

# APUSH 1968-1980 That 70s DECADE REVIEWED!

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 39  
American History (Brinkley) Chapter 30-31  
America's History (Henretta) Chapter 28-30

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## Election of 1968: Nixon Returns

- **1968 was a political mess:** 1) Tet offensive, 2) LBJ is out, 3) MLK killed, 4) RFK killed, 5) riots spread
- **Democratic convention in Chicago (1968) were plagued by riots**
  - **VP Hubert Humphrey** gets the nomination
- **George Wallace** runs as the **American Independent** party candidate
  - Opposed to federal desegregation, antiwar protests, and Great Society. Conservative candidate
- **Republicans** nominated **Richard Nixon**
- **Nixon wins the Presidency in 1968** as many Americans **turned away from New Deal liberalism** in favor of **conservative candidates**




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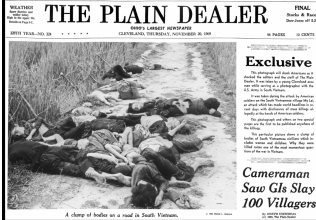
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## Nixon & Vietnam



1st Photos of Viet Mass Slaying



Nixon & Henry Kissinger had promised to end the war in Vietnam: **"Peace with Honor"**

- Appeals to the **"Silent Majority"** (claim majority of Americans supported the war)
- Since the Tet Offensive in 1968 the debate over the Vietnam War intensified
- News of the **My Lai Massacre (1968)** surfaces in 1970.
  - U.S. troops killed women and children
- **Nixon Doctrine:** U.S. would continue to honor its commitments, but countries in Asia would not be able to always rely on U.S. ground troops

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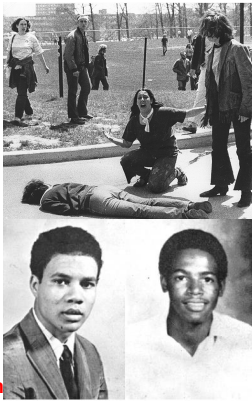
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## Vietnam War: Ending & Escalating

- Nixon's policy of **"Vietnamization"** called for the U.S. to **gradually withdraw U.S. troops** from Vietnam (Nixon Doctrine)
  - The South Vietnamese would **slowly take over the fighting** & the challenge of defending South Vietnam
- Nixon also began **secret bombing of neutral Cambodia** and in April 1970 U.S. troops **invaded** in an effort to destroy Vietnamese communist bases in Cambodia
- In response to the bombing of Cambodia **protests** erupted across the country on **college campuses**
  - 4 students killed at **Kent State** in Ohio
  - 2 students killed at **Jackson State** in Miss.
- Henry Kissinger held **secret negotiations with North Vietnam**
- 1972 Nixon orders **massive bombing of North Vietnam** when negotiations stalled



Phillip Gibbs and James Earl Green  
killed at Jackson State  
May 14, 1970

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## Distrust in the Government Grows

- Tet Offensive, My Lai Massacre, bombing of Cambodia, etc. led to further **distrust of the government**
- **Pentagon Papers** revealed that the U.S. government from JFK onward deliberately **deceived the American** people about the Vietnam War
  - **Daniel Ellsberg** "leaked" the information
- **War Powers Act** passed by Congress that sought to **reduce war powers** of the president
  - President must tell Congress within 48 hours of sending troops into conflict
  - Congress would have to approve any military mission that lasted longer than 60 days




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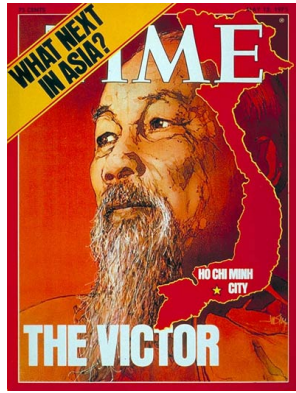
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# The War in Vietnam Ends

- Nixon's strategy of 1) Vietnamization 2) Widening the war 3) Secret negotiations between Kissinger/Le Duc Tho
- Paris Accords:** cease fire signed Jan. 1973
  - U.S. troops withdrawn
  - Free elections were suppose to take place
- Cease fire did not permanently end the fighting between North and South Vietnam
- April 1975 the U.S. supported government of South Vietnam fell to Communist rule- **Vietnam became a united communist country**




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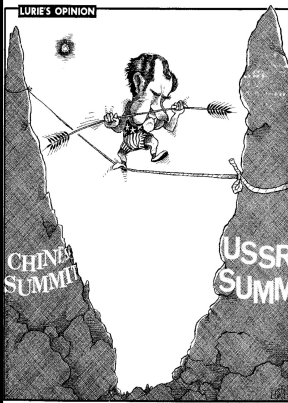
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## Nixon & Détente: relaxing of tensions during the Cold War



- Nixon & Kissinger sought to take advantage of the **distrust & rivalry** between China and the Soviet Union (**Sino-Soviet** split)
- Nixon with a reputation as a anti-communist figure could negotiate without being accused of being "soft on communism"
- Nixon visits China** February 1972 to met with Mao
  - Formal diplomatic relations 1979
- Relationship with China put pressure on the Soviets
- Treaty signed between the U.S. & Soviets **limiting antiballistic missiles (ABMs)**
- Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT)** limited nuclear weapons
- Nixon was able to reduce the arms race and Cold War tensions (**détente**)

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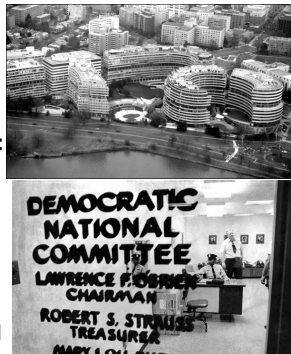
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# The Downfall of Nixon

- Nixon administration had a group called **Committee to Re-Elect the President (CREEP)**
- June 1972 group of men working for Nixon's reelection were caught breaking into **Democratic HQ in Watergate**
- Even before this, Nixon's people had:
  - ordered **wiretaps** on govt employees & reporters to stop "**leaks**"
  - "**plumbers**" were created to stop leaks and discredit opponents
  - Government agencies such as the IRS were used to investigate opponents of Nixon &/or the Vietnam War
- No absolute proof that Nixon ordered these illegal activities




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## Watergate Investigation: Impeachment

- Investigation revealed that Nixon did participate in a **cover-up of these illegal activities**
- It was discovered that Nixon had **secretly recorded conversations** in the Oval Office
- Investigators wanted access to the tapes to prove that Nixon was involved in a cover-up
  - Nixon claimed "**executive privilege**", but eventually the Supreme Court ruled he must turn over tapes in 1974
- Prior to this in Oct. 1973 **Nixon fired the special prosecutor** in charge of investigating the case against Nixon
  - Attorney General and deputy AG resign
  - Known as "**Saturday Night Massacre**"
- Impeachment charges** 1) obstruction of justice 2) abuse of power 3) contempt of Congress
- Nixon resigns** on August 1974 & **Gerald Ford becomes 1<sup>st</sup> unelected President** in U.S. History
- Watergate demonstrated once again the increasing **loss of faith in the federal government**




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## Politics of the 1970s



- Nixon wanted to limit the size of the federal government
- 1970s saw a combination of economic slowdown (**stagnation**) and **high inflation** = **stagflation**
- Gerald Ford **pardons Nixon** in 1974
- Election of **1976 Democrat Jimmy Carter** is elected President
  - Foreign Policy:**
    - Carter sought to pursue a **humanitarian foreign policy**
    - Soviets invaded Afghanistan** in 1979 (hurt improving U.S.-Soviet relations)
    - U.S. boycotted the Olympic games that were held in Moscow

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## Middle East Drama

- During **Yom Kippur War** Syria and Egypt suddenly **attacked Israel** (1973)
  - The U.S. provides their ally Israel with economic and military aid.
  - Israel successfully defended itself
- Oil Embargo** is imposed upon the United States by the oil rich **Arab nations in OPEC**
- In 1978 **President Carter** helps negotiate the **Camp David Accords**
  - Israel** and **Egypt** sign a peace agreement with one another
- U.S. supported Shah of Iran was overthrown by **Islamic fundamentalist** in **Iranian Revolution** of 1979
  - Another oil shortage and price increases
- Situation gets worse when in 1979 more than 50 people are taken **hostage** at the **American embassy in Tehran**




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## What's up with Civil Rights?

- In 1972 Congress passed **Title IX** which sought to **end sex discrimination in schools**
  - For example- schools must provide girls with equal athletic opportunities
- **Roe v. Wade (1973)** struck down laws prohibiting abortion on the grounds that they were a violation of a women's right to privacy. (**legalized abortion**)
- **Equal Rights Amendment** was passed by Congress, but fell short of ratification by 3 states
  - **Phyllis Schlafly** led the opposition to the ERA
- **American Indian Movement** formed in 1968 sought to address past injustices and demand social and economic equality.
- **University of California v. Bakke (1978)** upheld affirmative action. Race could be one of several factors in admission



## WARREN COURT: 1953-1969



- **Liberal Ideals** such as expanding democracy and individual freedoms were realized in the decisions of the Supreme Court under Chief Justice Earl Warren
- **Yates v. U.S. (1957):** 1<sup>st</sup> amendment protects radical / revolutionary speech
- **Mapp v. Ohio (1961):** Illegally seized evidence cant be used in court
- **Engel v. Vitale (1962):** cant require prayer in public schools (violated 1<sup>st</sup> amendment)
- **Griswold v. Connecticut (1965):** citizen has right to privacy, thus birth control cannot be prohibited
- **Miranda v. Arizona (1966):** right to remain silent & speak with attorney
- **Critics:** Many conservatives did not like these decisions and favored a "strict" interpretation of the Constitution

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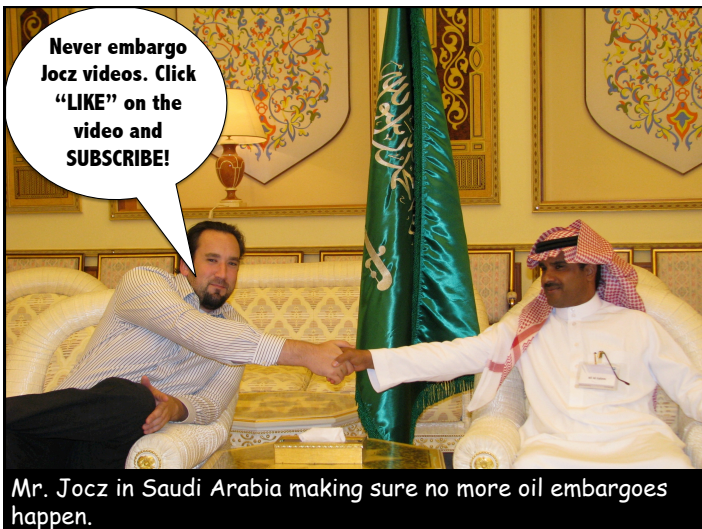
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Mr. Jocz in Saudi Arabia making sure no more oil embargoes happen.

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