

# CHAPTER 40

## The Stalemated Seventies, 1968–1980

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### 1. Stagnating Economy (pp. 946–948)

a. Look at the chart on p. 947, which shows that the median family income went from \$10,000 in 1970 to \$50,000 in 2000. \*\*\* Given this dollar increase, how can the authors say on p. 946 that the baby-boom generation faced the prospect of lower living standards than their parents? How is this also explained in the graph?

b. A contributing cause of the decline of optimism in the 1970s was the end of the postwar boom and the onset of economic stagnation accompanied by inflationary price increases. What do the authors mean by the following cited causes of the economic downturn?

(1) End to “productivity” gains:

(2) Oil price rises:

(3) Vietnam/Great Society spending with no tax increase:

(4) Foreign economic competition:

### 2. Nixon and Vietnam (pp. 948–950)

a. To quiet the public uproar over Vietnam after taking office in early 19\_\_\_\_, Nixon sought “to win the war by other means” by instituting a policy called “\_\_\_\_\_,” designed to withdraw U.S. troops gradually and turn the fighting over to the local South Vietnamese. \*\*\* If you had been a citizen at the time listening to Nixon’s plan for the first time, what might have been your reaction?

b. Page 949 describes the structure of the fighting force as well as the day-to-day nature of fighting in Vietnam (including the 1968 massacre of villagers at \_\_\_\_\_). \*\*\* What aspects of fighting this war impressed you? How do you think it was different from other wars?

c. In April of 1970, when most thought Nixon was pulling troops out, he announced that he was actually sending U.S. troops into neighboring \_\_\_\_\_ (country) to “clean out” communist sanctuaries there. This caused a

storm of protest, highlighted by the Ohio National Guard firing on a group of demonstrators at \_\_\_\_\_ University; the repeal by the Senate of the 1964 Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution; and the leaking in 1971 of the top secret \_\_\_\_\_ Papers, which detailed many of the Vietnam follies under Kennedy and Johnson. \*\*\* Theoretically at least, Nixon had the opportunity when he took office to reverse completely the unpopular Vietnam policies of his predecessor. Why do you think he did not do so?

**3. Russia and China (pp. 950–951)** Historians generally give the anticommunist Nixon credit for establishing an improved dialog with China and the USSR. This policy of Nixon and his foreign policy advisor Henry A. \_\_\_\_\_ was called \_\_\_\_\_ (French word). Nixon made a historic journey of friendship to Beijing in early 197\_\_\_\_ and followed with a trip to Moscow a few months later. Resulting from this policy, two agreements (known by the letters \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_) were signed with the USSR and were designed to limit the spread of the nuclear arms race. Nevertheless, loopholes were found and, by the end of the 1980s, the two sides had more than \_\_\_\_\_ thousand nuclear warheads aimed at each other. \*\*\* What do the authors mean on p. 951 when they summarize the objective of Nixon’s strategy as “checkmating and co-opting the two great communist powers”?

**4. Nixon and Domestic Policy (pp. 951–955)**

a. Nixon didn’t like the liberal Supreme Court he had inherited. It was headed by Chief Justice Earl \_\_\_\_\_. This court had moved aggressively to protect or establish individual rights in areas such as birth control, criminal defendant’s rights, free press, school prayer, and reapportionment. In disagreeing with these liberal interpretations and favoring a “strict construction” of the Constitution, Nixon was arguing very much in the same way as \_\_\_\_\_ (Hamilton or Jefferson). Nixon appointed a new Chief Justice, Warren E. \_\_\_\_\_, who actually continued the trend of fairly liberal rulings, including the landmark 1974 case of *Roe v. \_\_\_\_\_*, which legalized abortion. Pick TWO of the Warren Court cases described on p. 952 and summarize their importance.

(1)

(2)

b. In many areas, Nixon actually expanded Great Society concepts and programs. How did his \_\_\_\_\_ Plan of 1969 actually change and expand Johnson’s concept of “affirmative action.” \*\*\* What do you think of the charge that this new concept actually constituted “reverse discrimination”?

(1) Expanded “affirmative action”:

(2) “Reverse discrimination”:

c. The environmental movement got off the ground in the early 1970s, activated by books like \_\_\_\_\_ by Rachel Carson and the establishment in 1970 of the \_\_\_\_\_ (EPA). In 1972, proclaiming that peace in Vietnam was “at hand,” Nixon easily defeated the \_\_\_\_\_

Democratic antiwar candidate George \_\_\_\_\_. After the election, he ordered the most massive air bombardment of the war on North Vietnam, eventually earning what he called “peace with \_\_\_\_\_,” but which the authors call “a thinly disguised retreat.”

5. **Watergate (pp. 955–957)** The series of scandals called Watergate revolved around Nixon’s paranoia about his political “enemies” and his obsession with reelection in 1972. They began with a bungled burglary of the Democratic Party headquarters in the \_\_\_\_\_ apartment complex in Washington, but soon spread to include exposure of a huge number of “dirty tricks” perpetrated by the White House “\_\_\_\_\_ unit,” created to plug up “leaks” of confidential information. A Senate committee headed by aging Senator Sam \_\_\_\_\_ held televised hearings on the matter that involved detailed accusations about Nixon’s direct involvement in the “cover-up” of relevant material, especially from former White House lawyer John \_\_\_\_\_ III. \*\*\* Look at the cartoon on p. 957 and “Examining the Evidence” on p. 961. How do they sum up what led to Nixon’s ultimate downfall?

6. **Nixon’s Downfall (pp. 957–960)**

a. Nixon’s battered presidency was further tarnished with the revelations about fourteen months of secret bombings of the neutral country of \_\_\_\_\_. Congress attempted to re-assert its authority with the \_\_\_\_\_ Powers Act of 1973. In the Middle East, the United States supported \_\_\_\_\_ in the October War of 1973 and paid the price when Arab countries placed an \_\_\_\_\_ on oil shipments to the United States. Later, through agreement within the Organization of \_\_\_\_\_ Countries (OPEC), oil exporters were able to quadruple the price for their product. What do the authors mean on p. 958 when they call this “the end of an era?”

b. When it became clear that the evidence against Nixon would eventually lead to his \_\_\_\_\_ by the House and conviction by the Senate, Nixon became the only president ever to resign, on August 8, 197\_\_\_\_. \*\*\* Any final thoughts on Nixon and Watergate? Do you agree with the authors’ upbeat conclusion on p. 960 that the United States had given the world “an impressive demonstration of self-discipline and self-government”?

7. **Ford and Vietnam Endgame (pp. 960–965)** Gerald R. \_\_\_\_\_ was the country’s only non-elected president. He had been appointed only the year before to replace the disgraced Vice President Spiro T. \_\_\_\_\_, who had himself resigned after being charged with corruption. In a controversial move, Ford began by giving a legal pardon to his predecessor Richard \_\_\_\_\_. He was also involved in signing the \_\_\_\_\_ (city) accords, which set international standards for governments to follow in their human rights policies. The North Vietnamese finally overran the South in early 197\_\_\_\_ and ended a conflict that had cost America \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion, \_\_\_\_\_ dead, and \_\_\_\_\_ wounded. The authors conclude that Vietnam caused America to lose face, self-esteem, military confidence, and much of its economic muscle. Looking at the section on “The Vietnamese,” how many came to America after the war? Why did they come? How were they treated here?

**8. Feminism and Affirmative Action (pp. 963, 966–967, 968–969)**

a. In the section on “The Feminists” (pp. 966–967), the authors link the “second wave” of feminists to the lessons learned by activists in the civil rights movement. They date the “second wave” from the 1963 publication of *The \_\_\_\_\_ Mystique* by Betty \_\_\_\_\_ and formation of the \_\_\_\_\_ for Women (NOW). Feminist gains were made in 1972 with Title \_\_\_\_\_, which guaranteed equal educational treatment and spurred a revolution in women’s athletics, and the 1973 Supreme Court case of \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_, which guaranteed abortion rights based on a woman’s “right to privacy.” But splits between radicals and moderates caused failure of the \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment in 1982. Read the text of this proposed amendment on p. 966. \*\*\* What do you think was the BEST argument of opponents such as Phyllis \_\_\_\_\_ AGAINST passage of this amendment?

b. School busing to achieve integration and affirmative action in the workplace and college admissions were trimmed back in the 1970s. Who was Allan Bakke and what was the Supreme Court’s ruling in his suit to be admitted to the medical school at U.C. Davis?

(1) Bakke:

(2) Ruling:

**9. Carter Administration, 1977–1981 (pp. 967, 970–975)**

a. Ford lost the bicentennial 197\_\_\_\_ election to Democrat Jimmy Carter, the ex-governor of \_\_\_\_\_. Carter seemed like a squeaky-clean outsider to people tired of “Washington politicians.” Carter’s biggest diplomatic success was the 1978 Camp David agreement between Egyptian President Anwar \_\_\_\_\_ and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem \_\_\_\_\_ that helped to set the Middle East peace process in motion. He stressed human rights issues and doing the “right thing” internationally, as reflected in his agreement to end U.S. control of the \_\_\_\_\_ Canal by the year 2000. Carter’s biggest problem was the ailing economy, caused at least in part by high inflation rates, in turn caused in part by the increasing cost of imported oil. Look at the chart on p. 972. The inflation rate (average annual percentage rate change in prices) was \_\_\_\_\_ percent in 1980. If you needed \$50 to buy a pair of shoes in 1970, you would need \$\_\_\_\_\_ in 1980 and \$\_\_\_\_\_ in 2000. What do the authors mean on p. 971 when they say that the “\_\_\_\_\_ shocks” of the 1970s emphasized the nation’s new “economic interdependence”?

b. On the Cold War front, Carter tried to continue moves, together with the USSR, to reduce strategic nuclear weapons with the \_\_\_\_\_ II Treaty—never ratified by the Senate. Relations with the USSR cooled significantly, though, when the Soviets invaded \_\_\_\_\_ in December 1979. In retaliation, Carter decided to boycott the Olympics scheduled for Moscow in 1980. (Of course, the Soviets then boycotted the Los Angeles Olympics four years later!) Carter’s most embarrassing and lingering problem involved about 400 American hostages taken by Muslim militants in \_\_\_\_\_ and not released until after Carter left office. The authors conclude that this incident seemed to symbolize the country’s sense of “helplessness and even incompetence” that had set in with the Vietnam war.

# CHAPTER 40 TERM SHEET

## The Stalemated Seventies

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### Pages 946–948

Productivity

Inflation

### Pages 948–951

“Vietnamization” (1969)

“Nixon Doctrine” (1969)

Vietnam moratorium (1969)

My Lai massacre (1968)

Cambodian invasion (1970)

Kent State/Jackson State (1970)

Tonkin Gulf Resolution repeal (1970)

Twenty-sixth Amendment (1971)

Daniel Ellsberg

Pentagon Papers (1971)

### Pages 950–951

Henry Kissinger

China opening (1971)

*Détente* policy

Antiballistic missile (ABM) treaty (1972)

Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) (1972)

### Pages 951–955

Earl Warren

Liberal Warren Court decisions

*Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965)

*Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)

*Miranda* (1966)

Warren E. Berger (1969)

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Philadelphia plan (1969)

“Reverse discrimination”

Environmental Protection Agency (1970)

Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA)

Rachel Carson/*Silent Spring* (1962)

Clean Air and Endangered Species Acts (1970)

Nixon’s “southern strategy”

Sen. George McGovern (1972)

Vietnam pullout (1973)

**Pages 955–957**

CREEP

Watergate break-in (June 1972)

White House “plumbers unit”

Sen. Sam Ervin

John Dean III

Spiro Agnew

Gerald Ford

Archibald Cox

“Saturday night massacre” (1973)

**Pages 957–960**

Cambodian bombings (1973)

Pol Pot

War Powers Act (1973)

October War (1973)

Arab Oil Embargo (1974)

“Energy crisis”

Alaska pipeline

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

Articles of impeachment

Nixon resignation (August 8, 1974)

**Pages 960–965**

Nixon pardon (1974)

Helsinki accords (1975)

Vietnam defeat (1975)

**Pages 963, 966–967, 968–969**

Title IX (1972)

Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

*Roe v. Wade* (1973)

Phyllis Schlafly

Betty Freidan

National Organization for Women (NOW)

*Milliken v. Bradley* (1974)

“Reverse discrimination”

*Bakke* case (1978)

*United States v. Wheeler* (1978)

**Pages 967, 970–975**

Jimmy Carter (1976)

Department of Energy

“Human rights”

Camp David accords (1978)

Return of Panama Canal

Mohammed Reza Pahlevi

Brezhnev and SALT II negotiations (1979)

Iranian hostage crisis (1979–1980)

Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini

Afghanistan invasion and Olympic boycott (1980)