

PIECING TOGETHER THE PUZZLE: Using Source Materials to Understand Lives of the WWII Fallen



Kevin A. Wagner – Carlisle Area School District

We Teach WWII Mostly Like This...

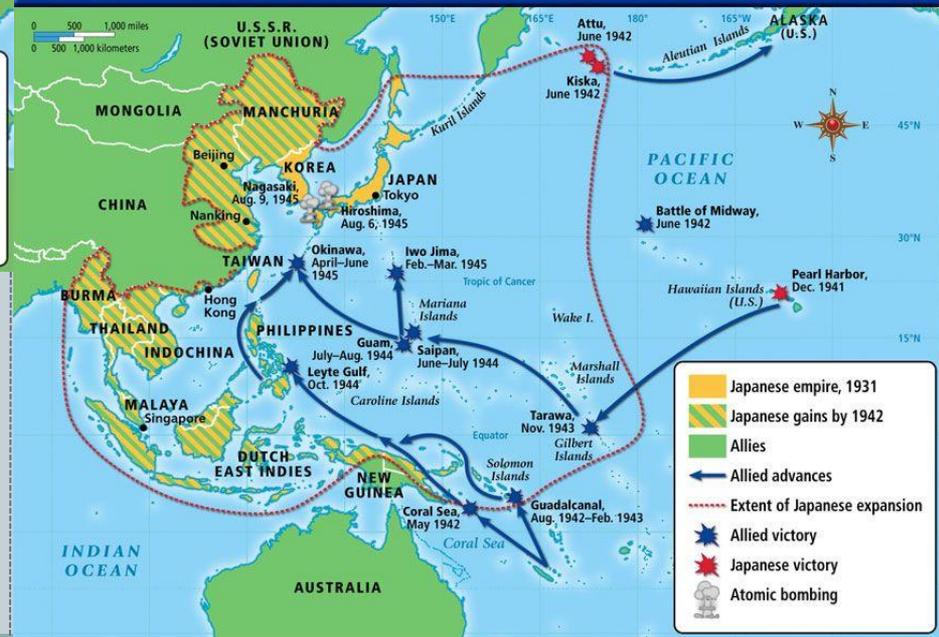
World War II in Europe 1939–1941



European Theater

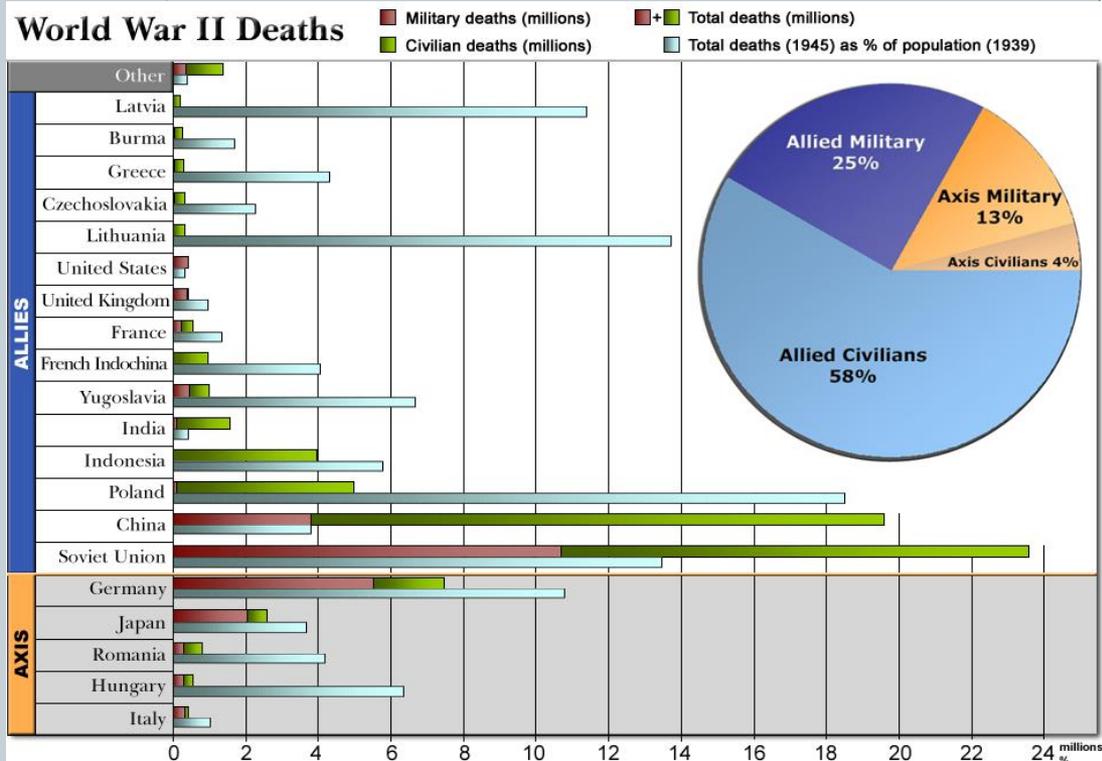
Pacific Theater

World War II in the Pacific 1941–1945



And also like this...

- 16,112,566 served
- 407,316 deaths
- 671,278 wounded
- 61.2% were draftees
- 38.8% were volunteers



But What If We Approached It Like This...

- 33,000 from PA died
- 9,380 buried in Normandy
 - 1,213 are from PA
 - 13% of the graves



So Why Incorporate These Stories?



- Brings curriculum to life.
- Honors the sacrifices of those who served our nation.
- Preserves the memory of our silent heroes.
- Makes personal connections for students.



Guiding Question



- How do we discover and uncover the personal lives and stories of everyday service members who fought in World War II?



Overview



- Using online databases from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), and the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), as well as other primary and secondary sources, students become familiar with the historical research process and learn to tell the story of a Fallen Hero from World War II.



Objectives



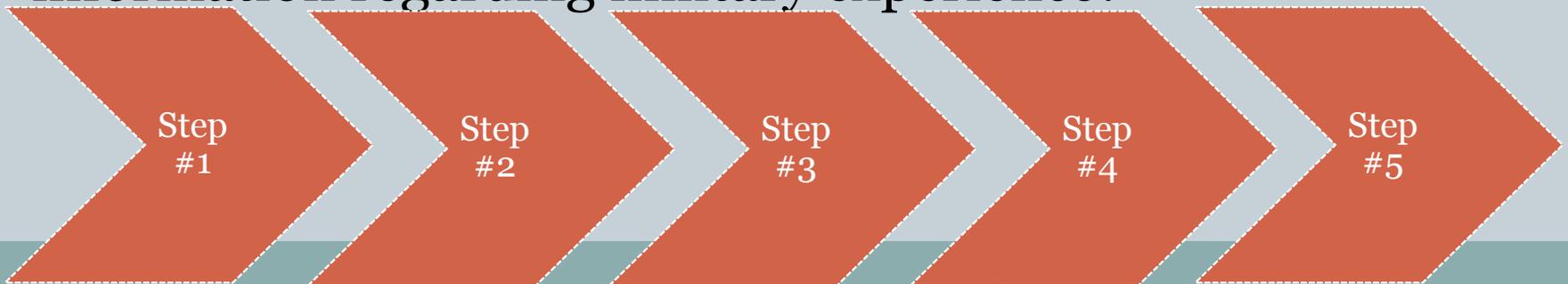
At the conclusion of these mini lessons, students will be able to:

- Identify and analyze primary source documents for key pieces of information in developing a service member's personal story;
- Evaluate the credibility of source materials for historical research; and
- Contextualize a period of time through multiple perspectives.

Five-Step Process...



- Step 1: How do you locate a service member to research?
- Step 2: How do you use the National Archives to access additional information?
- **Step 3: How do you use a Census record to gain additional information?**
- **Step 4: How can newspaper articles provide additional information?**
- Step 5: How can a U.S. Army service card provide information regarding military experience?



Seeing It In Action...



UNDERSTANDING
SACRIFICE

Research a Fallen Hero:

How do you use a census record to gain additional information?

Step #4 – Using Newspaper & Ephemera



Ex-Pottstonian Who Survived Bataan Death March Is Buried

Funeral services for Lt. Col. Charles B. Leinbach, one of the survivors of the Bataan death march and a former Pottstown resident, were held from the Post Chapel, Presidio of San Francisco, the past Sept. 30. The Mercury was informed yesterday.

Col. Leinbach's death occurred in Takao harbor, Formosa, on Jan. 9, 1945, when the Japanese ship on which he was being transported as a prisoner of war, was sunk.

He was taken prisoner in the action at Bataan, Philippine islands, while fighting with his battalion which was attached to the 57th

Infantry Combat team, Philippine Scouts. He was one of the survivors of the death march which followed the taking of the jungle-covered peninsula.

* * *

AN OUTSTANDING GOLFER, Col. Leinbach was known throughout northern California for his part in tournaments held during the three and a half years he was stationed with the 76th Field Artillery at the Presidio of Monterey. In January, 1940, he was transferred to Fort Stotsenburg, P. I., and was accompanied by his wife, Pearl, and daughter, Lorraine, who

(Continued on Page Twelve)

Seeing It In Action...



UNDERSTANDING
SACRIFICE

Research a Fallen Hero:

How can newspaper articles provide additional information?

In the Classroom...



UNDERSTANDING SACRIFICE

Discover the stories behind the cemeteries and memorials of World War II

What stories can you tell? Find out at www.ww2cemetery.org

CHARLES B. LEINBACH
FEB 8 1897 - JAN 9 1945

FAMILY & EARLY LIFE

MILITARY EXPERIENCE: WORLD WAR I

MILITARY EXPERIENCE: WORLD WAR II

DEATH & BURIAL

PEARL & LORRAINE

PEARL & CHARLES LEINBACH

SOME SERVED

14 Participants Who Survived Before Both Wars & Buried

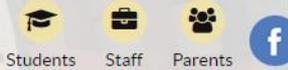
NAME	UNIT	GRADE	STATUS
...

The Stories Unfold...



CARLISLE AREA SCHOOL
DISTRICT

Empowering Every Learner



Home Our District Student Services Academics Athletics Arts & Music School Board Community

Advanced Placement & Honors

AP U.S. History - Summer Reading 2019

Curriculum

History Day

Model United Nations

News & Awards

Online Textbooks

Option I, II, and Honors

Required Courses

Rotary International - Speech & Essay

Service Learning - Civics

Social Studies Electives

Silent Heroes Project

Student Learning Maps

Student's Guide to Wikipedia

Upcoming Events

VFW Essay Contests

Carlisle Area School District / Academics / Subject Specific / Social Studies / Silent Heroes Project

Silent Heroes Project

In the summer of 2011 Mr. Kevin Wagner, Social Studies Program Chair, and Sam Spare (12th grade) had the privilege to be a part of the National History Day's Teacher Institute - Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom. This 10-day experience had them travel to Normandy and learn about the D-Day invasion from a hands-on approach. As part of the institute, Sam was asked to research a soldier that died during the invasion and then give a eulogy at the soldier's grave site in the American National Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach. This research sparked the idea for Mr. Wagner's AP U.S. History classes to each year select soldiers who lost their lives during the D-Day invasion and create a website in that soldier's honor - The Silent Heroes. What follows are the students' tributes to our fallen heroes.

NOTE - If you have any additional information, photographs, or primary documents relating to any of the persons listed below, please contact Mr. Kevin Wagner at wagnerk@carliseschools.org

This footage was prepared by the SHAEF (Supreme Headquarter Allied Expeditionary Forces) Public Relations Division and is a compilation of four reels of film regarding D-Day up to D plus 3.

<https://youtu.be/0fvQnDj4aqw>

NHD "Sacrifice For Freedom" Website: Chronicles all the students' websites from 2011 onward.



American National Cemetery



Normandy Institute 2011

How Can I Start This Process?



To get started

1. Find Your Servicemember



2. Discover Their Journey



Through the U.S. Census



Through Newspapers and ephemera



Through National Archives materials



Through U.S. Army Service Cards



Questions?

