



NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF THE MARINE CORPS™

1954-1975: IN THE AIR, ON LAND AND SEA

Vietnam War Gallery Worksheet

This worksheet will help you better understand the role of the Marine Corps in confronting the threat of communism in Southeast Asia.

START. Begin at the entrance to the Vietnam War Gallery on the first floor of the museum.

1. **True or False.** Vietnam was the United States' longest war.
2. The first Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) landed in Vietnam in _____ (year).
3. 450,000 Marines, including _____ women, served in Vietnam. These Marines suffered over 66,000 casualties. _____ of the names on the *Vietnam Veterans Memorial* in Washington, DC belong to a Marine.



4. Explain the **Domino Theory** first proclaimed by President Eisenhower in the 1950s.

5. How did events in the **Gulf of Tonkin** in August 1964 lead to increased American involvement in Vietnam?

Watch the video on the belly of the A-4E Skyhawk to answer question 6.

6. Vietnam was America's first _____ war.

7. To whom is the **Leftwich Trophy** awarded each year?

8. What was the mission of the "Recon" Marines in Vietnam?

9. What rifle (pictured below) replaced the M14 as the basic Marine shoulder arm during the Vietnam War?



10. Explain how Marines used both the M-134 mini gun and the M18A1 Claymore mine in Vietnam.

11. How did the Marines' **CAP (Combined Action Program)** patrols attempt to win the "hearts and minds" of Vietnamese civilians?



12. The most common breed of dog used by Marines in Vietnam was the German shepherd. How did these “War Dogs” assist Marines?

13. A massive communist offensive (known as the _____ Offensive) erupted across Vietnam on 30 January _____, shattering a cease fire announced for Tet, the national holiday. Much of the fighting focused in and around the city of _____, the ancient imperial capital of Vietnam.

14. How did Navy Corpsmen and Navy Chaplains support Marines during the Vietnam War?



15. Lance Corporal Charles “Chuck” Mawhinney, a Marine scout-sniper, had _____ confirmed enemy kills and _____ probable kills.

16. As you exit the rear of the Purple Foxes’ CH-46 helicopter into the **Hill 881 South** exhibit, describe what you see, hear, and feel. What do you think Marines fighting on this hill experienced?



17. The 77-day siege of the isolated Marine base at _____ by 2 NVA (North Vietnamese Army) divisions was the longest battle in the nation’s longest war.

18. What was the significance of **Operation Dewey Canyon** in 1969? What was unique about the 122mm Soviet gun captured during this operation?



19. At the end of **Operation Frequent Wind**, Master Sergeant _____ was the last Marine to leave Vietnam. He carried with him the United States Embassy’s American flag. On the map at left, circle the city from which the last Americans departed Vietnam in April 1975.

20. What was the total number of *fatalities* suffered by the Marine Corps in Vietnam?

7,880 10,965 13,089 16,126

21. What was the total number of *combat casualties* suffered by the Marine Corps in Vietnam?

27,456 39,490 55,287 64,481

Exit the Vietnam Gallery and re-enter the *Legacy Walk* to answer the final question.

22. The Bell UH-1 Iroquois (Huey) served in the Vietnam War as a troop transport, aerial _____, flying command post, and _____. The helicopter suspended from the ceiling above you is the actual Huey flown by Captain Stephen Pless. Captain Pless earned the _____ for bravery under fire. He was the only Marine aviator during the Vietnam War to earn this award.

National Museum of the Marine Corps

Education Department
 18900 Jefferson Davis Highway
 Triangle, Virginia 22172
<http://www.usmcmuseum.org>

This worksheet may be reproduced by teachers only for educational purposes.