AN OUTLINE OF IMPORTANT DATES......

1945 -- end of Japanese occupation of Vietnam......

1954 -- BATTLE OF DIENBIENPHU...
end of French War in Indochina; Geneva Agreement provides for temporary division of Vietnam into north & south

1959 American combat personnel dispatched as "advisors" to Diem regime in South Vietnam

1960 National Liberation Front formed in South Vietnam, John F. Kennedy elected president

1961 By year's end, 18,000 U.S. "advisors in South Vietnam; Berlin Wall established....

1962 Kennedy sends Green Berets to Vietnam

1964 Gulf of Tonkin Resolution passed in Senate, authorizing U.S. military action against Vietnam. President Johnson launches first bombing raid on North Vietnam

1965 President Johnson sends combat troops to South Vietnam

1966 U.S. planes bomb Hanoi (the capital city in the North)

1967 U.S. planes hit Russian ships in a bombing raid of Haiphong Harbor in North Vietnam. By the end of the year, 535,000 U.S. troops were stationed in South Vietnam.


1969 Nixon begins secret bombing of Cambobia. Gallup Poll shows that 52% of American people believe it was a mistake to become militarily involved in Vietnam. Ho Chi Minh dies...

1970 April: U.S. invasion of Cambodia

1971 Nixon intensifies bombing of North Vietnam

1972 Heaviest B-52 bombing over both north and south Vietnam; Christmas terror bombing of Hanoi
Nixon visits China and the Soviet Union
The Committee to Re-elect the President (Nixon) stages a break-in at the Democratic National Committee Headquarters, beginning of the Watergate scandal.

1974 -- Nixon resigns as a result of the Watergate scandal; Gerald Ford becomes U.S. President

1975 April: Saigon regime topples after successful PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Government) PRG declares victory in the war.

1976 April: elections held for Vietnamese National Assembly, formally reunifying north and south....