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91234



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NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AO!

SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 2 History, 2015

91234 Examine how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society

9.30 a.m. Friday 20 November 2015
Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Examine how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.	Examine in-depth how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.	Comprehensively examine how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

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Merit

TOTAL

05

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INSTRUCTIONS

Write an essay, using the essay task below, on ONE significant historical event that has affected New Zealand society.

Your essay should include an introduction and a conclusion, and use detailed supporting evidence.

You should provide context for your discussion by adding a detailed paragraph(s) describing the historical event and its background.

Write your chosen historical event in the box below.

Plan your essay on page 3. Begin your essay on page 4.

ESSAY TASK

Examine how a significant historical event affected New Zealanders. You must consider one or more of the following impacts:

- social
- political
- economic
- strategic/military.

Historical event: NZ's Involvement in Vietnam.

PLANNING

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Description of the historical event and its background

ANZUS - 1951
 Geneva Conference - 1954
 Elections - 1956
 Involvement - 1964-1975
 Nation-wide riots - 1967
 Tet Offensive - 1968
 Withdrawal - 1969
 Complete - 1973

Effects on New Zealanders (social,
political, economic, military/strategic)

Explanation/Evidence

Social - psychological
 Political - government policies
 Social - Anti-war movement
 Medical
~~Social~~ - physical impediment

Begin your essay here:

New Zealand's involvement in the Vietnam war, although seemingly small, was of huge significance. Between 1964-1975 New Zealand provided medical assistance, army engineers, combat troops and other personnel to assist our ^{allies} ~~ally~~ America and Australia in the fight against communism in Vietnam. ~~The~~ ^{Our} contribution was significant as it had many social, political, and medical effects on the soldiers, as well as the country back home, at the time and continuing today such as the governmental policies, the anti-war movement and the physical and psychological affects that the war had on the soldiers.

The initial cause of the Vietnam war was the Geneva conference which took place in 1954 between France, Britain, Russia and the United States. These four great powers gathered to discuss and resolve the government dispute in Vietnam. Their solution was to divide the country into two: the communist North led by Ho Chi Minh, and the democratic South led by Diem. Originally the conference planned to have elections held two years later to determine the governmental fate

of Vietnam, but upon realising he would lose severely to Ho Chi Minh, ~~the~~ Diem refused to participate, thus leading to a huge outbreak of war as both Ho Chi Minh and Diem fought for complete control of the nation.

The US were involved in the Vietnam war between 1964-1973. During this time, they were simultaneously fighting the bigger 'Cold War' with the Soviet Union who backed communism. The US feared the effects of the 'Domino Theory' in which countries one by one would fall to communism, so therefore, North Vietnam employing communism made them very anxious and thus contributed to their increase ~~on~~ of involvement in the war. Between 1964-1973 the US sent 9 million troops over to Vietnam. They ~~to~~ employed heavily destructive and devastating techniques such as the ~~the~~ ~~Rolling~~ 'Operation Rolling Thunder' in which they dropped 643,000 tonnes of bombs onto North Vietnam (triple the amount of bombs dropped on all of Europe throughout the entire of WW2). They also dropped toxic chemicals such as 'Napalm' and the infamous 'Agent Orange' which had hugely devastating effects that can still be seen today. Despite their brutal tactics,

the US found that they had greatly underestimated their opponents, and upon realising that their chances of winning were slim he decided to withdraw their soldiers from Vietnam.

In 1969, the President of the US made the call to withdraw their soldiers from Vietnam. Massive anti-war protests back in America contributed to this decision, along with the lack of progression in the war. Many soldiers in Vietnam were confused about their role in the war and questioned their government's agenda behind their involvement. Some soldiers had turned to drugs such as heroin and marijuana to cope with the trauma of war. These drugs greatly compromised their combat ability and may have contributed to their overall loss. By 1973, all American troops had been withdrawn from Vietnam, but before they left they had undergone a process called 'Vietnamisation' in which they trained the South Vietnamese armies to beat the North. Despite these efforts, North Vietnam led by Ho Chi Minh won the war in 1975, and a communist regime was ~~cast over~~ ^{regime was} cast over Vietnam.

In 1951 New Zealand signed a treaty with America, and Australia called the ANZUS Treaty. This treaty ensured the protection of New Zealand by the US, but also meant that they were obliged to assist the US if they went to war. So when they fell into war in 1964 they immediately requested NZ's assistance. At first, NZ was reluctant and initially only sent a civilian surgical team. But ongoing pressure from the US and contributions made by Australia led them to sending approximately 3500 NZ ^{personnel} ~~personnel~~. Out of these 3500, 37 were killed and 182 were officially recorded as wounded.

New Zealand's involvement had many effects on the lives of ~~the~~ Kiwi's back home, including the political affect of the changing of government policies. National was in office in 1964 when New Zealand's involvement began and they as a party were pro-war, this being why NZ troops were sent to Vietnam. Whereas Labour were strongly anti-war which was largely supported by much of society. Although their anti-war stance wasn't enough to secure them a place in office (with National being reelected in 1969 and 1986), their change in foreign policies and other policies were very contrasting to those of National's.

This was the first time that the two major political parties had such vastly opposing policies and so New Zealand voters were given a much wider range of choice between the policies that they would like than ever before. These major differences ^{in government policies} would continue on for years to come therefore making this a significant long-term political effect.

Another short-term social affect was the anti-war movement that was taking place in New Zealand throughout the duration of the war. In 1967 there were huge nation-wide protests taking place in New Zealand. The anti-war movement caused a huge divide in New Zealand society between the pro-war groups - who were typically older generations who were extremely patriotic - and the anti-war protestors - who tended to be younger generations. This caused an old vs. young divide which was widely known as "doves vs. Hawks". This was of great significance as this was the first time New Zealand had seen such controversy and the huge divide in society had big impacts on people individually and families with differing views.

A short-term medical/social affect that the war had on New Zealand was the psychological damage that the soldiers suffered whilst away and upon their return. After returning back from Vietnam the soldiers expected a warm welcome but were instead treated with only hostility. Whilst they were away people had begun to blame them for the inhumane ways that the Vietnamese civilians were being treated. Abuse was hurled at the soldiers as people called them 'baby killers.' Meanwhile the government was so embarrassed by their participation in the war that they attempted to ignore the soldiers as if the war had never happened. This left them bitter and confused, and alone to suffer through psychological damage they had obtained after witnessing the horrors of war. This was greatly detrimental to the health and emotional well-being of the soldiers and left many negative impacts on their lives.

The final long term medical affect that ~~the~~ ^{New} Zealand's involvement in the war had was the physical damage unknowingly caused to the soldiers which were then

passed on to the soldiers' children. Many seemingly healthy soldiers suffered ~~from the~~ ^{devastating} effects from the toxic chemicals that were dropped on Vietnam such as "Agent Orange."

These toxic chemicals caused genetic mutations in the DNA which could then be passed onto children. Upon their arrival home, many soldiers had great difficulty conceiving children, and of those who did, many suffered from miscarriages or still-births. When children were born, many had physical disabilities due to the genetic abnormalities that were passed on from their parents. Genetic mutations and infertility ~~due to the impact of toxic chemicals~~ ~~still affect~~ due to contact with toxic chemicals, still affect ^{some} ~~many~~ families today, therefore also making these physical effects of the war a significant.

In conclusion, New Zealand's involvement in the war, although small, contributed greatly to the war effort for the time that we were involved, sending 3500 troops, medical teams, army engineers and more. The ^{Vietnam} ~~war~~ war had greatly significant effects on the lives of New Zealanders in the form of political, social, and medical including government policies, the anti-war movement, and

Extra space if required.
Write the question number(s) if applicable.

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QUESTION
NUMBER

the psychological and physical effects that the war had on soldiers. The Vietnam War is still a controversial subject that remains talked about today and therefore it was a very significant and memorable event to New Zealanders.

- Background to how New Zealand was involved in the Vietnam War given, using evidence to support ideas
 - Looks at a range of factors which affected New Zealanders, and uses evidence to support ideas, at times this does have some limitations
-

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ESSAY TASK

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- social
- political
- economic
- strategic/military.

Historical event:

Vietnam War

into politics

TV

Tim

broken

history very well documented

Refined shape NZ coming out of war to combat

Arguable Vietnam and its veterans forgotten over WWI and II and how Vietnam

No longer hegemony ideological energy

PLANNING

also looking for trading with America.

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Description of the historical event and its background

- ANZUS, SEATO agreements → not much choice to join
- initially marginal team and engineers → combat on America's increasing pressure.
- Overall ~~no~~ ^{only} 3500 served, 37 killed and many wounded
- still continues to affect NZ's society and its people.

Effects on New Zealanders (social, political, economic, military/strategic)

Explanation/Evidence

having to look after

551

Families

quiet of New involvement (conflict with anti) → stress → anxiety. Not much govt support, relied on kindness of family mem and neigh.

Protestors divided old vs young, mostly young (more educated) addition to other movement: Apartheid, women rights.

not much effect on govt policy, but showed how important the event was to them. → rising own safety

Soldiers on return

3500 → 37 not much recognition.

very disappointed.

political

stronger alliance with US
broke away from Britain.

Long Term

Soldiers + Families

- Agent Orange = cancer, birth defects.
Govt = no 20 years later, former com produced battle maps = NZ was in AO spread perimeter.

MOU - 2006, 30 years later
MOU = govt support to children, Crown apology and homecoming (Tribute OR)

Still affects now = children/grand of veterans cancer, child defects

Political

helped NZ's foreign policy to be more independent
refused combat Iraq.

Begin your essay here:

Vietnam War was one of the conflicts which took place in Vietnam during the Cold War. America and its supporting nations backed the South Vietnam against the North with communist influence. There was increasing fear of 'Domino Theory' which meant countries in East Asia falling under communist one by one and it is arguable that this had direct potential danger to New Zealand. New Zealand could no longer rely on its traditional ally after seeing Singapore get attacked and believed they needed own force and other allies in order to protect the safety. New Zealand joined Alliance with America and signed two major agreements, ANZUS and SEATO which meant either of them would help out one another in ~~case~~^{need} of help. However when America initially asked for NZ's New Zealand's support in Vietnam, the New Zealand government was very reluctant. New Zealand sent surgical teams and engineers at the beginning, but eventually ended up sending combat troops after America's increasing pressure. and this changed some of the ~~lives~~ lives of New Zealanders ~~very~~ significantly. In short term, Vietnam War affected socially: families and protesters, militarily and politically. Also in long term soldiers & families and politically were greatly affected by Vietnam War.

In short term affects, ~~that~~ the war had huge impact on the families of the veterans. Families, especially the wives of the veterans had to keep ~~just~~ quiet about their involvement ^{with} the ~~war~~ 'unpopular war'. This

was to avoid any potential conflicts with the anti-war movement. They were often stressed and affected their mental well-being, some even got anxiety as result of it. These ~~were~~ wives of the veterans got little if any support from the government, so they had to rely on kindness of other family members and ~~the~~ neighbours with assistance in economically and other house-work. ~~One of the wives who became a vi.~~ Lynne Hawkins is one of the wives who became a widow during the war wrote a poem, it goes "New Zealand doesn't give a damn unless you fall during the war, but for a word on gravestone that says you fought in Vietnam, not bullets, not bombs but it was silent death, agent which attacked out from the sky." ^{and} This shows how many family members ~~felt~~ felt.

Another short-term which ~~affected~~ ⁱⁿ affect which protesters were greatly affected also. There were thousands of people marching on the streets across the country, opposing to New Zealand's involvement in the war. There were several major reasons for the protest and one of them was television. Vietnam War was the first ~~inter~~ international conflict to be broadcasted on civilian television. Through television people could see the war and what was happening. It was also an eye opener as it showed the true reality of war and the tactics that were ^{being} used which were affecting innocent civilians. ^{and people also added for more} ~~Protesting~~ ^{indignation} also clearly showed the division between younger generation and older generation. Protesters were vastly younger generation of New Zealand who had much more

education than the older generation. However protesting didn't have much effect on government's decision making as New Zealand government continued with its current policy. But it showed how important the event was to them that they spent a lot of time and even put their safety on risk.

Also it had significant impact on the soldiers as over 3500 professional military personnel served resulting 37 deaths and countless wounds. But this wasn't it. Upon the return from Vietnam, no homecoming or parades were granted to the veterans. Some soldiers recall the most painful thing was ^{back} ~~at~~ home where no one recognised ~~by~~ my sacrifice except my families. Most veterans recall homecoming 'uneventful at best, disappointing or upsetting at worst'. There evidence shows that these veterans didn't get much recognition upon their homecoming and how disappointed they were. Another soldier recalls "The very last order from my commander was given on the plane just before we landed in ~~the~~ New Zealand. He said 'Lads go straight home and get changed, and don't tell anyone where you were'. We were very confused but quickly ~~ret~~ realised." These factors would have affected the soldiers greatly mentally.

~~Finally~~ In the final short term affects, the Vietnam War had some positive effects politically where New Zealand became a closer ally with America and successfully broke away from Britain showing New Zealand was becoming more independent which means Vietnam War helped New Zealand to become more independent. And becoming closer with America New Zealand's economy grew rapidly which improved the lives of New Zealanders.

In long term affects, some of them still continues to affect many New Zealanders today, almost 50 years after the withdrawal. Soldiers and families family members accused 'Agent Orange' for the cause of various types of cancer and birth defects. Massey University (NZ) proved that chemicals used in Agent Orange could in fact cause cancer and disrupt the DNA cycles, resulting birth defects. ^{But NZ} Government announced that New Zealand troops were not in the area when Agent Orange was used. However, about 20 years after the war, former New Zealand Commander during the Vietnam War produced number of battle maps. From one of those maps, it clearly proved New Zealand troops were in fact in the area where Agent Orange was used. ~~The effect~~ Result of Agent Orange is very significant as the veteran himself cannot do much work or activity with cancer, so other family members are having to help them which also affects them. Also amount of money that is required to treat cancer could possibly bankrupt the family. This would be same for the child born with ~~hand~~ handicap as their ~~or~~ parents will have to look after them. And this also affects these parents emotionally as they would think it's their fault and the child has to live with that for the rest of their lives with people around them and the society slowly isolating them because of their physical difficulties. This will continue to affect the families of the veterans for decades as the effect of Agent Orange could possibly last that long. This is also significant to the country as well as the families as New Zealand is having to take care of these people which costs New Zealand money, time and

people.

In 2006, the government signed MOU with the veterans and their families which stated the government would support the children of veterans, formal Crown Apology and an official homecoming of the veterans called 'Tribute 08'. The ~~offic~~ formal Crown Apology was delivered by Helen Clark, the prime minister at the time who was also an active member of the anti-war protest movement during the ~~war~~ Vietnam War. Like Helen Clark, many protestors from Vietnam war moved onto becoming politicians, some very successful e.g. Helen Clark. after the war. This also helped New Zealand develop more making the event more significant.

~~The war helped~~ It is quite clear that the war helped New Zealand's foreign policy to be more independent later on. A famous example would be when America asked New Zealand for combat support in Iraq but New Zealand simply refused. ~~By hopping off the boat led by America who seemed to like to care about every~~ By going against America's will, New Zealand earned some kind of respect from the other countries. Now ~~then~~ New Zealand is well trusted when it's the matter of peace. Like this Vietnam War helped shape New Zealand and ~~the~~ New Zealanders coming out of the 20th century. America no longer has hegemony over New Zealand and America ~~remains~~ remains as an ideological enemy to many New Zealanders.

Like state ~~in the~~ ~~for~~ throughout the essay, Vietnam war ~~had~~ was a significant event which had great affects on New Zealanders in long term and short term affects, including social affects (panics, protests), military, politically and economically. It is clear that the event is significant as it continues to affect many New Zealanders ~~at~~ now. For instance we are taught about Vietnam war in schools.

Even though this was a ^{historically} significant event, it is arguable that Vietnam war and its veterans are forgotten over WWI, WWII and their veterans.

- Gives brief background to chosen historical event
 - Looks at a range of factors both short and long term and how these affected New Zealanders
 - Evidence is limited in some areas
-