



The Vietnam War, also known as the Second Indochina War, or the Vietnam Conflict, occurred in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia from 1959[1] to April 30, 1975.



The war was fought between the communist North Vietnam, supported by its Communist allies (mainly China and Russia), and South Vietnam, supported by the United States and others.

The United States entered the war to prevent a Communist takeover of South Vietnam.



The war exacted a huge human cost in terms of fatalities, including 3 to 4 million Vietnamese from both sides, 1.5 to 2 million Laotians and Cambodians, and 58,159 U.S. soldiers.



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The war had a major impact on U.S. politics, culture and foreign relations. Americans were deeply divided over the U.S. government's justification for, and conduct of the war. Opposition to the war contributed to the counterculture youth movement of the 1960s