An instructional module, compiled for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Pennsylvania Military Museum, Boalsburg, PA.

Written by - Rodney L. Shoop.
Reviewed and edited by the PMM curator and staff.
Layout and Graphics – Lindsey Tapper

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Please contact: Joe Horvath, Museum Educator/Curator
Pennsylvania Military Museum
Box 160A
Boalsburg PA 16803

Phone: (814) 466-6263   Fax: (814) 466-6618
After World War I the United States went through a time of great changes. Some of the changes were political, but far more were social changes. People, especially teens and young adults, were questioning the moral, social, and religious values of their parents and grandparents. The time was called the “Roaring Twenties.”

What made the twenties roar? Politically it was the 19th Amendment. Before you tune out the civics lesson you should know what this amendment said. Until 1920 over half of the population in the United States had been denied the right to vote in national elections. Women, it was said, were far too delicate
and fragile to be bothered with politics. The 19th Amendment changed that, giving women the right to vote in national elections for the first time. Some men “roared” in protest, but women could, and did, vote.

Women also made the twenties roar socially. Fashions changed – dramatically! Women had worn their hair fairly long; their skirts were floor-length, and their shirts had long sleeves and high-buttoned necklines. That changed with something called the “flapper” look. Hemlines went up, necklines went down, and hair got cut in a style called the “bob.” The shorter the hemlines and hair got, the more mainstream society roared. These flappers were shameless, showing their knees in public! (Take a moment to look around your classroom. Which group do you think had the most influence?)

Organized crime was another group that made the twenties roar in America. In 1919 moral leaders in the United States had passed an amendment to the Constitution (the 18th) that outlawed the “manufacture, sale, or transportation” of alcoholic beverages. You know, booze. It wasn’t long before illegal bars, called “speakeasies,” were doing a thriving business. Since bars need liquor, someone had to supply it. Criminals began to organize and competition for territory, or “turf,” was often less than friendly. In fact, it was fairly common for the roar of the “tommy gun” to signal the end of a dispute.
All this, and much more, ended in 1929. In that year the Great Depression began in the United States. The causes of the Depression are complicated. We will concentrate on the results, which were disastrous. By 1933, as the depression deepened and factories closed, one of every four people in America was out of work. Without work, people were unable to make house payments and many lost their homes. Even getting enough to eat became a struggle, since food does cost money.

To add insult to injury, the Midwest section of the United States experienced a severe drought that lasted several years. Farmland, parched by the sun, simply blew away in the wind. The Midwest became known as the “Dust Bowl.”

Keep in mind that this Depression didn’t just happen in America. It was a worldwide experience and many places were in deeper trouble than the United States.

Germany, for example, had been suffering from an economic depression since 1919. After World War I Germany had been forced to pay huge sums of money (called reparation) to England and France, money the Germans didn’t have because their country was in shambles. Three of every four people were out of work. Money was so worthless that you needed a wheelbarrow load of it to buy one loaf of bread.

People were desperate. They needed jobs, houses, food, and clothes. One man promised to give them what they needed – and more. He promised to restore pride to the German people and make the country a great and prosperous nation. Hopeless as they were, the German people gave this man the power he wanted. His name? Adolf Hitler.
So, what was going on in the Keystone State during the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression? Around the Pittsburgh – Johnstown area, steel was making the Twenties roar. In fact, Pennsylvania was number one in iron production in the Twenties. In Altoona, it was the railroad and locomotive shops that roared. By the late Twenties, the Altoona locomotive shops were the largest in the world. Pennsylvania was also producing all of the anthracite (hard) coal being used in America. It was also the number one producer of coke, which is used to smelt iron. Even the oil industry was making noise in Keystone country, as Pennsylvania was 6th in crude oil production. Finally, by the mid-1920s, Pennsylvania was also a major supplier of lumber for the United States.
Other major changes took place in Pennsylvania as well. Take farming, for example. Tractors were first introduced to Pennsylvania farmers in 1910. By the late 1930s one third of all Keystone farmers owned at least one tractor. Most farmers also owned trucks, which eliminated the need for day-long trips with a horse and wagon. By 1924 there were over 1.1 million cars and trucks registered in the Keystone state.

Country life changed yet again in 1935, when President Roosevelt (Franklin, not Teddy) started the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). By the mid-1930s the REA began bringing electricity to even the most isolated rural areas.

With a little luck, you could expect to reach the ripe old age of 60. Many children were born at home and the infant death rate was high. In fact, 90 out of every 1000 children died before their first birthday. The vast majority of people used coal for heating their homes, but more modern (and wealthy) families used gas or electric stoves.

An average factory worker could expect to earn about $17.00 a week, (about .50 per hour for a 50-60 hour week) while a professional, such as an accountant, could earn as much as $45.00 in a week. Doctors expected to make about $62.00, but much of this went to cover the cost of traveling to your home. When was the last time a doctor visited you?

The money you earned could be used to buy a variety of things. Remember that electricity in the home was a fairly new thing; so all kinds of household appliances were being offered to make life easier. For example, a woman’s sweater would cost $1.00. So would a man’s shirt or an electric table lamp. A
new gas stove ran about $20.00 and an electric washing machine was around $33.00. You could expect to pay about 47 cents for a dozen eggs, 14 cents for a quart of milk, 55 cents for a pound of butter, and 11 cents for a pound of sugar.

In 1920 the first commercial radio station – KDKA, Pittsburgh - went on the air. By the mid-Twenties a radio was considered essential for home entertainment. News, weather, music, and sporting events were staples, but radio offered far more. Like TV today, there were sitcoms, drama and variety shows, as well as westerns. Families gathered around the radio to listen to their favorites each night.

Not all entertainment was on the airwaves, though. Many Pennsylvania cities and towns had theaters in the mid-Twenties No, not movie theaters – these were places to see and hear live entertainment. Called “vaudeville” acts, the entertainers presented music, comedy, and magic for a nominal fee. People also enjoyed baseball, football and soccer.

Another popular form of entertainment was auto racing. In 1920 the auto industry was only about 20 years old, so auto racing was very new. It wasn’t NASCAR, either. These early drivers raced whatever they could find, usually on dirt tracks. Tracks sprang up everywhere. The drivers didn’t worry much about
safety either. At most, some wore a stiff leather helmet to try to protect their heads a bit. No seatbelts or safety harnesses here.

During the Depression Pennsylvanians fared slightly better than people in other areas, but “better” is a relative term. Keystone farmers were not plagued by dustbowl conditions and both Governor Pinchot and Governor Earle worked hard to supply relief for those who needed it. Public works projects, such as building dams and highways, were funded with state money. Pennsylvania passed new minimum wage laws for women and children and established workman’s compensation during the Depression. (Minimum wage and child labor laws had been passed earlier in the century, but little had been done to enforce them.)

Like the rest of the country, however, the Keystone State made only a slow recovery from the Great Depression. It would be 1942 till Pennsylvania could claim full employment and prosperity again.
We all know that World War II started on December 7, 1941, when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, right? Well, not really. In many ways, the Second World War was an extension of the Great War (WWI). When the First World War ended, Hitler argued that Germany had not been defeated. The German army still had some troops on French territory. But, having lost over 7 million men in just over 4 years, Germany agreed to an armistice, a cease-fire. It had not intended to admit defeat.
We already talked about what happened to Germany after WWI. It was forced to pay high reparations, disband both the army and navy, and it suffered from a terrible depression. All of these helped set the stage for the Second World War. Germany was desperate and Hitler promised hope.

Hitler began slowly. First he began to rebuild the German army, navy, and air force. When neither England nor France tried to stop him, he sent German troops to occupy lands Germany had returned to France after WWI. Again, no one tried to stop him. In 1938 Hitler demanded part of the country of Czechoslovakia (there were lots of German-speaking people in that section). England and France agreed, so long as Hitler promised he would not take any more land. No one asked the Czechs’ opinion.

In 1939 Hitler signed an agreement with Russia. Each country promised not to attack the other in case of war. On September 1, 1939, German troops poured across the German-Polish border. England and France could no longer tolerate German aggression and declared war on Germany. In Europe, the Second World War had begun.

During the next 2 and a half years France, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, and most of the rest of Europe would fall to Germany. England would stand alone, protected from
invasion by the English Channel, but bombed nearly every night.

Hitler had another goal aside from conquering Europe. He wanted to “purify” the German people, creating a “master race.” To do this, he began a campaign of prejudice and discrimination against any and all groups whom he considered untermenschen – subhuman. The groups originally targeted were Jews, handicapped, mentally retarded, gypsies, and some religious groups, including Jehovah’s Witnesses.

In 1933 all non-Aryans were ordered removed from government jobs. Over 20,000 books considered to be non-Aryan were burned. In 1936 the Nuremberg Laws took away the civil and property rights of Jews and required them to wear a bright yellow Star of David on their clothes to make them easy to identify.

On November 9, 1938, a gang of Hitler’s followers attacked Jewish homes, shops, and synagogues. So many glass windows and storefronts were broken that the night became known as Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass. Ironically, the Jews themselves were blamed for the destruction, 20,000 were arrested and sent to concentration camps. The Jewish community was fined one billion marks (German dollars).

By the time the war in Europe began, the Nazi government was rounding up individuals considered “unfit” and sending them to “special treatment” centers. By 1941 special camps had been established at Auschwitz, Buchenwald, and Dachau designed to
exterminate anyone not of “pure, Aryan descent.” It is estimated that at least 11 million people were systematically killed or worked to death before the war ended in 1945.

During all of this the United States tried to remain neutral. Congress passed a series of Neutrality Acts, which were supposed to keep the U.S. from making loans or selling arms to warring nations. Once the war began, however, many Americans were anxious to see Hitler defeated. President Franklin Roosevelt found ways around the Neutrality Acts (or ignored them). In 1940 he convinced Congress to pass the Lend-Lease Act that allowed America to send war materials to England. Still, opinion in the United States remained that we should stay out of a European war.

Meanwhile, half way around the world, Japan was also engaged in an expansion project. In 1937 it had invaded China. The United States condemned Japan for the invasion and then announced a possible trade embargo (a refusal to sell certain things to Japan). Japan is an island with limited resources and raw materials. The United States supplied most of the steel and oil needed by the Japanese military. Without these materials, Japan could not wage war.

By 1940, Japan had begun moving troops into French Indochina (modern Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand) and considered invading the East Indies, which meant war with England and the Netherlands. The Japanese were also looking toward the Philippines, which were controlled by the United States. Of all of these potential enemies, Japan considered the United States to be the
most dangerous. For the Japanese plans to succeed, the United States Pacific Fleet must be put out of action.

Early Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, Japanese dive and torpedo bombers took off from six aircraft carriers. More than 180 Japanese planes attacked Pearl Harbor and the surrounding airfields. For an hour and a half the planes came in two waves. Their primary targets were the American battleships and aircraft carriers supposedly anchored in the harbor. Fortunately for the United States, all of the carriers were out to sea. Unfortunately, the battleships weren’t.

About 9:30 AM the last Japanese plane left Pearl Harbor. Behind it, 18 American ships were sunk or badly damaged, and nearly 350 airplanes had been destroyed. Over 2,400 soldiers, sailors, and civilians lay dead. About 1,200 more were wounded. These losses, suffered in 90 minutes, were more than the navy had suffered during all of World War I.

On Monday, December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress for a declaration of war against Japan. A few days later, Adolf Hitler, supporting his Japanese allies, declared war on the United States. Ready or not, America had again been pulled into a global war.
Mobilizing FOR WAR 1941-1945

1941
Pearl Harbor bombed

1942

1943
28th Division arrives in England, October 8th

1944
James Gavin of Mt. Carmel, PA, leads 82nd Airborne in D-Day assaults

1945
28th returns home in August

Gen. Carl Spaatz of Boyertown, PA, takes command of the 8th Air Force in Europe
Pennsylvania played a vital role in the Second World War. Over 1.5 million Keystone residents served in the Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Corps. More than 20,000 women from the state also enlisted, serving in all theaters of the war. Only New York could boast that it had supplied more men than Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania also supplied much of the leadership. General George C. Marshall of Uniontown was chief of staff for the Army during the war. General Henry (Hap) Arnold of Gladwynne pioneered the use and development of the heavy bomber. He commanded the Army Air Force during the war. His second-in-command, General Carl (Too-ey) Spaatz of Boyertown, commanded the 8th Air Force in Europe, then became chief of bombing operations in Japan in 1945. Finally, Admiral Harold Stark of Wilkes-Barre commanded all naval operations in European waters. In all, 130 Pennsylvania natives served as generals or admirals during the war.

As we saw earlier, New York supplied more fighting men than Pennsylvania, but in two other areas the Keystone State led all other states, including New York. Thirty-five Keystone natives won the Medal of Honor – the highest tribute the United States can give any soldier. (New York was second, with 32.)
Pennsylvania also lost more men killed during the war than any other state – over 33,000. The names of 2,860 members of the 28\textsuperscript{th} Infantry Division, the Pennsylvania National Guard, are engraved on the World War II Memorial at the Pennsylvania Military Museum in Boalsburg, PA. Hundreds of other local monuments throughout the state also honor those who died.

When war was declared in December, the 28\textsuperscript{th} Division was in better shape than most other divisions. There were just over 11,000 men already enlisted, equipped and trained. In the early days of the war many of those men were sent to guard vital shipyards, coal mines, and steel mills against possible German sabotage attempts. We’ll see later, in discussing the Homefront, that the threat of sabotage was very real.

The 28\textsuperscript{th} Division missed the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944, but saw heavy fighting in France starting on July 22, 1944. It was the first and only American division to parade through Paris in August and entered Germany on September 11. During November of 1944 the Keystone Division was involved in heavy fighting in the Hurtgen Forest. They deserved a break, a rest, and were sent to a
fairly quiet place near the small town of Bastogne, in the Ardennes Forest.

Those of you already familiar with WWII will recognize the name “Bastogne.” That’s right- the Battle of the Bulge. In five days the 28th Division lost almost 4,000 men killed or wounded and the Germans captured another 2,000. Despite these losses, they also helped to ensure final Allied victory in Europe.

Of course, not all Pennsylvanians served with the 28th Division. There were Keystone natives with the 1st and 29th Divisions on Utah and Omaha Beaches at D-Day; with the Marines at Guadalcanal, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima; with the Navy at Leyte Gulf; and with the Army Air Corp over Berlin and Tokyo. In fact, Pennsylvania supplied one out of every seven men who fought during the war.
THE HOMEFRONT
1941-1945

1941
Civil Air Patrol organized

1942
1st bazooka rocket gun produced

1943
FDR is 1st president to fly in a plane

1944
1st mobile power station used in Philadelphia, PA

1945
1st atomic bomb exploded in Alamogordo, NM
World War II mobilized the Homefront more than any other war in American history. Sure, civilians had been involved in the Civil War and the First World War, but this was the first time the entire population would be involved in some way. Before the war ended in 1945, virtually every home in the United States felt the effects in a personal way.

Consider transportation, for example. All of your families own at least one car, right? Between mid 1942 and 1946 you couldn’t buy a new car. Auto manufacturers were building other things, like tanks and trucks. Even if you already had a car, gas was rationed because it was needed for the war effort. It was the same with tires. So, from 1942 until late 1945 or early ’46 gas was difficult to get unless you had a high priority need, like farming. Otherwise, you rode a bus, walked, or stayed at home.

Homes were touched in other ways, too. During the war over 6 million women went to work for the first time. They became welders, machine operators and riveters. And yes, that’s where we get “Rosie the Riveter.” She became the symbol for female laborers during the war. Another group of women called WOW (Women Ordnance Workers) loaded ammunition, filled bombs and shells with explosives, and worked with all types of explosives. (One of these plants was the Eldridge Munitions Plant in northern
Pennsylvania.) WAASPs (Women’s Auxiliary Air Service Pilots) flew planes from the factories to the ports for shipment to the war zones.

In 1942 the United States government asked people to begin voluntarily cutting back on the amount of sugar, meat, coffee, and other things they used. By the end of 1942 the government started a rationing program. Each month your family would get a booklet with small colored stamps in it. When you bought an item, like sugar, you needed to have stamps for sugar. No stamp, no sugar.

By the war’s end, nearly everything was rationed, especially food. People were encouraged to plant “Victory Gardens” and grow their own food as much as possible. Sugar, coffee, bread, milk, and butter were needed for the war effort. So was meat. By 1943 your meat ration was 32 ounces per person per week. That’s about the same as eight quarter-pounders at McDonald’s. One story, told by Barbara Blossom, a Pennsylvania history researcher, tells of a strange, new dish, which appeared, on restaurant menus as beef, pork, and chicken became more scarce. According to Ms. Blossom, breaded eel became a favorite with some Keystone eateries.

So, where was Pennsylvania in all this? Remember the women in the factories? Many of them worked in Pennsylvania steel mills, producing one third of all the steel
used during the war. Pennsylvania was also the third largest producer of guns and
ammunition and sixth in total war production.

Berwick’s American Car and Foundry turned out as
many as 36 M3 light tanks a day. Bantam Car
Company of Butler designed the Jeep and
manufactured its companion cargo truck trailers
throughout the war. In fact, we produced over $13
billion in war materials.

Pennsylvania also had a total of 40 military
installations. There were naval bases in Philadelphia and army bases at Carlisle and
Indiantown Gap. Later in the war, Gettysburg became the home of several thousand
German prisoners of war (POW).

Germany also thought the Keystone State was worthy of some attention. In 1942
several German saboteurs left a submarine off the coasts of Long Island, New York, and
Florida. Their mission was to destroy a list of targets, which German intelligence thought
would severely interrupt the war effort in the United States. The agents were arrested
almost as soon as they landed, but on their list of targets were the Horseshoe Curve and
railroad tunnels near Altoona, PA. These rail lines in the center of the state were an
important transportation artery between the Midwest and Northeast manufacturing
centers of the nation.
The 28th Division Marches through France
War is usually considered a bad thing. After all, war means fighting and fighting means dying. Innovation and invention during wartime usually mean developing
something that will kill more effectively – an “ultimate” weapon that will force the other
guy to quit. We’ll get to some of these, later.

First, let’s get silly – as in Silly Putty. In 1943 James Wright, working for General
Electric, was looking for a way to make synthetic rubber. The real thing comes from the
sap of rubber trees that grow on islands in the South Pacific. Most of the islands were
held by the Japanese, who were unwilling to sell rubber to the United States at the time.
What Wright discovered when he emptied his test tube was a material with some rather
strange properties. Since it was not the synthetic rubber he needed, Wright put the
formula aside until the early 1950s, when he began to market it as a novelty item.

Another toy most of you have seen is the Slinky. During the war Richard James,
of Hollidaysburg, PA, was working for the government as a naval engineer. James
dropped a coil spring one day. The way it moved and twisted when it hit the ground
inspired him to create the Slinky.

War, however, is not fun and games. Men
and women die. In 1941, soldiers wounded in
combat often died of infection later. Doctors in
London, England, who were looking for an
effective way to fight infection, discovered
penicillin in 1929, but it was 1938 until the drug
could be commercially produced. The new drug
was so effective that it was later called the wonder
drug of the century. (In 1941 a fermentation and refrigeration plant for producing
penicillin was established in Danville, PA.)
World War II also hastened the development of the computer. In 1942 Professor John Atanasoff of Iowa State University completed the first digital computer. It was the first time a computation device used binary arithmetic (the basis of DOS) or parallel processing (multi-tasking). The computer weighed 800 pounds, held a mile of wire, and took 15 seconds to do one computation. By contrast, a modern desktop does about 150 billion computations in 15 seconds. Still, it was a start.

What else? How about radar? It was actually developed by the British in the late 1930s. Radar (which stands for radio direction and ranging) gave the Royal Air Force an edge over the Germans by detecting German bombers long before they reached England. The first use of radar in the United States was December 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor. Today, airports world-wide would not be able to function without radar.

The counterpart of radar is sonar (sound navigation and ranging). It works by sending sound waves through the water and bouncing them off other objects. Ships and submarines used it to detect each other. Sonar technology was used to develop the modern ultrasound machines, routinely used in medicine today.
There are so many things that came out of the Second World War. Jet airplanes, developed first by the British and the Germans; rockets in the form of the V-1 and V-2 weapons used by Germany; and reliable wireless radios (walkie-talkies) are only a few.

One more invention we must talk about. It changed … everything! In the United States it was called the Manhattan Project and was started in 1942. The idea was to build an ultimate weapon. Headed by Robert Oppenheimer, the Manhattan Project was the most closely guarded secret of the war. In fact, most of the people who worked on the project didn’t know what was happening. Not until July 16, 1945, that is.

On the 16th of July, at Alamogordo, NM, the first atomic bomb in history was detonated. For the first time the atomic mushroom cloud blossomed above the desert. On August 6th a mushroom cloud appeared for the second time, over a Japanese naval port. America, and the world, had entered the atomic age.
Almost before WWII ended problems arose between the Soviet Union (or USSR) and the other Allied nations (England, France, and the United States). The Soviet Union was upset because it had not been told of the atomic research taking place in America. In fact, Marshal Josef Stalin, leader of the Soviet Union, learned that the United States had an atomic bomb the day it was first used on Japan. (President Truman, who succeeded
Roosevelt after his death in 1945, had mentioned a “weapon of great destructive power” to Stalin, but gave him no details.

England, France, and the United States, on the other hand, were not happy with Stalin. He had promised, vaguely, to allow free elections in Poland and other Eastern European nations after the war. Instead, he banned all political parties except the Communist Party and did not allow any elections at all. Already it seemed that the seeds were being sown for still another war.

In truth, another war was being fought, but it wasn’t a war of guns and tanks. This war was a war of ideas. See, the United States wanted to spread democracy to the rest of the world. Truman was sure that the only way to avoid future wars was to allow each country free elections and free choice. Stalin was just as insistent that Communism was the only proper form of government, and his army occupied most of Eastern Europe.

In 1946 Winston Churchill, the man who had led England during the war, declared in a speech at Fulton, Missouri, that “an iron curtain has descended across the continent.” He didn’t mean a real curtain of iron, of course. He meant that Eastern Europe was under the control of Stalin and that they had little or no freedom. Stalin saw the speech as a call to war.
As the division between East and West became wider, both sides pushed for an advantage without actually going to war. This constant state of hostility and aggression is known as the Cold War (as opposed to a Hot War where everyone is shooting and bombing each other). In 1949 Germany became the focus of the Cold War.

After WWII Germany had been divided into four zones. France, England, the United States, and the Soviet Union each occupied and governed one zone. Berlin, Germany’s capital, was also divided, but the city itself was deep in the Soviet zone. In 1948 England, France, and the US agreed to reunite Germany. They urged the Soviets to withdraw also. Instead, the Soviets blocked all the roads leading to West Berlin so that no supplies could get in.

To counter the Soviets, American and British airplanes began flying supplies into West Berlin. For over 300 days these planes were West Berlin’s lifeline, carrying food, medicine, fuel, and other goods into the city. This massive effort became known as the Berlin Airlift. The Soviet Union finally lifted its blockade, but West Germany was forced to choose a new capital city in Bonn, west of the Soviet zone.

Meanwhile, halfway around the world, China had become a communist nation. Though the United States sent billions of dollars to the Chinese Nationalists, both to fight the Japanese and to fight the Communists, by May of 1949 the Communists were firmly in control. North Korea was also under Communist
control. To the United States it appeared as if Communism, once confined to the USSR, was about to take over all of Asia. The Cold War was heating up.

Adding to the tension was the beginning of the nuclear arms race. Experts in the United States had estimated that the Soviets would not have atomic bombs before the mid 1950s – maybe not until 1960. To their surprise and shock, the Soviet Union successfully exploded an atomic bomb in 1949. The United States was no longer the only atomic “super power.” More heat for the Cold War.

On June 25, 1950, North Korean Communists invaded South Korea. Their goal was to unite Korea under one government – a Communist government. President Truman ordered naval and air support for the South Koreans, and then, with 16 other countries, prepared to send combat troops to Korea. The Cold War had turned hot.
What do you think?

Questions for further discussion.

1. Japan is an island nation, as is Great Britain. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of an island nation. Also, discuss why Japan felt it was necessary to attack China, while England remained at peace.

2. How did Hitler come to power? What methods did he use? Why were so many people willing to listen?

3. Some current research indicates that President Roosevelt (FDR) knew about Japan’s plan to attack Pearl Harbor and allowed the attack to happen to draw the US into the war. Why would a President do this? If the research is true, could FDR have prevented the war?

4. Discuss the role of airpower in WWII. How did the airplane change the way wars are fought today?

5. Discuss what the Holocaust was and how people could allow it to happen.

Suggestions for further reading


Suggested classroom activities

1. Invite several local WWII veterans in for a roundtable discussion. Have the students write out their questions ahead of time to avoid duplication and inappropriate questions. If possible, include women and minorities in your group. (You may also use the same format with civilian workers from the war. Women factory workers, Civil Defense, Civil Air Patrol, etc., are some suggestions.)

2. Divide your students into groups and develop a USO show. One effective way to use this is to have a class dance on this theme after school and end the dance with the announcement that Pearl Harbor has just been attacked. For maximum effect, encourage the students to dress appropriately for the occasion. (Oldies bands will often donate a few hours for these shows.)

3. Produce a radio broadcast from some area during the war. Broadcast the London Blitz, Live from Pearl, or a commentary on the Saipan invasion. Another angle would be to broadcast as the first American unit to enter the death camps.

   REMEMBER: this is radio! Word picture and sound effects are great, but there are no visuals!

4. Create a recruiting poster to induce men and/or women to enlist. Study examples from your textbook or go on line at WWIIposters.org for ideas. Another angle is to create posters to entice women and minorities into the workforce or encourage conservations of vital materials.
Bibliography


