

Vietnam War and American Foreign Policy, 1960–1975

A comprehensive view of actions and decisions as well as events on the ground.

This exceptional resource covers U.S. involvement in the region from the early days of the Kennedy administration, through the escalation of the war during the Johnson administration, to the final resolution of the war at the Paris Peace Talks and the evacuation of U.S. troops in 1973. Along the way, documents in this module trace the actions and decisions at the highest levels of the U.S. foreign policy apparatus, as well as events on the ground in Vietnam, from the perspective of State Department officials, Associated Press reporters, and members of the U.S. Armed forces, including the Marines and the Military Assistance Command Vietnam. The strong collections also highlight all of the most important foreign policy issues facing the U.S. between 1960 and 1975.

Collections in this module that focus almost exclusively on the war in Vietnam are:

- **Associated Press, Saigon Bureau Records**, reproduced from the holdings of the Associated Press Corporate Archives in New York City. The Saigon Bureau Records constitute an extraordinary set of records on nearly everything that AP reported from Vietnam between 1960 and 1972. Saigon Bureau reporters Peter Arnett, Malcolm Browne, and Horst Faas each won a Pulitzer Prize for their work covering the Vietnam War.
- **Records of the Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV)**. Formed in February 1962, MACV controlled all U.S. military operations in Vietnam and also managed other crucial areas like military assistance and advisory efforts to the government and army of South Vietnam. The MACV collection includes reports, studies, and correspondence collected by the MACV Command Historian's Office, providing an authoritative record of all MACV operations in Vietnam; intelligence data gathered by MACV's Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam (CICV); and reports on village pacification efforts between 1965 and 1973.
- **U.S. Armed Forces in Vietnam** offers researchers a comprehensive source of information on the nature and course of American military involvement in Vietnam.
- **Records of the U.S. Marine Corps in the Vietnam War** includes reports detailing the monthly activities of the U.S. Marine Corps, the first American ground combat troops in Vietnam.
- **Vietnam Documents and Research Notes Series: Translation and Analysis of Significant Viet Cong/North Vietnamese Documents** contains material captured from North Vietnamese and Viet Cong soldiers and the North Vietnamese domestic wire service, Viet-Nam News Agency. During the war, these documents were one of the most important sources the U.S. military used to learn about the military plans and political strategies of the Communist enemy.



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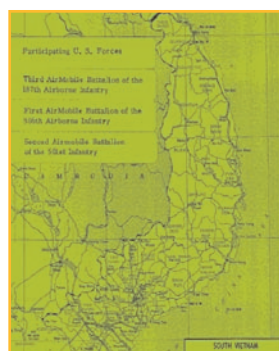
Vietnam materials are also a prominent feature of one of the highlights of this module: the National Security Files reproduced from the Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford Libraries. The National Security Files consist of formerly classified, often top secret documentation that allows researchers a behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of how the National Security Council crafted foreign policy and responded to world events from the Kennedy through Ford administrations.

The John F. Kennedy National Security Files, 1961–1963, provide an indispensable set of records for studying American foreign policy during the early 1960s. Arranged by geographic region, the files for each individual country are organized chronologically, allowing researchers to follow, on a day-to-day basis, the Kennedy administration's handling of crises and to trace the evolution of major policies. The Kennedy files cover a variety of important topics, including the failed Bay of Pigs Invasion, rising U.S.-Soviet tensions in 1961, the Cuban Missile Crisis, expanding U.S. aid to Israel, the escalation of the Vietnam War, and the Berlin Crisis.

The Lyndon B. Johnson National Security Files, 1963–1969, cover a significant period in the history of U.S. foreign policy. The Vietnam War was the dominant event of this period, to be sure, but it was hardly the only foreign policy issue of importance during the Johnson presidency. Johnson inherited worldwide obligations and faced major crises in Panama, the Dominican Republic, and the Middle East. The Johnson National Security Files contain extensive cable traffic between the departments and agencies in Washington and embassies and missions abroad; memoranda of conversation between U.S. and foreign officials; intelligence reports assessing critical foreign policy issues; and records of top-level meetings.

The Richard M. Nixon National Security Files, 1969–1974, provide an almost day-by-day tour through the making of U.S. foreign policy during the Nixon presidency. The important role played by Nixon's assistant for national security affairs, Henry Kissinger, is clearly evident in these files. Individual parts cover the most crucial foreign policy developments of the Nixon years, including Nixon's historic trip to China in 1972 which Nixon labeled "the week that changed the world;" the India-Pakistan War of 1971; the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT); the Vietnam War; and the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

The Gerald R. Ford National Security Files, 1974–1977 covers major events related to international crises. Among the topics covered in this collection are civil war in Lebanon, relations between India and Pakistan, the Arab-Israeli conflict, tensions between Greece and Turkey, and the oil embargo implemented by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Researchers will note the resonances that this collection has for our times. Namely, an administration navigating crises on several fronts in the Middle East at a time when soaring oil prices and domestic recession led to a Democratic presidential victory.



Collection List: Vietnam War and American Foreign Policy, 1960–1975

- Associated Press: Saigon Bureau Records:
 - Series 1: News Reports, 1953, 1960–1971
 - Series 2: Message Wires, 1963–1972
- CIA Records on the Cold War: The CAESAR, ESAU, and POLO Papers on China and the Soviet Union, 1953–1973
- CIA Research Reports, Vietnam and Southeast Asia, 1946–1976
- CIA Research Reports, Vietnam and Southeast Asia, Supplement
- Confidential U.S. State Department Special Files, Vietnam Working Group, 1963–1966
- Crises in Panama and the Dominican Republic: National Security Files and NSC Histories (1963–1969)
- Documents of the National Security Council, 1947–1977:
 - Supplements 1–9
- Environmental Protection Agency, Records of the U.S./USSR Joint Commission on Environmental Programs, 1972–1976
- Gerald R. Ford National Security Files, 1974–1977
- Henry A. Kissinger Telephone Conversations on World Affairs, 1969–1974
- John F. Kennedy National Security Files, 1961–1963:
 - Africa
 - Africa, First Supplement
 - Asia and the Pacific
 - Asia and the Pacific, First Supplement
 - Latin America
 - Latin America, First Supplement
 - Latin America, First Supplement: Cuba
 - The Middle East
 - The Middle East, First Supplement
 - U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe
 - U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe, First Supplement
 - Vietnam
 - Vietnam, First Supplement
 - Western Europe
 - Western Europe, First Supplement
- Johnson Administration and Pacification in Vietnam: The Robert Komer-William Leonhart Files, 1966–1968
- Lyndon B. Johnson National Security Files, 1963–1969:
 - Africa
 - Agency File
 - Asia and the Pacific
 - Asia and the Pacific, First Supplement
 - Committee File
 - Israel
 - Latin America
 - Latin America, First Supplement
 - Name and Speech Files
 - The Middle East
 - The United Nations
 - U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe
 - Vietnam, First Supplement
 - Vietnam, November 1963–June 1965
 - Vietnam, Second Supplement
 - Vietnam, Special Subjects
 - Vietnam, Third Supplement
 - Western Europe
 - Western Europe, First Supplement
- Memos of the Special Assistant for National Security Affairs: McGeorge Bundy to President Johnson, 1963–1966
- Minutes of Meetings of the National Security Council with Special Advisory Reports:
 - First Supplement
 - Second Supplement
 - Third Supplement
 - Fourth Supplement
- Official Exchanges of President and Secretary of State 1961–1966
- Papers from the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection, Part 1: Kennedy Administration Policy Toward Cuba
- Peers Inquiry of the Massacre at My Lai
- Public Statements by the Secretaries of Defense:
 - Part 3 Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, 1961–1969
 - Part 4 Nixon and Ford Administrations, 1969–1977
 - Part 5 Carter Administration, 1977–1981
- Records of the Military Assistance and Advisory Group, Vietnam, 1950–1964, Part 1: Adjutant General Division Security Classified Files

Collection List: Vietnam War and American Foreign Policy, 1960–1975

- Records of the Military Assistance Command Vietnam:
 - Part 1: The War in Vietnam, 1954–1973. MACV Historical Office Documentary Collection
 - Part 2: Classified Studies from the Combined Intelligence Center Vietnam, 1965–1973
 - Part 3: Progress Reports on Pacification in South Vietnam, 1965–1973
- Records of the U.S. Information Agency:
 - Part 1: Cold War Era Special Reports, Series B: 1964–1982
 - Part 3: Cold War Era Research Reports, Series A: 1960–1963
 - Part 3: Cold War Era Research Reports, Series B: 1964–1982
- Records of the U.S. Marine Corps in the Vietnam War:
 - Part 1: Fleet Marine Force, Pacific Command Histories, 1964–1973
 - Part 2: III Marine Amphibious Force Command Histories, 1964–1971
 - Part 3: Divisional Command Histories, 1965–1971
- Richard M. Nixon National Security Files, 1969–1974:
 - Africa
 - Asia: Office Files of Henry Kissinger
 - India-Pakistan War of 1971
 - Kissinger's Secret Vietnam Negotiations
 - Meetings with Foreign Leaders
 - Middle East Negotiations
 - Nixon's 1972 Trip to China
 - Strategic Arms Limitation Talks
 - The Middle East
 - U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe
 - Vietnam Country Files
 - Vietnam Subject Files, Section A
 - Vietnam Subject Files, Section B
 - Western Europe
- Transcripts and Files of the Paris Peace Talks on Vietnam, 1968–1973
- U.S. Armed Forces in Vietnam, 1954–1975:
 - Part 1: Indochina Studies
 - Part 2: Vietnam: Lessons Learned
 - Part 3: Vietnam: Reports of U.S. Army Operations
 - Part 4: Vietnam: U.S. Army Senior Officer Debriefing Reports
- U.S. Army Build-up and Activities in South Vietnam, 1965–1972
- U.S. State Department, Office of the Executive Secretary:
 - Crisis Files, Part 1: Berlin, 1957–1963
 - Part 2: Middle East Crisis, 1967
- Vietnam Documents and Research Notes Series: Translation and Analysis of Significant Viet Cong/North Vietnamese Documents
- Vietnam War: A Documentary Collection, Records of the Westmoreland vs. CBS Case
- Vietnam, the Media, and Public Support for the War
- War in Vietnam: Classified Histories by the National Security Council
- War in Vietnam: Papers of William C. Westmoreland, Part 1: Papers of William C. Westmoreland

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