

The turbulence of the 1960s paved the way for the election of Richard Nixon. Distraught at the violence and unrest of the nation, Nixon's "Silent Majority" voted loudly. But the turmoil of the decade continued with riots and generational conflicts, and, despite the success of Apollo 11 and Nixon's historic trip to China, the era ended in the disgrace of Watergate and the fall of Saigon.

The Century: Approaching the Apocalypse (1971-1975) QUESTIONS

1. What did America accomplish in 1969 that JFK had promised at the beginning of the decade?
2. Whose presidency began in January, 1969? Describe the inauguration. Why were was America so divided?
3. What is the "Silent Majority"? Contrast that with the counter-culture.
4. Why did the movie "Easy Rider" symbolize the divide in America?
5. What sparked protests in May of 1970? What happened at Kent State? How did America respond to the demonstrations?
6. Why did the "hard hats" attack the protesters in NYC? How did the country respond?
7. How was the prisoner revolt at Attica prison symbolic of the divide in America?
8. What were the feelings of American soldiers in Vietnam by the 1970s? Contrast that with the enemy.
9. Why did many Vietnam veterans protest the war?
10. How did Nixon change diplomacy with China and the U.S.S.R? What impact does this have on the Vietnamese?
11. How was the end of the Vietnam War treated in the U.S.? How did soldiers returning from the war feel?
12. How were the POW's treated when they returned? Why was this a high point in the Nixon presidency?
13. What were some of the things the Nixon Administration was involved in that shocked the American people?
14. What impact did Watergate have on the Nixon Administration? Spiro Agnew?
15. How did the fall of Vietnam symbolize the end of an era in the United States?

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