

Power and Defense

Trace how two Georgia leaders shaped jobs, resources, and national security.

SS8H9.c "Explain the economic and military contributions of Richard Russell and Carl Vinson."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline economic contributions, circle military contributions, and number 1 beside Richard Russell evidence and 2 beside Carl Vinson evidence so you can compare their impact.

Two Leaders, Lasting Influence

- ① Richard B. Russell Jr. represented Georgia in the U.S. Senate from 1933 to 1971. He used his influence to seek federal spending that benefited Georgia. Russell supported farm programs, rural development, and public projects, which brought jobs and money into many communities. He also worked to keep and expand military bases in the state. Bases employed civilian workers, purchased local goods, and connected Georgia's economy to national defense. His actions show that federal decisions could strengthen both local livelihoods and military readiness.
- ② Carl Vinson served Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1914 to 1965. As chair of the House Naval Affairs Committee and later the Armed Services Committee, he helped guide laws that enlarged and modernized the U.S. Navy. The Vinson-Trammell Act of 1934 supported new warships, and the Two-Ocean Navy Act of 1940 greatly expanded naval construction. Shipbuilding, equipment manufacturing, and military service required workers and materials, creating jobs and federal contracts across the nation. These measures increased U.S. military strength before and during World War II.
- ③ When explaining their contributions, separate economic effects from military effects. Jobs, contracts, farm support, and local purchases are economic effects. Larger forces, new ships, bases, and readiness are military effects. Some choices produced both results. For example, a military base can improve defense while paying civilian employees and buying supplies nearby. Russell and Vinson did not hold the same office, yet each used congressional power to influence the economy and security of Georgia and the United States.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What are two ways Russell's work brought economic benefits to Georgia communities?

2 How did Russell's work with military bases affect both Georgia's economy and military readiness?

3 Name two naval laws connected to Vinson and explain their military result.

4 How did Russell and Vinson use their different congressional positions to make contributions?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write five sentences explaining one contribution by Russell and one contribution by Vinson. Include at least one economic effect, one military effect, and one difference in how the two leaders used power.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline economic contributions, circle military contributions, and number 1 beside Richard Russell evidence and 2 beside Carl Vinson evidence so you can compare their impact. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two ways Russell's work brought economic benefits to Georgia communities?	He supported farm programs, rural development, and public projects that brought jobs and money. He also supported bases that employed civilians and bought local goods.
2	How did Russell's work with military bases affect both Georgia's economy and military readiness?	The bases created civilian jobs and made local purchases, helping the economy. Keeping and expanding them also supported national defense readiness.
3	Name two naval laws connected to Vinson and explain their military result.	The Vinson-Trammell Act of 1934 and the Two-Ocean Navy Act of 1940 supported new warships and expanded naval construction, making the U.S. Navy larger and stronger.
4	How did Russell and Vinson use their different congressional positions to make contributions?	Russell used Senate influence to seek federal resources, projects, and military bases for Georgia. Vinson used House committee leadership to guide laws that expanded and modernized the Navy.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Russell supported federal projects and military bases in Georgia, helping communities gain jobs and income. His base work also supported military readiness by maintaining and expanding defense sites. Vinson helped pass naval expansion laws, including the Vinson-Trammell Act, that supported new warships. These laws created defense-related jobs and contracts while improving national military strength. Russell directed Senate influence toward Georgia resources, whereas Vinson shaped national naval policy through House legislation.

Accept equivalent evidence from the passage that correctly distinguishes economic effects from military effects. For the open response, accept other accurate phrasing if it includes both leaders, both types of effects, and a valid comparison of their methods.