

U.S. Involvement and Escalation

1.

Approved of Johnson's policies

Made decision to escalate

Advised Johnson on escalation

Requested troops

Approved Johnson's policies

Advised Johnson on escalation

2.

-Willingness to pay any price for victory

-Bombings; war of attrition

-Preventing Vietcong support by South Vietnam's rural population

-Search-and-destroy missions, air cavalry

-Hit-and-run ambushes; booby traps and land mines

-Superior weaponry

-Knowledge of terrain

-Ability to blend in with civilians

-The use of napalm and Agent Orange

-Surprise attacks; guerrilla warfare

3.

-Brought the war into U.S. living rooms; contradicted the Johnson administration's optimism

-Contributed to the average American's growing doubts about the war: Americans' views "I want out, but don't want to give in."

-The costs of the war led to an increase in inflation and taxes, as well as to a reduction in funding for Great Society programs