

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRAM FIVE

PROGRAM FIVE 1944 - 1952

At the end of the First World War, the United States once more retreated from the world's stage. She stood back, isolating herself from Europe's contentious factions and Asia's conflicts, as the world hurtled toward war. By 1938, the fragile stability between nations eked out in the two decades following WWI, was coming to an end. Italy attacked Ethiopia; Spain's Civil war ended in a brutal victory by the Fascists; Hitler remilitarized Germany, took back the Rhineland and the industrial Ruhr and set a course of stealing land from Germany's neighbors; Japan's renewed conflict with China brought a brutal occupation to that country, By the summer of 1939, the clouds of war hung over the world like a storm waiting to break. And on September third the full force of war shattered the flimsy calm of Europe. Poland, invaded by Nazi Germany fell in less than three weeks. Stalin gobbled up a portion of eastern Poland and went on to take Finland. In 1940, after a year of Blitzkrieg, Hitler unleashed his divisions on Western Europe and took France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Denmark. However, isolationism raged through the states. Men like Charles Lindbergh and Senator William Borah believed that America, caught up in the throes of the Depression, should not be drawn into the European conflict. They invoked the Neutrality Act, which forbade the U.S from sending arms to Europe, and insisted that the U.S. could not get involved with European affairs. But FDR realized that the U.S. must forgo its isolationist tendencies.

Program Five presents the successful conclusion of WWII from the invasion of Normandy in 1944 to the dropping of the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima in 1945. From there the United States would move on to fight communism at home, in Europe through the Marshall Plan and on the battlefield in Korea. The program fully examines the Soviet threat to Western Europe and the menace of communism in Asia. Finally, it returns to the United States and the effect on our culture of a new kind of music that would set the tone for American youth over the remainder of the century: rock and roll.

Turning Point #1

1944 - D-Day "Operation Overlord"

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The background of the conflict in Europe.
- The initial defeats suffered by the Allies in Europe, the Soviet Union and Africa.
- America's Lend Lease Program, eventual entry into WWII and its ramp up to war production at home.
- Allied victories that sent German forces reeling and freed Europe by April 1945.

Points for Teachers:

- Americans transformed the economy to a war economy with the intensity that only Americans bring to a project. In 1942 war production reached 60,000 planes, 45,000 tanks, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns and 8 million tons of shipping.
- The effect on the economy was enormous. Gross national product rose from \$100 billion in 1940 to \$213 billion in 1945. The national debt grew to \$280 billion by war's end.

- In many ways World War II foreshadowed America's gains in racial, economic and sexual equality over the next 30 years as women and Blacks entered the work force in unprecedented numbers.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1914-1917 - America Prepares for World War I
- 1917 - America Enters World War I
- 1941 - Japan Attacks Pearl Harbor
- 1950 - President Truman Sends American Troops to the Aid of South Korea
- 1950 - 1953 The Korean War
- 1953 - John Foster Dulles Becomes Eisenhower's Cold War Warrior
- 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis
- 1964 - Vietnam War: Congress Passes the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- 1968 - Vietnam War: The Tet Offensive
- 1973 - Vietnam War: Cease-Fire Ends War
- 1983 - The Grenada Conflict
- 1990 - The Gulf War Demonstrates American Military Supremacy

Turning Point #2

1945 - The U.S. Air Force Drops an Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima:

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The end of the war brought dramatic changes in warfare.
- The Manhattan Project led by Physicist Robert Oppenheimer developed the atomic bomb.
- Dropping the bomb on Japan ushered the United States to the forefront of all nations. It also started a world wide arms race and the cold war.

Points for Teachers:

- The staggering cost of American casualties in the final months of the Pacific war--the battle for Okinawa cost more than 38,000 Americans wounded and 12,000 killed; and the battle for Iwo Jima cost the United States 6,821 killed, 19,217 wounded and over 28,000 cases of battle fatigue--fueled the debate to use the atomic bomb.
- The Manhattan project, under the command of General Leslie R. Groves and Physicist Robert J. Oppenheimer, was funded to the tune of 2.2 billion dollars.
- On August 6th, 1945, Colonel Tibbets commanding the B-29 Super Fortress, Enola Gay, named after his mother, dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. The devastation was astonishing. Over 100,000 people were killed instantly and 1000's more died from radiation poisoning and unspeakable burns. Two days later a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1941 - Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor
- 1944 - D-Day "Operation Overlord"
- 1947 - The Marshall Plan for Europe

Turning Point #3

1947 The Marshall Plan for Europe

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The threat of Communism to all of Europe.
- The incursion of Soviet military into Eastern Europe right after WWII.
- Marshall's massive aid program rebuilt the continent and saved it from Communist party undermining Western European countries and installing communist led governments.

Points for Teachers:

- In April 1947, Bernard Baruch defined U.S./Soviet relations when he said, "Let us not be deceived. We are today in the midst of a cold war. Our enemies are to be found abroad and at home." His words foreshadowed George Marshall's plan to stabilize Europe in its recovery from World War II.
- Churchill, at an address in Missouri with Truman on the podium with him, warned of expansive Soviet tendencies. He told the crowd, "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an Iron Curtain has descended across the continent."
- Churchill went on to tell the people that the answer to the Soviet threat lay in strength. "I am convinced that there is nothing they admire so much as strength and there is nothing for which they have less respect than weakness, especially military weakness."
- By 1951 the free European countries had raised their industrial output 40% above prewar levels.
- The cost was \$12 billion, considerably less than estimated
- As a result of American aid, the 1948 coup in Czechoslovakia and the blockade of Berlin, Europe and the United States started NATO.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1901 - President McKinley is Shot by Anarchist Leon Czolgosz
- 1908 - Work is Begun on the Panama Canal
- 1950 - 1953 The Korean War
- 1953 - John Foster Dulles Becomes Eisenhower's Cold War Warrior
- 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis
- 1992 - The End of the Cold War

Turning Point #4

1950 - President Truman Sends American Troops to the Aid of South Korea

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The United States and the Soviet Union emerged from WWII as the world's two superpowers. The world faced a struggle between the forces of democracy, led by the U.S., and the forces of communism, led by the Soviet Union.
- Post World War II became a clash between titans. The Soviet Union, through a worldwide network of Communist parties and insurgents, sought to export Communism to all countries and encircle the United States. The United States sought to contain the Soviet Union.
- America could not spread itself too thin so it chose to face Communism at strategic points: the Middle East, Western Europe and Korea.

- The Korean War began in June, 1950 with a surprise attack by North Korean Soldiers on South Korea.

Points for Teachers:

- The rise of Communist parties and insurgency grew in China, Indonesia, Vietnam, North Korea and the Philippines.
- In 1949, Mao Tse Tung's Communists drove the nationalists out of China and onto Taiwan, making China the largest Communist country in the world.
- On June 25th 1950, North Korean soldiers crossed the 38th parallel and attacked South Korean and American forces, driving them all the way to Pusan at the tip of the Korean Peninsula.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1917 - America Enters World War I
- 1941 - Japan Attacks Pearl Harbor
- 1944 - D-Day "Operation Overlord"
- 1950 - 1953 The Korean War
- 1954 - Senator Joseph McCarthy is Condemned by the Senate
- 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis
- 1964 - Vietnam War: Congress Passes the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- 1968 - Vietnam War: The Tet Offensive
- 1973 - Vietnam War: Cease-Fire Ends War
- 1983 - The Grenada Conflict
- 1990 - The Gulf War Demonstrates American Military Supremacy
- 1991 - End of the Cold War

Turning Point #5

1950 - 1953 The Korean War

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The North Koreans attacked South Korea unprovoked.
- General MacArthur's brilliant strategy of counterattacking at Inchon drove the North Koreans back to the 38th parallel.
- The U.S. and U.N. decision to push past the 38th parallel and capture North Korea.
- China's intervention with troops in November 1950.
- The removal of General MacArthur and appointment of General Ridgeway as overall commander.
- The three years of stalemate that resulted in the return to the prewar boundaries between North Korea and South Korea.

Points for Teachers:

- A conflict within the war brewed between Truman and MacArthur. MacArthur wanted to attack China and end Communism there as well. Truman believed that by committing American military strength to Asia's mainland, the US risked a general war with China as well as possible Soviet aggression. Furthermore, it might mean abandoning Europe to Soviet forces. Dean Acheson explained the case this way, "We are being asked to undertake a large

risk of general war with China, risk of war with the Soviet Union and a demonstrable weakening of our collective security system."

- 54,000 Americans had been killed and 103,000 wounded. Civilian casualties among North and South Koreans numbered in the millions. The boundary between the two Koreas shifted no more than a few dozen miles.
- Korea was a proving ground for American resolve and technology: jet fighter aircraft and mobile hospitals known as MASH units. More significantly, the Communists had been counting on the US to be soft and irresolute. Truman showed this was not the case. So did Eisenhower, who declared that if he won the 1952 election he would go to Korea.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1917 - America Enters World War I
- 1941 - Japan Attacks Pearl Harbor
- 1944 - D-Day "Operation Overlord"
- 1950 - 1953 The Korean War
- 1954 - Senator Joseph McCarthy is Condemned by the Senate
- 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis
- 1964 - Vietnam War: Congress Passes the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- 1968 - Vietnam War: The Tet Offensive
- 1973 - Vietnam War: Cease-Fire Ends War
- 1983 - The Grenada Conflict
- 1990 - The Gulf War Demonstrates American Military Supremacy
- 1991 - End of the Cold War

Turning Point #6

1951 - Alan Freed Introduces Rock and Roll

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The birth of Rock n' Roll by disc jockey Alan Freed.
- Rock n' Roll's origins came from a new genre of music by black artists--rhythm and blues.
- White teenagers very quickly embraced this new music.
- Rock n' Roll forever changed the face of American culture.

Points for Teachers:

- Rock 'n Roll helped define the baby boomers through the music of Elvis Presley, the Beatles and Bob Dylan.
- At the same time, movie stars like James Dean, Audrey Hepburn and Marlon Brando would eclipse aging favorites like Clark Gable, Errol Flynn and Marlene Dietrich.
- Ten years later, the English invasion would give us the Beatles, the Hollies and the Rolling Stones; Rock n' Roll would find itself redefined.
- In the coming years, 'Heavy Metal, Punk Rock, Grunge, Hip Hop and Rap would define succeeding generations of teenagers and young adults.
- Through the decades since 1951, young adults became a multi-billion dollar market for American businesses.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1783 - Noah Webster Issues "Blue-backed Speller"
- 1885 - Mark Twain Publishes "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
- 1906 - Upton Sinclair's Novel 'The Jungle' is Published
- 1926 - David Sarnoff Founds NBC
- 1940 - Ernest Hemingway Publishes "For Whom the Bell Tolls"
- 1960 - Nixon-Kennedy Televised Debates

RESOURCES – INTERNET SITES

Turning Point #1

1944 - D-Day “Operation Overlord”:

1. D-Day: Brief History - A Brief History of WWII. D-Day -- The Cross-Channel Attack
<http://www.worldwar2history.info/WWII/D-Day.html>
2. D-Day Conneaut: History of D-Day, June 6, 1944
<http://www.geocities.com/ddayconneaut/history.htm>
3. Fact Sheet D-Day, 6 June 1944 Normandy, France
<http://www.ku.edu/heritage/abilene/ikedday.html>
4. WWII Living History Association of the 1939-1945 war <http://www.ww2lha.com/>
5. Complete World War Two in Europe timeline with photos, text, and over 100 links <http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/ww2time.htm>

Turning Point #2

1945 – The U.S. Air Force Drops Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima

1. Hiroshima Archive: A selected bibliography of printed books, articles, and other research materials regarding the bombing of Hiroshima. <http://www.lclark.edu/~history/HIROSHIMA/>
2. CNN - Rare film documents devastation at Hiroshima - Aug. 10: The destruction caused by the bomb dropped on Hiroshima <http://www.cnn.com/WORLD/9608/10/japan.hiroshima.film/>

Turning Point #3

1947 - The Marshall Plan for Europe

1. Modern History Sourcebook: The Marshall Plan, 1947
<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1947marshallplan1.html>
2. Yahoo! Directory 1940s US History > Marshall Plan
http://dir.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/History/U_S_History/By_Time_Period/20th_Century/1940s/Marshall_Plan/
3. Reader's Companion to American History - -MARSHALL PLAN
http://college.hmco.com/history/readerscomp/rcah/html/ah_057100_marshallplan.htm
4. George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies
<http://www.marshallcenter.org/site-graphic/lang-en/page-mc-about-1/xdocs/mc/factsheets-history/04-marshall-plan.htm>

Turning Point #4

1950 - President Truman Sends American Troops to the Aid of South Korea

1. Korean War: Weapons, History, Combat Photos
<http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/arms.htm>

2. Korean War Combat Photographs
<http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/kwphotos.htm>
3. USAF Museum - Post World War I History: Korean War History Gallery June 25, 1950- July 27, 1953. <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/korea/korea.htm>
4. Korean War FAQ Korean War History Korean War History
<http://www.centurychina.com/history/krwarfaq.html>
5. Eyewitness: A North Korean Remembers <http://www.kimsoft.com/korea/eyewit.htm>

Turning Point #5

1950 - 1953 The Korean War

1. Korean War: Weapons, History, Combat Photos
<http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/arms.htm>
2. Korean War Combat Photographs <http://www.rt66.com/~korteng/SmallArms/kwphotos.htm>
3. USAF Museum - Post World War I History: Korean War History Gallery June 25, 1950- July 27, 1953. <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/korea/korea.htm>
4. Korean War FAQ Korean War History Korean War History
<http://www.centurychina.com/history/krwarfaq.html>
5. Eyewitness: A North Korean Remembers <http://www.kimsoft.com/korea/eyewit.htm>

Turning Point #6

1951 - Alan Freed Introduces Rock and Roll

1. The History of Rock and Roll <http://www.history-of-rock.com/>
2. Introduction <http://www.history-of-rock.com/indx.html>
3. Amazon.com: Video: History of Rock 'n' Roll:
<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/6303394094?v=glance>
4. The Rock'n'Roll Zone: Classic Rock News, Radio, History
<http://www.rocknrollzone.com/>

SEE BLACKLINE MASTER 5A – TEST QUESTIONS

ANSWERS TO TEST QUESTIONS FOR PROGRAM FIVE

(Answers: 1-b, 2-d, 3-c, 4-d, 5-a, 6-b, 7-b, 8-a, 9-a, 10-d, 11-c, 12-a, 13-d)

SEE BLACKLINE MASTER 5B – TIMELINE