

TOPIC 3 – EXPERIENCE OF WAR

Topic Overview

Topic 3 highlights the role of North Dakota and its citizens during wartime. It includes primary sources that will help you understand how U.S. military actions overseas affected the people of North Dakota.

Topic Objectives

- As a result of the study of Topic 3, you will be able to
 - Analyze and interpret primary documents.
 - Explore the general mood and response of North Dakotans when confronted with the realities of war.
 - Recognize the contributions of North Dakota individuals and groups in the war effort.

ND Content Standards

- 8.1.2
- 8.4.1

Common Core Standards

- RH 2
- RH 5
- WHST 2

Topic Activities

- Organizing Data

Organizing Data

Read about World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War; then place each of the following facts under the appropriate heading. (Hint: 10 facts for each.)

- WASPS flew military airplanes on dangerous missions.
- The United States was in a “cold war” with the Soviet Union at this time.
- Senator Gerald Nye of North Dakota opposed U.S. entry into this war.
- This war was fought in a former French colony.
- Pat McLaughlin wrote about being saved by his cousin, who had been killed two days before he saved McLaughlin’s life.
- 2,600 North Dakota National guard soldiers served.
- Peaceful protests against this war were held at North Dakota college campuses.
- This country was divided into two parts at the 17th parallel.
- When the United States entered this war, it was recovering from the Great Depression.
- North Dakota Governor William Guy initially supported this war but later called for U.S. troops to pull out.
- 1,939 North Dakotans died in this war.
- Saigon, the capital, fell to Communist forces.
- The United States tried to remain neutral when this war began.
- The North Dakota Legislature passed a resolution asking congress to withdraw all troops.
- 37,000 U.S. soldiers died in this war.
- Initially, the United States sent advisors to this country to help train the army.
- More than 58,000 North Dakotans enlisted in military service during this war.
- Woodrow Wilson Keeble earned the Congressional Medal of Honor.
- Japanese planes attacked a U.S. naval base.
- The North Dakota Farmers’ Union did not oppose this war even though many of its members did.
- The United States ended military involvement in 1973.
- The United States fought against Germany, Italy, and Japan.
- The Truman Doctrine was a U.S. policy to limit Soviet and Chinese communism in developing countries.
- The war ended in 1953 with no clear solution to the conflict.
- The enemy could not decode messages sent between U.S. military units by Lakota “code talkers,” who sent messages in the Lakota language.
- The nation was reunited under communism in 1976.
- More than 58,000 U.S. soldiers and nurses died in this war.
- A veteran of this war is honored in the North Dakota Theodore Roosevelt Roughrider Hall of Fame.
- Today, this nation is still divided at the 38th parallel.
- This war was considered a military failure for the United States.

Organizing Data (continued)

World War II

The Korean War

The Vietnam War

