

NIXON

Foreign Policy:

1. Vietnam: (1956 - 1975) <http://amhistory.si.edu/militaryhistory/exhibition/flash.html>

- a. Goals: Reduce US involvement
- b. “peace with honor” – avoid the appearance of conceding defeat
- c. Vietnamization: gradual withdrawal of US troops from Vietnam, provide South Vietnam money, guns, training to take over conflict without the US
- i. US troop reduction: 1968: 540,000 1972: 30,000
- d. Nixon Doctrine: US would disengage from conflict in Asia, support without US troops in the future
- e. Bombing Cambodia: 1970, Nixon's Vietnamization policy was not reflected in his plan to invade Cambodia where he wanted to destroy Communist supply lines and cells. He had already been secretly bombing, but announced an official invasion on TV later.

Video: President Richard Nixon's Speech Disclosing the Invasion of Cambodia

<http://vietnamawbb.weebly.com/invasion-of-cambodia.html>

- f. Vietnam Anti-war protests escalate 1970: Public opinion soured and resulted in protests with bombing of Cambodia, discovery of 1968 My Lai, and Pentagon papers released Kent State, OH (4 die) Jackson State, MS (2 die) student demonstrations

Kent State Ohio: anti-war protesters were shot at during a demonstration, killing 4 students

Background Video (3:36) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ocbz_7RXLRI

Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young Ohio Song (3:08) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68g76j9VBvM>

- i. 1968 My Lai massacre – over 500 women and children were massacred by US troops, claiming they engaged in a fight with Vietcong
http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/active_learning/explorations/vietnam/vietnam_mylai.cfm
- ii. Pentagon Papers – NYT publish leaks by government officials of misconduct and mistakes that took place within government dealing with Vietnam
- g. Paris Peace Accords – Jan. 1973
 - i. 1972 Kissinger held secret meetings with North Vietnam, Le Duc Tho but "peace is at hand" was false
 - ii. Nixon authorized massive bombing of North Vietnam (B-52's, weeks of heaviest bombing)
 - iii. 1973 Armistice – cease-fire and free elections agreed to but did not result
 - iv. US left war zone – 58,000 American casualties \$118 billion – hurt economy

2. Détente - period of cooperation or reduction of Cold War tensions between US and China/Soviets

- a. China: Secretary of State Henry Kissinger held secret meetings with Mao Zedong, then Nixon visited China in Feb. 1972 to meet with “Red” China.
1979, US recognizes Communist government <http://china.usc.edu/mao-zedong-meets-richard-nixon-february-21-1972>
- b. Soviet Union - SALT I (Strategic Arms Limitations Talks) 1972 – reduce arms and tension limiting antiballistic missiles (ABMs) and freeze arms race (# of ABM w/ nuclear warheads)

3. **Oil Embargo (1973)** – US support of Israel (\$2 billion in arms) in the Arab-Israeli War where Syria and Egypt attacked Israel resulted in an embargo against the US by OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)

OPEC: http://www.opec.org/opec_web/en/index.htm

Images of Embargo's impact:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2013/10/15/234771573/the-1973-arab-oil-embargo-the-old-rules-no-longer-apply>

Video: OPEC Oil Embargo 1973 (5:55) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCLRIVxOH-Q>

Domestic Policy:

1. **New Federalism:** empower states to manage issues by giving them block grants (\$) over a 5 yr, reduce the growth of the federal government
 - a. **Federal power and money would flow to the states** so that states would be responsible for their affairs and decision [federalism is the sharing and division of power between the Federal and State governments]
 - b. **Block Grants:** money given to states to spend as they wish (no specific plan had to be approved by the federal government), develop their communities as states saw fit
 - c. **Family Assistance Plan:** would replace AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) and provide a guaranteed income (\$1,600/year) to needy families - **FAILED** to replace AFDC (welfare - it expanded to include a growing number of single moms)
2. **Philadelphia Plan** - Nixon expanded affirmative action (policies where an institution or organization actively engages in efforts to improve opportunities for historically excluded groups in American society; often focuses on employment and education)

LBJ required that groups receiving federal money had to establish more diversity in hiring in order to assist in equal opportunity in employment.

Regents of the University of California v Bakke: 1978, Justices determined that fixed affirmative action quotas were unconstitutional

Economic Policies: a mix of policies were used, by 1972 the recession was over

1. **Recession of 1970:** stagflation (high inflation & economic slowdown)
2. **Cut Federal Spending:** FAILED, made recession worse (increase unemployment and inflation)
3. **Keynesian Economics:** government spending used to energize economy
 - a. 90-day wage/price freeze
 - b. Dollar off gold standard
 - c. Tariffs

Congress & Supreme Court:

1. **Social Security** – automatic increases approved to meet rising costs of standard of living
2. **Title IX (1972)** – title 9 was created to end sex discrimination in schools, girls should have equal opportunity in athletics

3. War Powers Act (1973) – to limit the Commander-in-Chief (President), Congress established rules to limit his military power; after the secret bombings of Cambodia
 - a. **48 hours to inform Congress of military action**
 - b. **Approval by Congress if military action lasts for more than 60 days**

4. Burger Court – Nixon appointed Chief Justice Warren Burger to the **Supreme Court**; he was less conservative in his rulings than Nixon expected

Supreme Court Decisions:

- a. 1971 order School Busing to create racial balance in schools
Swann v Charlotte Mecklenburg Board of Education: 1971, justices unanimously supported requirements to enforce school integration through busing; many white parents previously avoided integration by moving to suburbs, busing led to protests in some communities

Example: South Boston was riddled with violent demonstrations in opposition

Video of Boston Desegregation (3:34)

<https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/iml04.soc.ush.civil.boston/boston-desegregation/#.WOqLn1XyuM8>

- b. 1972 Death Penalty regulated by federal government
- c. 1973 Abortion – Roe V Wade: support reproduction rights of woman, legalize abortions
- d. 1974 Watergate Tapes – Nixon is denied executive privilege and has to turn over the Watergate tapes

1972 Election: Nixon's Campaign

1. Silent Majority – Nixon appeals to conservatives (those opposed to anti-war demonstrators, liberalism / activists, desegregation with busing, youth counterculture)
2. Southern Strategy - attack liberal left wing to attract conservative voters
3. Candidates: Republican Nixon, Democrat George McGovern, American Independent Party George Wallace (supported segregation as Governor of Alabama)
 - a. Nixon won 61% popular vote

Watergate Scandal 1972, Nixon sent "Plumbers" or agents to the Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate Hotel, hoping to find documents and wiretap telephones in order to assist him in the 1972 Presidential election. The "Plumbers" were caught and the burglary was eventually connected to Nixon, who was forced to resign. He was pardoned by Pres Ford in 1974.

1. Watergate Video (5:51): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHnmriyXYeg>
 - Church Committee - Senate hearings by Frank Church of Idaho post Watergate, investigations reflected widespread abuse of power in government (FBI spied on millions of Americans), (CIA secret operations)
 - Freedom of Information Act - Americans can request access to millions of pages of records of federal agencies

Gilder Lehrman Nixon Notes :

https://www.gilderlehrman.org/cards/postwar_1945_1980#slider10

APUSH REVIEW BOOK (AMSCO) NIXON CHAPTER 29

Multiple-Choice 1 - 5 (China)

SAQ -

A) Effects of the War Powers Act of 1973

The **War Powers Act** was intended to limit the power of the President to send troops into battle without the consent of Congress. After Nixon had secretly bombed Cambodia over 3,000 times in 1970, Congress passed legislation that forces the President to tell Congress about a military campaign within 48 hours and made it necessary for Congressional approval if it lasted more than 60 days.

B) Significance of Detente and Vietnamization

- i. **Vietnamization** was Nixon's foreign policy plan for Vietnam. He hoped to slowly remove US troops from Vietnam and taking a position where the US would provide money, weapons, and training to South Vietnam so that they could assume the burden of fighting Communism directly. Between 1968 and 1972, US troops went from 540,000 to 30,000. This reduction of direct US involvement in Asia and the containment of Communism reflected the **Nixon Doctrine**. Initially, Vietnamization failed as Nixon bombed Cambodia to remove Communist cells and supply lines. He also authorized the heaviest air attacks in 1972 as he wanted to force North Vietnam into an armistice. By 1973, troops were being withdrawn and the US stepped away from the conflict. Public opinion soured by 1970 as Americans discovered that the US was escalating its role in Vietnam and protests on college campuses led to death in Kent State, Ohio and Jackson State, MS.
- ii. **Detente** or an easing of tensions between the US and the Communist nations of the Soviet Union and China began in 1972. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger secretly met with Mao Zedong of **China** to set-up a path to more diplomatic relations. Eventually, President Nixon made his historic trip to China, ultimately recognizing the People's Republic of China in 1979. **SALT I** (Strategic Arms Limitations Talks) took place between the US and the **Soviets**. This led to an agreement to stop expanding the arms race and limit antiballistic missiles that could carry nuclear warheads.

C) Goals of New Federalism

New Federalism was intended to **reduce the growth of the federal government**; a typical belief of the Nixon and the Republican party. The goal was to transfer the responsibility of managing local and state issues back to the state. **Block grants** or federal money was given to states. States were given the leeway to manage these funds. Congress had provided block grants totaling \$30 billion over 5 years to assist in this transfer of power and responsibility.

CHINA