

Chapter 2 - Colonialism and Cold War

1. What line from the US Declaration of Independence did Ho Chi Minh use in his Vietnamese independence speech, why did he use it and what was the name of Ho's new country?

I. The Path to War

1. After WWII, what 2 countries posed the biggest threat to Vietnam in the near term and what country posed the biggest threat in the long term and why?

2. Why couldn't the DRV gain help from the Soviet Union, communist China, or other decolonized Asian nations right away?

3. What 4 things led to a major shift in the international climate that pushed US policymakers away from helping Vietnam and gave a more favorable view towards France in the final months of WWII?

4. What was the compromise that Ho Chi Minh and Jean Sainteny struck in March 1946 and why did Cochinchina become a problem within the deal?

5. What did Ho Chi Minh declare after the French army forced the DRV government to flee its capital city?

II. Internationalization

1. What was Vietnam's 3-staged approach that was inspired by China's Mao Zedong?

2. What were the 2 parts of France's strategy against the Viet Minh and what was the overall strategy for fighting in Vietnam?

3. What developments within Asia in 1948 and 1949 led the Truman administration to shift course?

4. What was the containment policy, how did it change with the 1947 Truman Doctrine and how did the Soviets parallel the Truman Doctrine?

5. What was the main reason why communist China leader Mao Zedong wanted to help the DRV and China was the first country to do what for the DRV?

III. The End of the French Era

1. How did the invasion of South Korea by communist help Vietnam out and what percentage of the cost of war did the US cover at the end of 1952?

2. What was the fundamental contradiction in the Franco-American partnership?

3. What percentage of war costs did the US cover by early 1954 and how did the DRV offset the US aid to France?

4. How did French and Viet Minh commanders believe they could improve their sides position during peace negotiations and where was this event going to take place?

5. What goal did General Navarre have when picking Dien Bien Phu, what major mistake did he make and what was the outcome of the battle?