The Vietnam War A Concise International History

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the vietnam war remains a topic of extraordinary interest not least because of striking parallels between that conflict and more recent fighting in the middle east in the vietnam war mark atwood lawrence draws upon the latest research in archives around the world to offer readers a superb account of a key moment in u s as well as global history while focusing on american involvement between 1965 and 1975 lawrence offers an unprecedentedly complete picture of all sides of the war notably by examining the motives that drove the vietnamese communists and their foreign allies moreover the book carefully considers both the long and short term origins of the war lawrence examines the rise of vietnamese communism in the early twentieth century and reveals how cold war anxieties of the 1940s and 1950s set the united states on the road to intervention of course the heart of the book covers the american war ranging from the overthrow of south vietnamese president ngo dinh diem to the impact of the tet offensive on american public opinion lyndon johnson s withdrawal from the 1968 presidential race richard nixon s expansion of the war into cambodia and laos and the problematic peace agreement of 1973 which ended american military involvement finally the book explores the complex aftermath of the war its enduring legacy in american books film and political debate as well as vietnam s struggles with severe social and economic problems a compact and authoritative primer on an intensely relevant topic this well researched and engaging volume offers an invaluable overview of the vietnam war

this accessible and stimulating account of world history since 1945 provides a framework for making sense of the political and social developments of this period the underlying theme of the book is the tension between the world conceived as a unity and the world conceived as a diversity from this perspective the author discusses the impulse towards globalization in the aftermath of the second world war the divisions inherent in the cord war and the shifting allegiances and conflicts in the decades which followed he ends with an assessment of our position with regard to world unity and disunity as the millennium approaches

the vietnam war an international history in documents places america s most controversial conflict in a broad international context that reflects the experiences of north and south vietnam china and european nations as well as the united states featuring newly available material this brief collection of primary source documents includes several never before published and freshly translated diplomatic documents social and cultural commentaries memoirs cartoons posters and photos mark atwood lawrence enables students to compare and contrast different vantage points on the war and to appreciate the conflict in all of its complexity

an incisive account of the entire history of historical writing worldwide by one of the leading intellects in the field

a concise history of the world from the paleolithic to the present telling the story of humans as producers and reproducers

the cold war in the third world explores the complex interrelationships between the soviet american struggle for global preeminence and the rise of the third world those two distinct but overlapping phenomena placed a powerful stamp on world history throughout the second half of the twentieth century featuring original essays by twelve leading scholars this collection examines the influence of the newly emerging states of the third world on the course of the cold war and on the international behavior and priorities of the two superpowers it also analyzes the impact of the cold war on the developing states and societies of asia africa the middle east and latin america blending the new internationalist approaches to the cold war with the latest research on the global south in a tumultuous era of decolonization and state building the cold war in the third world bring together diverse strands of scholarship to address some of the most compelling issues in modern world history

in the 1970s the united states faced challenges on a number of fronts by nearly every measure american power was no longer unrivalled the task of managing america's relative decline fell to president richard nixon henry kissinger and gerald ford from 1969 to 1977 nixon kissinger and ford reoriented us foreign policy from its traditional poles of liberal interventionism and conservative isolationism into a policy of active but conservative engagement in nixon in the world seventeen leading historians of the cold war and us foreign policy show how they did it where they succeeded and where they took their new strategy too far drawing on newly declassified materials they provide authoritative and compelling analyses of issues such as vietnam détente arms control and the us china rapprochement creating the first comprehensive volume on american foreign policy in this pivotal era

first multi year cumulation covers six years 1965 70

general william c westmoreland has long been derided for his failed strategy of attrition in the vietnam war historians have argued that westmoreland s strategy placed a premium on high body counts through a big unit war that relied almost solely on search and destroy missions many believe the u s army failed in vietnam because of westmoreland s misguided and narrow strategy in a groundbreaking reassessment of american military strategy in vietnam gregory daddis overturns conventional wisdom and shows how westmoreland did indeed develop a comprehensive campaign which included counterinsurgency civic action and the importance of gaining political support from the south vietnamese population exploring the realities of a large yet not wholly unconventional environment daddis reinterprets the complex political and military battlefields of vietnam without searching for blame he analyzes how american civil and military leaders developed strategy and how westmoreland attempted to implement a sweeping strategic vision westmoreland s war is a landmark reinterpretation of one of america s most divisive wars outlining the multiple interconnected aspects of american military strategy in vietnam combat operations pacification nation building and the training of the south vietnamese armed forces daddis offers a critical reassessment of one of the defining moments in american history

this book investigates the major changes in world history and world economy during the past five hundred years and explains to what extent world forces have been responsible for shaping both past and present its underlying theme is the struggle for power in which since the sixteenth century the west has prevailed many of the problems of the contemporary world including terrorism are the legacy of the period of western domination until the rise of the west and its incomparable impact on every branch of human activity the centre of the world has been in asia by the nineteenth century world power was firmly in the hands of the west america s later rise to world status was prompted by the two world wars the most prominent of the western nations the us is now blamed for all the excesses of an earlier colonial age

the u s government viewed involvement in the war as a way to prevent a communist takeover of south vietnam as part of their wider strategy of containment the north vietnamese government viewed the war as a colonial war fought initially against france backed by the u s and later against south vietnam which is regarded as a u s puppet state u s military advisors arrived beginning in 1950 u s involvement escalated in the early 1960s with u s troop levels tripling in 1961 and tripling again in 1962 u s combat units were deployed beginning in 1965 operations spanned borders with laos and cambodia heavily bombed involvement peaked in 1968 at the time of the tet offensive after this u s ground forces were withdrawn as part of a policy called vietnamization despite the paris peace accords signed by all parties in january 1973 fighting continued vietnam was the center of the universe during the years 1965 1973 throughout that period american units fought communist backed liberation forces over patches of ground neither side intended to hold for a people who did not understand their place on the world stage in a time lacking moral imperatives our political leadership failed to recognize it was america s soul that was at stake

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