Chapter 29 “Vietnam War Era”

1. Origins of the Vietnam War
   1. Cold War struggle against global Communism
   2. American involvement
   3. European colonialism
   4. Cold War politics
   5. Calls for independence
2. France in Southeast Asia
   1. Called Indochina
   2. France ruled harshly
   3. French laws
   4. High taxes
   5. French businesses dominated plantation and mineral economies
3. Ho Chi Minh
   1. Most important voice in demands for independence
   2. Traveled abroad
   3. Searched for sympathetic Westerners
   4. Soviet Communists supported his plan and he supported Communism
4. French fight to keep Vietnam
   1. Colonialism was fading around the world
   2. Nationalism was emerging
   3. Vietnam created Vietminh
   4. US supported the fight against global Communism
      1. President Truman provided 2.6 billion
   5. Domino theory is if one country falls to Communism, then more will follow
5. French lose Dien Bien Phu
   1. Defeated by May 1954
   2. Free election by 1956
6. Geneva Accord
   1. France gave independence to region
   2. Divided into two countries at 17th parallel
   3. US aids South Vietnam
      1. SEATO
      2. Supported Diem with economic and military aid
      3. Diem refused to hold elections in 1956 and declared himself as president
      4. US supported this move
7. Communist opposition
   1. 1957 National Liberation Front
   2. Vietcong
      1. National Liberation Front guerrilla fighters
      2. Supported by the north
   3. Civil War in Vietnam North
   4. Only support from the US kept Diem in power
   5. Civil war starts
8. Kennedy and Vietnam
   1. By 1961 special forces acted as South Vietnam advisors
   2. By 1962 15,000 advisors
   3. Diem was very unpopular
   4. Diem is overthrown and assassinated in November 1963
   5. Kennedy is assassinated shortly after and Johnson takes over
9. Johnson and Vietnam
   1. “Cold warrior”
   2. By 1964 the USS Maddox
   3. Gulf of Tonkin resolution
      1. Authorized the president to take military action in Vietnam
      2. No declaration of war