


The Stormy 1960s

Unit 12B (Kennedy, Ch. 38)
Will cover thematically!

The Cold War in the 1960s

Climax and détente
A Hot War in Vietnam

Kennedy, Ch. 38
Vietnam sections of Ch. 39



Kennedy's Foreign Policy Troubles

- o Vienna Summit 1961
- o Berlin Wall constructed
- o **Flexible Response**
 - o Prompted by problems in Laos
 - o Conventional military options
- o Vietnam: military advisors and support for Diem (for now)



President John F. Kennedy and Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara at Hyannis Port, MA in 1961 (Source: WashingtonPost.com)

Trouble in the neighborhood

- o Alliance for Progress
- o Bay of Pigs failure - April 17, 1961
- o October 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis
 - o Quarantine for 13 days
 - o Local History: Low level flights & NAS Jacksonville
 - o Result: Soviets removed the missiles
 - o Real dangers now realized since the fall of the Soviet Union
 - o Later Result: 1963 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

Cuban Missile Crisis Evidence

Lyndon Baines Johnson

- o Threat of nukes used in 1964 Election
 - o VIDEO: <http://youtu.be/ExjDzDsgbwv>
- o USMC to Dominican Republic in 1965 to prevent communist coup
- o 1967 Six Day War
 - o Israel attacked by Egypt & others
 - o Conquered West Bank, Gaza, Sinai and Golan Heights

Involvement in Vietnam

- o August 1964 Gulf of Tonkin Incident and the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- o Attack at Pleiku, SV → “Operation Rolling Thunder” (beginning March 1965)
 - o General William Westmoreland
 - o New technology: helicopters and weaponry (i.e. Agent Orange)
 - o Take over by American forces and the draft
 - o Definitions: Viet Cong and Viet Minh

Reactions at Home


- o Draft resistance
- o “Teach-ins”
- o LBJ orders the CIA to spy on protest organizations
- o 1968 Tet Offensive (January)
- o Peak of forces in 1968
- o Result: Johnson chooses not to seek a second term
- o Will discuss more of political and social ramifications in future segments...

Nixon’s Handling of Vietnam

- o Plan: “Vietnamization” and “Peace with Honor”
 - o What is happening with the draft...
 - o Appealing to the “silent majority”
- o Nixon Doctrine
- o Problems for Nixon
 - o 1968 My Lai Massacre published in 1970
 - o Secret bombing of Cambodia
 - o Protests at Kent State and Jackson State
 - o June 1971: Pentagon Papers (Nixon’s reaction: wire tapping)

Conclusion to Vietnam?

- 1972 Election: Announce that end is near
- **War Powers Act (1973)**: President must notify within 48 hours
- Draft ends 1973
- Official Cease-Fire in Vietnam 1973
- North Vietnam breaks deal 1975
- Fall of Saigon




Source: thinkquest.org

Vietnam Pictures



Johnson in Vietnam (1967)
Source: National Archives and Records Administration (via about.com)

Vietnam Pictures, continued




Vietnam Pictures, continued



Kent State University - 1970


Politics of the Sixties

Kennedy and Johnson Years to the Election of 1968




John Fitzgerald Kennedy

- Image of Camelot and Youth (Inaugural)
- Young Cabinet
- Idealism:
 - Peace Corps
 - "Go to the Moon"
- New Frontier Programs – no real legislative success
- Tax cut
- Will discuss Civil Rights later



Source: Wikimedia


Assassination – Nov. 22, 1963



- Warren Commission
- Conspiracy Theories?

Lyndon Baines Johnson

- 1st priority: Civil Rights (will discuss)
- "Johnson Treatment"
- Election of 1964 (already discussed)
- Great Society
 - Michael Harrington, *The Other America* (1962)



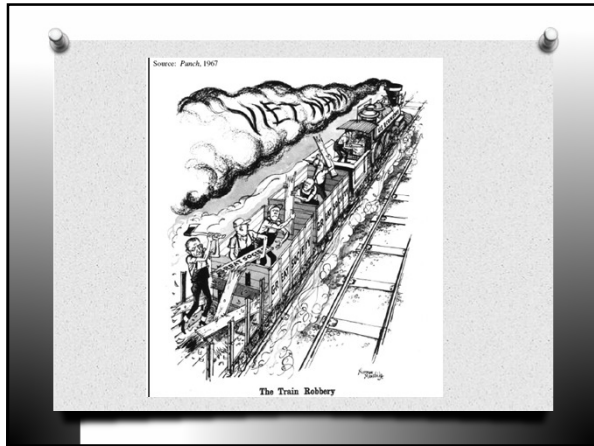
President Johnson taking the Oath of Office on board Air Force One (National Archives and Records Administration)

Johnson's Great Society

Education	Health	Poverty
Culture	Environment	Civil Rights
	Immigration	

Discussion:
Role of the Federal Government?
Entitlement Programs?

Chart of Great Society Programs (link)
From Ms. S. Pojer
<http://www.history.com/interactive/2011/07/20/great-society-programs>




Election of 1968

Republican	Richard M. Nixon	"Law and Order" "Silent Majority" ✓
Democrat	Robert F. Kennedy	Assassinated June 5, 1968
	Eugene McCarthy	Anti-Vietnam Success in primaries caused LBJ not to run again
	Hubert Humphrey	Johnson's VP Received nomination in Chicago amid protests
American Independent Party	George Wallace	Segregationist Governor of Alabama

Achieving the Dream and Reaching the Mountain Top

The Modern Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s



Early 1960s and Kennedy

- o Kennedy delayed action – why?
- o 1960 – Freedom Rides
- o Work with MLK / suspicion and the FBI?
- o Oct. 1962 – James Meredith @ Ole Miss
- o 1963 SNCC Voter Education Project
- o Spring 1963 – MLK to Birmingham
 - o Violence and famous Letter from a Birmingham Jail
- o June 11, 1963: JFK’s “moral issue” speech

“I have a dream”


- o March on Washington – August 1963
 - o The pinnacle speech of the era:
<http://youtu.be/V57lotnKGF8>
- o Violence continued in 1963
 - o Medgar Evers
 - o Sept: 16th St. Baptist Church

Johnson & Civil Rights reform

- o Goal # 1: [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#)
 - o Bans discrimination in private facilities open to the public
 - o Created E.E.O.C.
 - o Title VII – gender equality?
- o “Affirmative Action” for federal jobs (Executive Order, not law)
- o [Voting Rights Act of 1965](#)
- o [24th Amendment](#): end to poll taxes

Continued Problems

- Freedom Summer, 1964
- March from Selma to Montgomery
 - LBJ: "We Shall Overcome": signed Voting Rights Act



Movement Divides after 1965

Violence

- Watts Riot, L.A. 1965
- What about the cities? Was MLK too passive?
- Malcolm X
- Nation of Islam
- Black Panther Party (1967)
- Stokely Carmichael becomes head of SNCC - advocates "Black Power"

Non-Violent

- MLK continued non-violent protest in the South
- Began some campaigns in the North
- Distances from LBJ on Vietnam issue (draft)
- Memphis - April 4, 1968 - Martin Luther King is assassinated

Violence and end of the Civil Rights Movement

Was the dream fulfilled?

- Later efforts:
 - Nixon's Philadelphia Plan (1971)
 - Some reaction against affirmative action
- Did help spur other movements...
 - Women's Rights / Feminist movement
 - Social movements
 - Cesar Chavez and migrant workers in SW

Martin Luther King's Last Speech Prophetic? Did he know?



1960s Economy
(Brief Overview)




Overview

- Consumerism of the 50s continues into the 60s
 - Fashion changes as society changes
- How to balance the budget and pay for defense spending?
 - Eisenhower's Problem in his second term
 - Problem grows in the 1960s
- Poverty growing
- Vietnam and the Great Society – large drain on federal budget (deficit grows)

The upheaval of
1960s Society

Well, it started out normal...
Then came the hippies!!



Cultural Upheaval of the 1960s

- Gradual at first...
 - Image of JFK / youthfulness
 - Beatles
 - THEN...



For more information: <http://kclibrary.lonestar.edu/decade60.html>

Tumultuous Social Change

- Causes:
 - Vietnam and Civil Rights
 - Baby boomers? (Broach's theory)
 - Growing skepticism about authority
- Other signs:
 - Church attendance drops noticeably
 - Reform movements everywhere (even the Catholic Church – Vatican II)

Social Change

- Free Speech Movement at UC-Berkeley
- Drugs – Acid, LSD, and others
- Sexual Revolution: “Free Love” and “Gay Pride”
- SDS: Students for a Democratic Society
- Weathermen (Bill Ayers!)
- Radical split in the Civil Rights movement
- REACTIONS:
 - “Silent Majority”
 - Conflict of cultures
