

## 1: List of wars involving the United States - Wikipedia

*Description. Asian Americans on War and Peace is the first book to respond to the events of September 11, from Asian American perspectives, from the vantage point of those whose lives and communities have been forged by both war and peace.*

The Vietnam War is the most unpopular US war in the twentieth century because the US had failed in their efforts to protect South Vietnam from communism. The Vietnam War cost the United States about 58,000 deaths and 300,000 were wounded. There was also between one and two million Vietnamese deaths. About 200,000 Cambodians and 200,000 Laotians died as well. To turn the Vietnam War into a just and successful war, the US provided asylum to many Vietnamese refugees. The US came under heavy international criticism for putting civilians in danger, but the US said that they were only targeting the North Vietnam military. Kissinger began secret peace talks with North Vietnam in Paris. Cambodia wanted to stay neutral throughout the Vietnam War, but on April 29, 1975, South Vietnamese troops went into Cambodia. The US also pursued communist troops who were going through and setting up bases in Cambodia. Cambodia experienced heavy bombing, which was actually ordered by the Nixon administration. In May 1970, the National Guardsmen killed four students and wounded eight other students during an antiwar protest at Kent State University in Ohio. Some protesters had been throwing rocks and empty tear gas canisters at the Guardsmen. So they opened fire on the crowd of protesters. Some South Vietnamese divisions attacked major enemy bases in Laos, but it was actually a North Vietnamese trap. So many South Vietnamese soldiers were killed and injured. Up until the summer of 1971, Agent Orange was sprayed in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos by the US military so that the enemy cannot hide in the weeds or bushes. This was called Operation Ranch Hand. Agent Orange contains a lethal chemical called dioxin. This has caused a lot of damage to the ecology of Vietnam. There is also a connection to reports of cancer, skin disease, and other disorders. The Dow Chemical, who provided the US military with Agent Orange, actually knew of the serious health risks, but they continued to sell it to the US military for use in Vietnam. Many people were crippled or killed due to the use of Agent Orange. Also, some children were born with birth defects. In October 1973, Henry A. Kissinger announced that peace was taking place, but in December 1973, the North Vietnamese walked out of the Paris peace talks. In 1972, the US bombers targeted Hanoi and Haiphong. They mined Haiphong harbor to prevent military equipment from reaching the Communists. Also, on November 7, 1972, Quangtri was bombed by the US. This city was very important to North Vietnam because there was an oil pipeline that ran up until 75 miles northwest of Saigon. Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho signed the agreement. Also in January 1973, US forces were starting to be withdrawn from Vietnam, and US prisoners of war were being released. Despite the Paris Peace Agreement, fighting continued. For the US, the war was officially over. In 18 hours, over 1,000 American civilians and almost 7,000 South Vietnamese refugees were flown out of Saigon. On April 30, 1975, the capital of South Vietnam, Saigon, fell to the communists, and the war had ended. South Vietnam had surrendered to North Vietnam, and Vietnam was reunited in the following year. Massive evacuations took place as soon as Saigon fell to the Communists. These refugees escaped on overcrowded and unsafe boats in search of a better life outside of Vietnam. Some boats sank, and some boats even ran into pirates. Many refugees found asylum in other Asian countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines. The US also offered asylum to many Vietnamese political prisoners and refugees. Maya Ying Lin, a year old Yale architectural student, designed it. Many Vietnamese are fairly new immigrants here in the US. This is what the US wanted especially since the Vietnam War was not successful for them. They focused on those who were successful and assimilated into US culture. The US gave them education, opportunities, and social mobility. The US government wanted the Vietnamese to feel that they belonged. But did they really feel like they belonged? Many of the Vietnamese were refugees so they were forced to leave Vietnam with little or no possessions. They had to leave everything behind. Some people were even split from their families. The Vietnamese in the US still had to go through challenges especially in adapting to the new culture here in the US. Many people in the US need to be aware of what happened during the Vietnam War and the challenges many Vietnamese refugees went through here in the US.

### 2: Milestones: " - Office of the Historian

*Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.*

For more information, please see the full notice. The United States also annexed the independent state of Hawaii during the conflict. Thus, the war enabled the United States to establish its predominance in the Caribbean region and to pursue its strategic and economic interests in Asia. From " , the violent conflict in Cuba captured the attention of Americans because of the economic and political instability that it produced in a region within such close geographical proximity to the United States. By early , tensions between the United States and Spain had been mounting for months. On April 20, the U. The Spanish government rejected the U. McKinley responded by implementing a naval blockade of Cuba on April 22 and issued a call for , military volunteers the following day. That same day, Spain declared war on the United States, and the U. Congress voted to go to war against Spain on April . On June 10, U. After isolating and defeating the Spanish Army garrisons in Cuba, the U. Navy destroyed the Spanish Caribbean squadron on July 3 as it attempted to escape the U. The war officially ended four months later, when the U. Senate ratified the treaty on February 6, , by a margin of only one vote. The McKinley Administration also used the war as a pretext to annex the independent state of Hawaii. In , a group of Hawaii-based planters and businessmen led a coup against Queen Liliuokalani and established a new government. They promptly sought annexation by the United States, but President Grover Cleveland rejected their requests. In , however, President McKinley and the American public were more favorably disposed toward acquiring the islands. Supporters of annexation argued that Hawaii was vital to the U.

### 3: The Vietnam War | The Rise of Asian Americans from to

*ASIAN AMERICANS ON WAR AND PEACE is the first book to respond to the events of September 11, from Asian American perspectives, from the vantage point of those whose lives and communities have been forged by both war and peace.*

Intelligence personnel of the 2d Infantry Division question a captured Korean guerilla. Some 25, Japanese-Americans had proved their loyalty in uniform. The unit received more than 18, individual decorations and seven Presidential Unit Citations. More than 20, Chinese Americans served in the armed forces, many as integrated members of Army units. But the National Japanese-American Historical Society has estimated that 5, Nisei served in Korea with American forces and concluded that of them lost their lives. During the Korean War, Nisei in the Military Intelligence Service served as interpreters, interrogators and translators and provided other linguistic support. During the Korean conflict, there were more Nisei in higher enlisted ranks, in company grade and in field grade ranks than had been the case during World War II. Paul Hosoda volunteered for the d Regimental Combat Team in July and served with that unit until he was injured. He was appointed a warrant officer when his unit was activated in August and sent to Korea. Shigeo Uchino, a native Hawaiian, began a year career with the Military Intelligence Service in Uchino was assigned to Korea for one year beginning in October Some were recognized for bravery on the battlefield. Chew-Een Lee, the son of Chinese immigrants, first enlisted in the Marine Corps in and was commissioned a second lieutenant in Before hostilities broke out in Korea, First Lieutenant Lee served with the 1st battalion, 7th Marines. Despite being outnumbered, Lee exposed himself to fire as he personally reconnoitered the area to better re-deploy his machine gun posts within the defensive perimeter. He reorganized his unit and moved up the enemy-held slope. Despite serious wounds, he pressed forward ultimately driving the hostile forces from the area. The Army asked Kim to return to active duty after the Korean War began because of his fluency with the Korean language. Kim agreed, but he wanted assignment with a combat unit rather than as a linguist. He remained in the Army after the Korean War and retired as a colonel in Army in Korea received the Medal of Honor. Two of these men were members of the 7th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division: Mendonca of Company B, a native of Honolulu. Osborne as he is told he will receive the Medal of Honor. After the first attack, while Miyamura administered first aid to the wounded and ordered the evacuation of his men, the enemy dealt another savage blow. Miyamura delivered devastating fire with his machine gun until he ran out of ammunition. He then bayoneted his way to a second gun emplacement and covered the withdrawal of his unit with machine gun fire until his ammunition was depleted. Miyamura killed more than 50 of the enemy before he was severely wounded and later captured. He spent 28 months as a prisoner of war and was released in August Word of his Medal of Honor was kept secret during his time in captivity for his protection. Under heavy enemy fire, he fired his weapon and hurled grenades at the enemy. When he ran out of ammunition, Mendonca used his rifle as a club and his bayonet in hand-to-hand combat. It is estimated he killed 37 enemy soldiers before falling mortally wounded. Private First Class Herbert K. Almost out of ammunition, his unit was ordered to withdraw, and Pililaau volunteered to cover the withdrawal. He fired his automatic weapon into the charging enemy ranks, threw all of his grenades and finally closed with the enemy in hand-to-hand combat with a trench knife and bare fists until he was mortally wounded. When the position was later retaken, more than 40 enemy dead were counted in the area that Pililaau had defended. Tang was stationed in Tokyo as a military intelligence officer, but also served in Korea interrogating prisoners in Pusan. As judge in civilian life, Tang was appointed to the U. From to , he served in Korea as a medical doctor. The Army Reserve building in Rexburg is named in honor of Miyasaki. Five Miyasaki brothers served in the U. Sources Boston Publishing, eds. *The Asian American Almanac* Korean American Life *The Pacific War and Peace: The Military Intelligence Service: Military Order of the Purple Heart* editorial staff. *The Legacy of the Purple Heart* An A-to-Z Reference from to the Present Patterson, Wayne and Kim Hyung-chan. *Koreans in America*

### 4: American Asians & Asian Diversity Cultural Information | BYU McKay School of Education

*In light of the recent commemoration of , the edited collection Asian Americans on War and Peace is a relevant meditation on the tragic events of ten years ago from the Asian American community.*

This lack of progress suggests a troubling conclusion: While the racist sentiment toward Asians and Asian Americans may have diminished since *Korematsu*, the tolerance for racism inherent in *Korematsu* may have persisted. In a sense, sixty years later, *Korematsu* continues. On October 17, , a federal district court in New Jersey issued an opinion that used language remarkably similar to that used in *Korematsu*. The opinion is *Dasrath v. The suits* allege the racially discriminatory removal of a passenger from a commercial flight. In the opinion, the court explains a statute that permits "an air carrier. *Dasrath* mimics *Korematsu* in several ways. Most significantly, both opinions use threats to national security to deflect attention from race-based actions. In *Dasrath*, the court wrote: To cast this case into outlines of racial prejudice, without reference to the real military dangers which were presented, merely confuses the issue. *Korematsu* was not excluded from the Military Area because of hostility to him or his race. He was excluded because we are at war with the Japanese Empire [and] because the properly constituted military authorities feared an invasion of our West Coast and felt constrained to take proper security measures. They note the consequences of inaction and the constraints of time on information-gathering. According to Judge Debevoise: We cannot say that the war-making branches of the Government did not have ground for believing that in a critical hour such persons could not readily be isolated and separately dealt with. We cannot -- by availing ourselves of the calm perspective of hindsight -- now say that at that time these actions were unjustified. For example, Judge Debevoise observes that "a racially motivated removal would not be sheltered by [the statute here]. The internment order was to be subject to "the most rigid scrutiny. So is it truly legitimate to imply that *Dasrath* is essentially *Korematsu*? But there have been other opinions reviled for their facts and circumstances. What makes *Korematsu* unique is its use of "national security" and "imminent danger" rhetoric in lieu of logical and consistent legal reasoning. As one commentator has said, "The Court in *Korematsu* failed to provide a logical explanation for reaching its result and instead deceptively relied on persuasive rhetoric. And while Japanese Americans were interned, prospective Asian immigrants were still subject to severe quotas -- quotas that would not be lifted until and that were more restrictive on immigrants from Asia than on immigrants from Europe. *Korematsu* continued this existing anti-Asian sentiment. But the Court could not do so overtly, and thus undertook its unique rhetoric to cloak the desired, but racist, conclusion in legal legitimacy. A reincarnation of *Korematsu* therefore is an indication of existing racism and the cloaking of that racism in rhetoric. In particular, *Dasrath* is a natural progression, and shrouding, of previously existing anti-Arab and anti-Arab American sentiment. This notion of an abiding racist attitude toward Arabs and Arab Americans is not pure speculation. This finding should come as little surprise since other groups, such as Asians and Asian Americans, have been "raced" unceasingly as perpetually foreign. Saito, in fact, argues that Asians and Asian Americans have made no progress since *Korematsu*; she believes that Arabs and Arab Americans follow the same path. United States, U. This essay is derived from a longer work entitled "*Korematsu Continued*. You can download and read the original piece here. The Landscape of Asian America. Elbert Lin is an attorney currently practicing in Washington, D. Related Articles and Blog Posts.

### 5: On the Tenth Anniversary of Asian Americans on War and Peace | AMERASIA JOURNAL

*Los Angeles, CA: University of California, Asian American Studies Center, pages. Illustrated. Tight binding, clean and crisp pages. A touch of light wear to covers, otherwise better than Very Good.*

Printer-Friendly Version The following is an article written by Burt Masao Takeuchi see credit below in which he interviewed members of the 442nd Central Postal Directory Regimental Combat Team and those they rescued as they were sent into an incredibly intense and dangerous mission to rescue another U.S. The 442nd was composed entirely of Japanese Americans and despite the fact that their families, relatives, and friends were wrongfully imprisoned back in the U.S. Battles were fought in the densely wooded Vosges mountains located in Northern France near the German border. The German army had orders from Adolf Hitler to defend the Vosges at all costs. The rescue mission would be one of the bloodiest battles in the history of the US Army. Robert Foote led an infantry platoon in K Company 442nd. They would take care of me" said Foote. He "was taken out of action early" in the battle when his platoon attempted to race across some railroad tracks outside the town of Bruyeres. Foote was "blown into the air by a German mortar shell" that literally "landed in his hip pocket. Marty Higgins, a former "horse soldier" cavalry , was in command of the Lost Battalion. Higgins formed a strong defensive position on a hill and dug in. Some 50 volunteers attempted to fight their way back to the American lines. They were ambushed and only 5 men returned. Although surrounded, morale was high. Meanwhile food, medicine, ammunition and time was running out. Prior to the battle, Ito received a battlefield commission to Lieutenant. It was rare for Nisei to be promoted to officer status during WW2 for his role in the Italian Campaign. Wally Nunotani had volunteered for the 442nd from Hawaii. Nunotani was a section chief in the Cannon Company. The small company was very close to the fighting. We could hit our own guys. During the cold rainy nights, the Nisei soldiers slept in foxholes. It was "cold especially for Nisei who came from warm places. These roofs would "protect us from this type of attack. The Germans had machine gun nests in camouflaged positions so "they had to be pinpointed first. You had to work yourself forward [toward them] then use a hand grenade [to knock them out]. If you fired your weapon, "you can expose yourself" to enemy fire. A "handy, close fighting weapon" with "lots of knockout power" from its heavy .45 caliber slugs. The fighting was from tree to tree and ridge to ridge. The 442nd fought for yards at a time through dense woods shrouded with fog and rain. On October 30th, the 442nd broke through the German lines rescuing the Lost Battalion after storming up Banzai Hill. A German sniper shot a Nisei soldier right in front of him. His friend moving near him was struck in the head and seriously wounded. The sniper "could have picked me off at the same place.

### 6: Southeast Asian Americans - [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com)

*Asian Americans were "roundly rebuffed as divisive and distracting" when they called on white allies to address the disproportionate deaths of black and brown soldiers in Vietnam and the specifically anti-Asian nature of the war. 6 Activist Steve Louie recalled, "the broader movement had a hard time with the Asian movement, in some ways.*

Reasons[ edit ] Vietnam War protesters in Wichita, Kansas, The draft, a system of conscription that mainly drew from minorities and lower and middle class whites, drove much of the protest after Conscientious objectors played an active role despite their small numbers. The prevailing sentiment that the draft was unfairly administered inflamed blue-collar American, especially African-American, opposition to the military draft itself. Opposition to the war arose during a time of unprecedented student activism , which followed the free speech movement and the Civil Rights Movement. The military draft mobilized the baby boomers , who were most at risk, but it grew to include a varied cross-section of Americans. The growing opposition to the Vietnam War was partly attributed to greater access to uncensored information through extensive television coverage on the ground in Vietnam. Beyond opposition to the draft, anti-war protesters also made moral arguments against U. That moral imperative argument against the war was especially popular among American college students, who were more likely than the general public to accuse the United States of having imperialistic goals in Vietnam and to criticize the war as "immoral. Some Americans believed that the communist threat was used as a scapegoat to hide imperialistic intentions, and others argued that the American intervention in South Vietnam interfered with the self-determination of the country and felt that the war in Vietnam was a civil war that ought to have determined the fate of the country and that America was wrong to intervene. Graphic footage of casualties on the nightly news eliminated any myth of the glory of war. With no clear sign of victory in Vietnam, American military casualties helped stimulate opposition to the war by Americans. In their book *Manufacturing Consent* , Noam Chomsky and Edward Herman challenge that traditional view of how the media influenced the war and propose that the media instead censored the more brutal images of the fighting and the death of millions of innocent people. Many supporters of U. This theory was largely held due to the fall of eastern Europe to communism and the Soviet sphere of influence following World War II. However, military critics of the war pointed out that the Vietnam War was political and that the military mission lacked any clear idea of how to achieve its objectives. Civilian critics of the war argued that the government of South Vietnam lacked political legitimacy, or that support for the war was completely immoral. The media also played a substantial role in the polarization of American opinion regarding the Vietnam War. For example, In a majority of the media attention focused on military tactics with very little discussion about the necessity for a full scale intervention in Southeast Asia. The Dove was a liberal and a critic of the war. Doves claimed that the war was wellâ€”intentioned but a disastrously wrong mistake in an otherwise benign foreign policy. It is important to note the Doves did not question the U. Rather, they made pragmatic claims that the war was a mistake. Contrarily, the Hawks argued that the war was legitimate and winnable and a part of the benign U. The Hawks claimed that the one-sided criticism of the media contributed to the decline of public support for the war and ultimately helped the U. Antiwar movement[ edit ] As the Vietnam War continued to escalate, public disenchantment grew and a variety of different groups were formed or became involved in the movement. Students[ edit ] U. Marshals dragging away a Vietnam War protester in Washington, D. Doug McAdam explains the success of the mass mobilization of volunteers for Freedom Summer in terms of "Biographical Availability", where individuals must have a certain degree of social, economic, and psychological freedom to be able to participate in large scale social movements. David Meyers also explains how the concept of personal efficacy affects mass movement mobilization. At this time, America was a superpower and enjoyed great affluence after thirty years of depression, war, and sacrifice. Harrison argues that the post World War II affluence set the stage for the protest generation in the s. The Anti-war movement became part of a larger protest movement against the traditional American Values and attitudes. Meyers builds off this claim in his argument that the "relatively privileged enjoy the education and affirmation that afford them the belief that they might make a difference. College enrollment reached 9 million by the end

of the s. Colleges and universities in America had more students than ever before, and these institutions often tried to restrict student behavior to maintain order on the campuses. To combat this, many college students became active in causes that promoted free speech, student input in the curriculum, and an end to archaic social restrictions. Students joined the antiwar movement because they did not want to fight in a foreign civil war that they believed did not concern them or because they were morally opposed to all war. Others disliked the war because it diverted funds and attention away from problems in the U. Intellectual growth and gaining a liberal perspective at college caused many students to become active in the antiwar movement. Another attractive feature of the opposition movement was the fact that it was a popular social event. As one student[ who? Common antiwar demonstrations for college students featured attempts to sever ties between the war machine and universities through burning draft cards , protesting universities furnishing grades to draft boards, and protesting military and Dow Chemical job fairs on campus. Protests grew after the Kent State shootings , radicalizing more and more students. Their pieces often incorporated imagery based on the tragic events of the war as well as the disparity between life in Vietnam and life in the United States. Visual artists Ronald Haeberle , Peter Saul , and Nancy Spero , among others, used war equipment, like guns and helicopters, in their works while incorporating important political and war figures, portraying to the nation exactly who was responsible for the violence. Filmmakers such as Lenny Lipton , Jerry Abrams, Peter Gessner, and David Ringo created documentary-style movies featuring actual footage from the antiwar marches to raise awareness about the war and the diverse opposition movement. Regardless of medium, antiwar artists ranged from pacifists to violent radicals and caused Americans to think more critically about the war. Art as war opposition was quite popular in the early years of the war, but soon faded as political activism became the more common and most visible way of opposing the war. Female soldiers serving in Vietnam joined the movement to battle the war and sexism, racism, and the established military bureaucracy by writing articles for antiwar and antimilitary newspapers. These women saw the draft as one of the most disliked parts of the war machine and sought to undermine the war itself through undermining the draft. Another Mother for Peace and WSP often held free draft counseling centers to give young men legal and illegal methods to oppose the draft. The government often saw middle-aged women involved in such organizations as the most dangerous members of the opposition movement because they were ordinary citizens who quickly and efficiently mobilized. They protested the use of napalm, a highly flammable jelly weapon created by the Dow Chemical Company and used as a weapon during the war, by boycotting Saran Wrap, another product made by the company. Some of frustrations of younger women became apparent during the antiwar movement: Paul on April 27, African-American leaders of earlier decades like W. Du Bois were often anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. Soon Martin Luther King, Jr. When SNCC-backed Georgia Representative Julian Bond acknowledged his agreement with the anti-war statement, he was refused his seat by the State of Georgia, an injustice which he successfully appealed up to the Supreme Court. Some participants in ghetto rebellions of the era had already associated their actions with opposition to the Vietnam War, and SNCC first disrupted an Atlanta draft board in August As a result, black enlisted men themselves protested and began the resistance movement among veterans. After taking measures to reduce the fatalities, apparently in response to widespread protest, the military brought the proportion of blacks down to Within these groups, however, many African American women were seen as subordinate members by black male leaders. They saw the war as being a bigger action of U. One of the major reasons leading to their significance was that the BAACAW was "highly organized, holding biweekly ninety-minute meetings of the Coordinating Committee at which each regional would submit detailed reports and action plans. They were referred to as gooks and had a racialized identity in comparison to their non-Asian counterparts. There was also the hypersexualization of Vietnamese women which in turn affected how Asian American women in the military were treated. Patsy Chan, a "Third World" activist, said at an antiwar rally in San Francisco, "We, as Third World women [express] our militant solidarity with our brothers and sisters from Indochina. We, as Third World people know of the struggle the Indochinese are waging against imperialism, because we share that common enemy in the United States. Both Boggs and Kochiyama were inspired by the civil rights movement of the s and "a growing number of Asian Americans began to push forward a new era in radical Asian American politics. Through this play, "Escueta establishes

equivalencies between his protagonist, a Filipino American soldier named Andy, and the Vietnamese people. The clergy covered any of the religious leaders and members including individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr. In his speech "Beyond Vietnam" King stated, "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today: For the sake of those boys, for the sake of this government, for the sake of the hundreds of thousands trembling under our violence, I cannot be silent. The involvement of the clergy did not stop at King though. The analysis entitled "Social Movement Participation: The clergy were often forgotten though throughout this opposition. The analysis refers to that fact by saying, "The research concerning clergy anti-war participation is even more barren than the literature on student activism. Based on the results found, they most certainly did not believe in the war and wished to help end it. Michael Freidland is able to completely tell the story in his chapter entitled, "A Voice of Moderation: Clergy and the Anti-War Movement: In basic summary, each specific clergy from each religion had their own view of the war and how they dealt with it, but as a whole, the clergy was completely against the war. They attempted to increase public opinion in favor of their cause in an attempt to influence policy makers to halt atmospheric nuclear testing and reversing the arms race and the Cold War.

### 7: 14 Photos That Show The Original Asian-American Resistance | HuffPost

*to find the frequency and page number of specific words and phrases. This can be especially useful to help you decide if the book is worth buying, checking out from a library, etc.*

Never in the history of the United States have so many people come from the same region in so short a time under such dire circumstances as did the Southeast Asian refugees in the decade after the war. Once in this country, the refugees and their families overcame great obstacles to learn English, educate their children, and achieve a degree of economic success. By the end of the Southeast Asian War in 1975 -- 25 years of bombing and bloodshed -- millions of Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians had died. Millions of survivors, faced with an uncertain future under totalitarian rule, sought the refuge of Western democracies, risking their lives in daring escapes across rivers, through jungles, and across seas roamed by marauding pirates. The exact population is difficult to gauge because of inter-state migration. Before settling in the U. S., American families, usually selected by area churches, then sponsored them. Once settled, the refugees in turn sponsored friends and additional family members, who entered the country as immigrants. Difficult Transitions Most refugees typically have had greater difficulty adjusting to America than voluntary immigrants. Many lost relatives in the war and still suffer from its ravages, enduring nightmares, flashbacks, and severe depression. Most came with few if any transferable job skills. They also faced the enormous common barrier of learning a new language. Living conditions are often substandard, especially in urban neighborhoods. Despite the obstacles, the vast majority of refugees have adapted well. Young people are earning above-average marks at school, and an increasing number of them are attending state colleges and universities. In their spare time, they have formed rock bands, which blend American rhythms with Asian lyrics, and play on soccer and other kinds of sports teams. Others try their hand at business and farming. With the contribution of three or four incomes, more refugee families have been able to buy homes of their own. These successes, while modest by American standards, represent personal and community triumphs for people who have been so recently persecuted and dispossessed. Vietnamese Hollywood movies on the Vietnam War all but ignore the central tragedy of the conflict: Vietnam defeated the French in 1954 and the country was split into communist North and nationalist South. When the communists finally assumed power in 1975, South Vietnamese military and government escapees were the first of several hundred thousand Southeast Asian refugees to this country. Vietnam was the most developed and urbanized of the nations in Southeast Asia, and most in this first wave of refugees were highly educated professionals. Once in America, they adapted fairly quickly. Another wave came later in the decade, the first of many groups of "boat people," whose escapes were arduous at best and often harrowing. Survivors tell tales of drinking seawater, ferocious attacks by pirates and even cannibalism. Vietnamese have worked in numerous professions, from janitorial services to engineering and medicine. Like generations of Chinese and Japanese before them, they have opened small businesses such as grocery stores, shops, and restaurants. The Vietnamese bring with them a rich cultural heritage and a Confucian reverence for education. Vietnamese students are excelling in local high schools and colleges. Of the seven children, six graduated from college with honors five from the University of Washington in 1980 and the youngest, year-old Thien is a UW undergraduate. Cambodians Talk to Cambodians here about the movie, "The Killing Fields," and they will tell you that conditions under the Khmer Rouge were worse -- much worse -- than those portrayed in the film. Of the 8 million Cambodians alive in 1975, 4 million died. Cambodia was drawn into the Vietnam War in the early 1970s when North Vietnamese and Vietcong forces began moving deeper into Cambodian territory. The fighting between government troops and the Hanoi-backed Khmer Rouge continued until the communist takeover in 1975. The ensuing four-year period in Cambodia has been compared to the Nazi holocaust. The fanatical Khmer Rouge under Pol Pot virtually enslaved the entire Cambodian populace, forcing them to work 16 hours a day in state-run labor camps scattered throughout the countryside. The Khmer Rouge separated families and tortured political prisoners. A million Cambodians were systematically executed, including thousands of educated people and Buddhist monks. A million more died of starvation or disease. Under the Vietnamese, who invaded the country in 1975, the mass executions were halted. But living conditions remained abysmal. Cambodians, along

with Laotians and hill tribe refugees, came to the U. Many in the second wave were farmers from small villages with little or no education or knowledge of Western culture. Between and about 3, Cambodians arrived in Washington state, increasing the total number of Cambodians to 10,, the majority living in King and Pierce Counties. Cambodians have made great strides in pursuing careers and educating their young. In addition to mutual assistance associations and other social welfare organizations, Cambodians assemble and worship at Buddhist temples. In Seattle, they have founded the Cambodian Study Center, which is devoted to seminars and special events promoting the Khmer language and culture. Laotians During the s, the U. By , two thirds of the country had been massively bombed, causing widespread environmental destruction and the flight of , refugees, 20 percent of the total population of Laos. Immigration of the indigenous lowland Lao closely followed that of the Cambodians, most of them arriving in the U. Laotians number about 7, in the Puget Sound region. Hill Tribes Under the national category of Laos fall many culturally distinct ethnic minorities, most of them migratory montagnards or hill tribes from the lush mountainous region. Most of these refugees came in the broad second wave of Southeast Asian resettlement in the early s. The Hmong are perhaps the best known of the hill tribes. A fiercely independent and proud people, they were the backbone of the CIA-trained guerrilla force in Laos -- and suffered for it. When the communist Pathet Lao took power in , they began an extermination campaign against the Hmong that took the lives of an estimated 10 percent of the Hmong population. The Mien, too, were caught in the crossfire of the Southeast Asian War. Some worked in the underground army. Most escaped to Thailand after , a number eventually reaching the United States. About 1, have settled in Washington. Both the Hmong and Mien are originally from southern China and over the past few centuries had migrated south. The Kmhmu, another Laotian hill tribe, which numbers in the state, are said to be the indigenous people of Laos. Their history in that country, however, is a history of oppression. For centuries, they were treated as a kind of slave class. For many of the Hmong, Mien, Kmhmu, and other hill tribes, cultural adaptation is not simply a matter of learning English, but requires an anthropological leap. In Asia, they typically slashed and burned jungle growth to clear land for planting -- the oldest agricultural method in the world. The village was their most complex social institution. Isolated in highland regions, these settlements were without electricity or roads. Hill tribes form associations based on clans and religious practices, including animist sects, which reflect the traditional belief in a world of spirits. Shamans serve as intermediaries between the natural and the supernatural. Community organizations run the gamut from soccer teams to mutual assistance groups and meal programs for the elderly. Ronald Takaki, *Strangers from a Different Shore: A History of Asian Americans* Boston: Little, Brown and Co.

### 8: Essay Asian Americans and World War II (U.S. National Park Service)

*Smaller numbers of Filipino-Americans and Korean-Americans formed small units for the nation's war effort. Numbers Served and Their Jobs Unlike in World War II when there was the Japanese-American d RCT, there were no separate Asian-American units during the Korean War.*

In the Belly of the Monster: Asian American Opposition to the Vietnam War November 15, activism , intersections The Vietnam War, which officially commenced on November 1, and lasted for nearly twenty years, cost the lives of over 58, Americans and more than 3 million Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Lao soldiers and civilians. The peace movement that gradually turned public opinion against the war is often remembered as an affair led by white college students, white flower children, white pastors, and white mothers, with perhaps a smattering of black and brown faces somewhere in the background. But Asian Americans and other people of color played an integral, and frequently independent, role in the anti-war movement of the s and s. Up to 40, men were drafted each month, and casualtiesâ€”most of them civiliansâ€”had reached a staggering million-plus. Consequently, it was around this time that the peace movement also reached its peak. But it would be a mistake to understand this as a single moment in time isolated from larger social and cultural shifts. Los Angeles, January 17, Courtesy of the Gidra Collection. Bruce Iwasaki, writing for Gidra in January , explained: Much as we forget, ignore, or grow numb to it, the war has been a constant shadow in our lives. Violence in Southeast Asiaâ€”linked to historical atrocities in the Philippines, Korea, Japan, and Okinawaâ€”gave Asian Americans the languageâ€”to talk about their own experiences here in the United States. Asian American activists made frequent comparisons between the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and the use of napalm and other chemical weapons in Vietnam. But the mainstream peace movement, dominated by white liberals and colorblind socialists, was reluctant to adopt an explicitly anti-racist platform. Because it broadened the issues out beyond where they wanted to go, beyond what a lot of people wanted to deal with: Tired of being tokenized and dismissed by white peaceniks, Asian Americansâ€”along with Black, Chicano, and Indigenous activistsâ€”soon began to build an independent movement where they could interrogate the racism and colonialism of the war on their own terms. By reducing the number of U. For those whose primary objective had been to bring back the troops, there was no longer much to protest. We are gooks in the eyes of White Americans. We kill people who look like him! Activists at home also struggled with their complicated status as both victims and perpetrators of U. Cover art from the March issue of Gidra: An ex-soldier described the very real danger this mentality posed to Vietnamese women: They are in an all-male environment. There are women available. Those women are of another culture, another color, another society. What do you need to pay a lady for? You go down to the village and you take what you want. Asian American women recognized racist attitudes about Asian women as cheap hookers, exotic geisha girls, and communist spies because those same stereotypes had been weaponized to ban their immigrant grandmothers and call for the forced sterilization of their mothers in WWII concentration camps. They identified with the women of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia not only as Asians fighting Western imperialism, but as women living at the intersections of racism and sexism. Asian Americans worked to amplify the voices of women who had witnessed the effects of U. While Asian Americans were certainly not alone in protesting the Vietnam War, their shared racial background with the people of Southeast Asia made their motivations and perspectives unique within the anti-war movement. As a new generation grapples with the continuing legacy of American imperialism in Asiaâ€”threats of nuclear war with North Korea, the unrelenting growth of U. Anti-war rally in San Francisco, Photo by Ray Okamura, courtesy of the Gidra Collection. V, No 1 January End Your Racist War. The Rise of Asian America Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, The Asian American Movement Philadelphia: Temple University Press, Steve Louie, interview with Daryl J. Quoted in Chains of Babylon, The Misogyny of the Vietnam War. A Nation in Struggle.

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*Asian Pacific American Photographic Collection Visual Communications Archives Community activist Mike Murase at the first Asian American anti-war rally in Los Angeles,*

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