

In a historic press conference on April 7, 1954 President Eisenhower alluded to a “Falling Domino Principle” in which he explained the strategic importance of Vietnam in Southeast Asia. He related that if it fell into the hands of the communists, soon after the rest of the region would fall. This announcement laid the foundation for the United States involvement in Vietnam. Looking back some sixty plus years, The Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center asks the question:

Was the United States effective in deterring the spread of Communism in Southeast Asia as a result of our presence in Vietnam?

2017 High School Essay Contest



-- In your own words, write an original persuasive essay telling us why you think the United States, through our efforts in Viet Nam, was successful or not, and to what extent we succeeded or failed, in our efforts to halt the spread of communism in the region. Was the “Domino Theory”, which governed U.S. military policy from the Truman to the Nixon administrations, sound policy or just a diversion used to mask ulterior interests in the region?

Center staff will read and evaluate all essays.



Awards

The Center will select three winning essays and three honorable mentions. The top essay will receive a Grand Prize of \$250. A \$50 cash prize will be awarded to the First and Second Runner-Up. A consolation prize will be awarded to the three honorable mentions.

Winning essays will be posted on the Center’s web site. The honorable mentions will be listed on the web site.

- ➔ Contest is open to all **students in grades 9-12** in Wisconsin and Minnesota.
- ➔ Your essay must be original and **500 words or less**. Only one essay per student may be submitted.
- ➔ Essays may be emailed to the Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center – Education Outreach Coordinator – educator@bvhcenter.org. **Deadline is April 28, 2017 at 5:00 pm.**



Go to WWW.bvhcenter.org for further guidelines, formatting requirements and submission instructions

Guidelines, Formatting Requirements, and Submission Instructions

- Contest is open to all **students in grades 9 - 12** in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

- Your essay must be **500 words or less**.

- **Your essay must be original – no plagiarism.** An essay will be disqualified if it is copied largely from any reference source such as the internet.

- Only one essay per student may be submitted.

- All essays should:
 - be double spaced
 - have one inch margins
 - include page numbers
 - include an essay title
 - be typed in 12 point font
 - be in Microsoft Word or a compatible format

- Essays may be emailed, along with the required Student Information, to the Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center – Education Outreach Coordinator – educator@bvhcenter.org. **Deadline is Friday, April 28, 2017 at 5:00 pm.**

- Or mailed to 305 Harborview Parkway Superior, WI 54880

Student Information

Please complete the following student information and email, along with your essay, to the Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center – Education Outreach Coordinator – educator@bvhcenter.org. **Deadline is Friday, April 28, 2017 at 5:00 pm.**

First Name:

Last Name:

Grade:

School Name:

School Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

School Phone:

Teacher's Name:

Teacher's School Email Address:

Name of Parent or Guardian: