30% of the nation's schools were segregated
- ☐ The first true test of the decision came in 1957, three years after the ruling
 - ☐ Little Rock Nine: group of nine African American students who, after enrolling in an all-white school, faced harsh criticism and threats as they tried to enter the school
 - ☐ After the Governor of Arkansas intervened and prevented the students from entering the school, the National Guard was called in to escort the students
 - ☐ The Little Rock Nine became an inspiration for other African American students across the United States

Greensboro Sit-in: nonviolent protest in which four African American men refused to leave a lunch counter without being served. The men had been inspired by the nonviolent teachings of Mahatma Gandhi.

- ☐ The four men were students from a nearby college
- ☐ The sit-in occurred at a Woolworth's department store in Greensboro, North Carolina and gained national attention
- ☐ The sit-in in Greensboro inspired other sit-ins throughout the South

March on Washington: one of the most famous nonviolent protests of the Civil Rights Movement and in American history took place on August 28, 1963. More than 200,000 protestors marched through Washington, D.C. and assembled at the Lincoln Memorial.

- ☐ Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, arguably the most famous speech in American history
- ☐ The March on Washington was not only for equal rights for African Americans, but for equality in the workplace
- ☐ The March on Washington served as the inspiration for future nonviolent protest marches, including the Selma to Montgomery marches

The Civil Rights Act of 1964: a monumental moment in the Civil Rights

Movement when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the legislation into law. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, and national origin.

UNIT II

The Cold War Era

Nuclear Arms Race: following World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in an intense nuclear arms race. Both nations invested in the research and development of nuclear weapons.

- ☐ The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki marked the beginning of the Nuclear Age
- ☐ The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 is often associated as the end of the Cold War Era

Communism: once Winston Churchill stated “an iron curtain has descended across Europe”, referring to the Soviet Union, communism became a major concern for the Western hemisphere. Communism is a system of government advocating class war, leading to public ownership of all property.

- ☐ The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 was the first true test of America’s Policy of Containment
 - ☐ Missiles were detected in Cuba and tied to the Soviet Union
 - ☐ Cuba and the United States are separated by only 90 miles of ocean
 - ☐ President John F. Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev of the Soviet Union exchanged correspondence
 - ☐ The crisis lasted for 13 days before the Soviets removed the missiles
 - ☐ Historians consider the Cuban Missile Crisis to be the closest the world has come to World War III

America’s Golden Age

Following World War II, the United States enjoyed a decade of great prosperity and peace, arguably the greatest decade in American history. The American Dream came to define the 1950s.

- ☐ The American Dream involved materialism, the “happy family”, stereotypical gender roles, and sophisticated appearance
 - ☐ Americans wanted to be “modern” in cars, appliances, suburban homes, and technology advanced items of the time
 - ☐ The “Happy Family” of suburban America was evidenced through advertising in newspapers and magazines

- ☐ Women were expected to work in the home and take care of children, while men went to work to support their family
- ☐ Name brand fashion and products were at the heart of American materialism

Korean War: the North Korean invasion of South Korea on June 25, 1950 ignited the Korean War. North Korea desired to spread communism to the South, uniting the peninsula into one communist nation.

- ☐ The United States entered the Korean War in support of South Korea and in adherence to the Policy of Containment
- ☐ U.S. forces, under the command of Douglas MacArthur, drove North Korean forces back across the border, leading to a ceasefire
 - ☐ The 38th Parallel, also known as the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), was established as a buffer zone between North and South Korea
 - ☐ North Korea's capital city of Pyongyang and South Korea's capital city of Seoul are only 121 miles from one another
 - ☐ Since the 1953 ceasefire, North and South Korea have remained fierce rivals
 - ☐ The two nations have never established a formal peace treaty

America in the 60s & 70s

John F. Kennedy: after winning the 1960 Presidential Election, John F. Kennedy became the nation's 35th President in 1961. Kennedy, along with his wife, Jackie, and their children represented the "ideal" American family.

- ☐ President Kennedy was a champion of civil rights and vowed to "put a man on the moon" by the end of the 1960s
 - ☐ On July 20, 1969 Neil Armstrong became the first human to walk on the moon
 - ☐ "That is one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind"
- ☐ John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963
- ☐ Kennedy's death came to largely define a generation; Americans were collectively stunned by his murder
- ☐ Lyndon B. Johnson became the nation's 36th President
- ☐ Controversy has surrounded President Kennedy's assassination to this day, mainly over the issue of conspiracy
 - ☐ The American public has remained divided over whether alleged assassin Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone or was part of a conspiracy

Vietnam Era: by 1965, American forces had been deployed to Vietnam by President Johnson. The war, dating back to 1959, involved communist North Vietnam invading South Vietnam.

- ☐ North and South Vietnam were divided at the 17th Parallel

- ☐ Unlike the North and South Korean capital cities, the North and South Vietnamese capitals, Hanoi and Saigon, were separated by a considerable distance of over 700 miles
- ☐ In adherence to the Policy of Containment, the United States supported South Vietnam
- ☐ Following the Gulf of Tonkin incident, President Johnson implemented his Policy of Escalation
 - ☐ By the end of 1965, more than 250,000 U.S. troops were deployed to Vietnam
 - ☐ William Westmoreland served as commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam
 - ☐ By the end of 1967, more than 500,000 troops were in Vietnam
- ☐ U.S. Strategy: the United States employed a strategy of search and destroy in Vietnam (“find the enemy, kill the enemy”)
 - ☐ The North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and Vietcong (VC) both employed guerilla warfare tactics as part of an insurgency
 - ☐ Insurgents blended in with local civilian populations, which made it extremely difficult for U.S. troops to differentiate between combatants and non-combatants
 - ☐ U.S. success in the Vietnam War was determined by the “kill count”, the number of enemy soldiers killed
 - ☐ The U.S. military often exaggerated the count to maintain soldier morale in Vietnam and attempt to gain public support in the war effort
 - ☐ The Vietnam War was a polarizing war on the homefront; the anti-war movement led to widespread protests and demonstrations
 - ☐ San Francisco, California is often referred to as the hub of the anti-war movement
 - ☐ Vietnam was often referred to as “a rich man’s war and a poor man’s fight”
 - ☐ Draft controversy and resistance: the United States implemented a military draft during the Vietnam Era, in which young American men were required to serve in Vietnam
 - ☐ Those who opposed the war would protest the draft, burn draft cards, or relocate to Canada to avoid service

1968: arguably the worst year in American history, 1968 would witness the height of the Vietnam War and “boiling point” of the anti-war movement.

- ☐ Tet Offensive: on January 1, 1968 NVA and VC forces launched the Tet Offensive, a massive invasion of South Vietnam
 - ☐ U.S. embassies were overrun, leading to public outcry
 - ☐ Anti-war activists insisted the war was unwinnable
- ☐ Rising U.S. death toll: nearly 17,000 American soldiers were killed in the war in 1968, the most of any year of the conflict

- ☐ In total, more than 58,000 American soldiers were killed in the Vietnam War
- ☐ The Election of 1968: Richard Nixon won the 1968 Presidential election in a very close race on a platform of Vietnamization
 - ☐ Vietnamization involved training the South Vietnamese army and gradually withdrawing U.S. forces from Vietnam
 - ☐ Policy of Deescalation: the six-year gradual withdrawal process, which began in 1969 and ended in 1975.
 - ☐ Richard Nixon later resigned as President of the United States as a result of the Watergate scandal
 - ☐ Nixon is the only president in American history to resign
 - ☐ Gerald Ford became the nation's 38th president following Nixon's resignation
- ☐ Robert Kennedy, the younger brother of John F. Kennedy, was assassinated in 1968, as was leading Civil Rights figure Martin Luther King, Jr.