

## Origins of the Vietnam War (Part I: Chronology)

### Focus Question: What caused the Vietnam War?

**Directions:** Although direct American involvement in what was to become the Vietnam War in 1964 and lasted until 1975, the roots of the War were varied and can be traced back to the mid-1800s when the region became a colony of France. The secondary source provides historical context to the events leading up to U.S. military intervention in Vietnam through a brief history of colonization and anti-colonialism in Vietnam, and America's containment policies in post-World War II. **Read the secondary source provided, noting the time markers. For each time marker on the chart below describe key events, what happened, and why it is important towards understanding the origins of the Vietnam War.**

<u>Regional History and French Colonialism</u>	
<u>DATES and TIME MARKERS</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u> <i>What happened? Why is it important?</i>
Ancient History	Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam connected through the exchange of culture and religion
appx. 200 BC - 939	China controlled Vietnam for nearly 1,000 years
939	Vietnamese independence under King Ngo Quyen
Modern History	European countries seized areas of Asia and Africa as colonies
Mid-1800s, by 1893	France violently took over Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam under the name "Indochina"; economic exploitation, along with cultural and political dominance by Europeans

<u>Rebellions and Revolutions (The Impact of World War II)</u>	
<u>DATES and TIME MARKERS</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u> <i>What happened? Why is it important?</i>
1940	
1941	
March 1945	
August 14, 1945	
August 19, 1945	
August 25, 1945	
September 1945	
1946	

### The Cold War

<u>DATES and TIME MARKERS</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u> <i>What happened? Why is it important?</i>
1940s	
September 2, 1945	
1947	
1950	
1950-1952	
1950-1953	

### First Indochina War and The Vietnam War

<u>DATES and TIME MARKERS</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u> <i>What happened? Why is it important?</i>
1946-1954	
May 7, 1954	
1954 (Geneva)	
1954 (SEATO)	
1955 (Diem)	
1955 (ARVN)	
1956	