**CHAPTER 31 Vocab significance**

Lee Harvey Oswald is HI because he killed JFK and set off a conspiracy that still has not been answered today surrounding the killing. Many people believe the government is lying about the assassination and this combined with obvious government lies involving later events in Vietnam and Watergate have helped to displace the trust of Americans in their government.

Warren Commission is HI because it attempted to close the book on the JFK assassination by laying the blame the feet of one person, Oswald, when many Americans believe there were more than just one lone shooter. Continue along the lines of what you read in the Oswald HI above.

Johnson’s “Great Society” is HI because it increased government spending on welfare programs and helped the Civil Rights Movement achieve many of its goals. It created long-lasting programs for eduction (head start/upward bound) and healthcare (medicare/Medicaid) for those too poor to have access on their own.

Medicare/Medicaid are HI because they provide government-funded healthcare to those who cannot afford it on their own. Good healthcare is essential to helping break the cyclical poverty the Great Society was aimed at doing away with.

HUD is HI because it was the government’s first real attempt to provide good, clean federally-funded housing to low-income Americans. Although its success has been spotty – many of its housing developments had devolved into inner city slums – in many cases it has succeeded in giving people pride in where they live and a secure feeling so they can focus on the efforts to lift themselves out of poverty.

Head Start/Upward Bound are HI because they are providing educational assistance to low-income Americans so they can be successful in school and qualify for better-paying jobs to break the cycle of poverty.

Immigration Act of 1965 is HI because it did away with the nativist fueled quota system established in 1924 that favored northern Europeans over all would-be immigrant. It would lead to a marked increase in Asian immigration that changed the face of America, especially the West Coast.

Green Berets are HI because they were the first special forces created for the United States military, giving JFK and subsequent presidents a boots-on-the-ground option without having to commit large numbers of troops. Also allows for more covert military strikes on specified targets.

Alliance for Progress is HI because as a part of JFK/LBJs fight to contain communism in Latin America and other poor regions, it put Americans on the ground to work side-by-side with the locals of the countries. Prior, we sent money to these nations but now people. AFP is an added part of the fight against anti-American communist propaganda, putting a face and person with the money and aid coming in.

Berlin Wall is HI because it became the visible symbol of the Iron Curtain dividing the western free world from the eastern communist bloc in Europe. When it was torn down by citizens of Berlin in 1989, it was a clear indication that the Cold War was ending.

Vietminh are HI because they were the communist North Vietnamese enemy the US fought against in the Vietnam War.

Viet Cong/National Liberation Front is HI because its existence shows the pro-communist movement within South Vietnam. 90% of the fighting done by American soldiers was against these local rebels. Their guerilla tactics made the war psychologically difficult for American GIs and made the war almost impossible to win for the US.

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution is HI because it allowed Johnson to fully commit American ground forces to Vietnam without an official declaration of war from Congress. It marked the first time Congress had handed over its powers to oversee war by the US military, giving unprecedented power to the President to militarily involve the armed forces with no oversight from the legislative branch.

Robert F. Kennedy is HI because he was the favorite to win the presidency in the Election of 1968. His assassination opened the door for Nixon to easily beat eventual Democratic nominee Humphrey.

Hubert Humphrey is HI because he was the Democratic nominee for president in 1968 after RFK’s assassination. He was unable to overcome Nixon’s experience in the executive branch (Nixon was Ike’s VP in 1950s) and pledge to bring an honorable exit from Vietnam.