

Task 1:

Start by cutting out the cards and arrange them in chronological order. Next, use your knowledge of events to write the correct date in the box above each event.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov 1963 | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 1964 | <input type="checkbox"/> June 1965 | <input type="checkbox"/> April 1961 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov 1965 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 1964 | <input type="checkbox"/> March 1964 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nov 1964 | <input type="checkbox"/> May 1954 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 1968 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nov 1963 | <input type="checkbox"/> March 1965 | <input type="checkbox"/> Feb 1965 | <input type="checkbox"/> July 1967 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 1960 |

The Geneva Accords split North and South Vietnam at the 17 th Parallel, giving North to Ho Chi Minh and leaving the South supported by the US.	The National Liberation Front (with an armed force called the PLAF) is set up by North Vietnam in order to ensure the liberation of South Vietnam.	Two US ships are attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats. Congress pass the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution - legal justification to escalate involvement.	Johnson sends in the first US ground combat troops in order to support the bombing campaigns and carry out 'Search and Destroy' missions.
A US sponsored invasion of the Bay of Pigs in Cuba fails to remove Fidel Castro and his communist regime - humiliating Kennedy and the US.	Diem is assassinated in a CIA supported military coup. The MRC take control of South Vietnam under the leadership of General Minh.	Nine US servicemen and five helicopters are destroyed at Pleiku by a Vietcong attack. This prompts swift retaliation in the Flaming Dart bombing attack.	Operation Rolling Thunder begins with the aim to stop the spread of enemy supplies in Vietnam and encourage the North to enter peace talks.
President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.	Despite aid, 40% of the South Vietnamese countryside is reportedly under the control of communist forces, including various 'Strategic Hamlets'.	The Phoenix Program begins - this is a counterinsurgency mission using torture to find out locations of Vietcong bases and their tactics.	The Tet offensive sees a widespread attack on US bases during the Tet holiday. It is a US military victory, but also a psychological defeat.
General Minh is overthrown due to his 'neutralist' stance and replaced by General Khanh who is unpopular with South Vietnamese as he fully supports the US.	The first pitched battle between the US and NVA takes place at Ia Drang. Both sides learning the value of a war of attrition (11:1 death ratio in favour of the US).	Johnson wins a landslide victory in the Presidential Election showing public support for the escalation of US involvement in Vietnam after the Gulf of Tonkin.	

Task 2:

Match the acronym with the description

ARVN	The Military Assistance Command - Vietnam. This was originally set-up to provide US assistance to the ARVN in Vietnam and eventually became the command structure for all US forces in South Vietnam.
PLAF / VC	The South Vietnamese Army. Weak and corrupt despite support and training from the US. They suffered a humiliating defeat at the Battle of Ap Bac in 1961, and had failed to stop the spread of communism by 1964.
MACV	The North Vietnamese Army or People's Army of Vietnam had originally fought the French and now with Chinese and Soviet allies fought to free South Vietnam and unite Vietnam.
NLF	The People's Liberation Armed Front, also known as the Vietcong, were the military arm of the NLF. Most of the members were South Vietnamese insurgents.
PAVN / NVA	The National Liberation Front was established by North Vietnam to help secure the 'liberation' of South Vietnam from the corruption of Diem and to help create a united Vietnam.

Task 3:

Give examples of the tactics each side used.

NVA / VC	US/ARVN

Answers: task 1

May 1954	The Geneva Accords split North and South Vietnam at the 17 th Parallel, giving North to Ho Chi Minh and leaving the South supported by the US.
Dec 1960	The National Liberation Front (with an armed force called the PLAF) is set up by North Vietnam in order to ensure the liberation of South Vietnam.
April 1961	A US sponsored invasion of the Bay of Pigs in Cuba fails to remove Fidel Castro and his communist regime - humiliating Kennedy and the US.
Nov 1963	Diem is assassinated in a CIA supported military coup. The MRC take control of South Vietnam under the leadership of General Minh.
Nov 1963	President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.
Jan 1964	General Minh is overthrown due to his 'neutralist' stance and replaced by General Khanh who is unpopular with the South Vietnamese as he fully supports US
March 1964	Despite aid, 40% of the South Vietnamese countryside is reportedly under the control of communist forces, including various 'Strategic Hamlets'.
Aug 1964	Two US ships are attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats. Congress pass the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution - legal justification to escalate involvement.
Nov 1964	Johnson wins a landslide victory in the Presidential Election showing public support for the escalation of US involvement in Vietnam after the Gulf of Tonkin.
Feb 1965	Nine US servicemen and five helicopters are destroyed at Pleiku by a Vietcong attack. This prompts swift retaliation in the Flaming Dart bombing attack.
March 1965	Operation Rolling Thunder begins with the aim to stop the spread of enemy supplies in Vietnam and encourage the North to enter peace talks.
June 1965	Johnson sends in the first US ground combat troops in order to support the bombing campaigns and carry out 'Search and Destroy' missions.
Nov 1965	The first pitched battle between the US and NVA takes place at Ia Drang. Both sides learning the value of a war of attrition (11:1 death ratio in favour of the US).
July 1967	The Phoenix Program begins - this is a counterinsurgency mission using torture to find out locations of Vietcong bases and their tactics.
Jan 1968	The Tet offensive sees a widespread attack on US bases during the Tet holiday. It is a US military victory, but also a psychological defeat.

Answers: task 2

ARVN	The South Vietnamese Army. Weak and corrupt despite support and training from the US. They suffered a humiliating defeat at the Battle of Ap Bac in 1961, and had failed to stop the spread of communism by 1964.
PLAF / VC	The People's Liberation Armed Front, also known as the Vietcong, were the military arm of the NLF. Most of the members were South Vietnamese insurgents.
MACV	The Military Assistance Command - Vietnam. This was originally set-up to provide US assistance to the ARVN in Vietnam and eventually became the command structure for all US forces in South Vietnam.
NLF	The National Liberation Front was established by North Vietnam to help secure the 'liberation' of South Vietnam from the corruption of Diem and to help create a united Vietnam.
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Teaching notes**Task Objectives**

- Identify when key events involving the USA and Vietnam 1954-1968 took place
- Create a timeline of key events regarding the USA and Vietnam 1954-1968

Instructions

- Ask students to identify when the events in each box took place. This could be done this in pairs, or as a class task. Check answers. There is space above the cards for students to write the dates.
- Ask students to match the acronyms with the descriptions. Students then need to give examples of US/ARVN tactics and NVA/VC tactics in the boxes provided.
 - An interactive version of this matching task is available (to subscribers) on Teachit History (search '18319')
- Students can then get creative to use the information to create a timeline - level of creativity/detail dependent on student ability! You could provide big paper (e.g. A3 or A2, sugar paper or a giant paper roll), scissors, glue and felt-tip pens, to add to the creativity.