

9/19/18

***SUGGESTED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES
FOR USE WITH THE***

WWII FOUNDATION

DOCUMENTARY

entitled

DOOLITTLE'S RAIDERS: A Final Toast

We understand that every classroom situation is unique to the students and teacher(s) in that individual environment. The following material is provided to offer only suggestions to the classroom leader on how they might best use the documentary to relay the historic importance of the Doolittle Raid in the history of WWII, and to introduce the individual stories of the participants in the raid – as well as creating a student interest in how family members of the student's in the class may have participated in WWII events.

This Package Contains:

- A pre-lesson statement regarding the legacy of WWII upon United States history.
- An educational rationale for presenting the story of the Doolittle Raiders to your students.
- Suggested student learning expectations when presenting the documentary *Doolittle's Raiders: A Final Toast* in your classroom.
- Nine short answer questions to be used before or after presenting *Doolittle's Raiders* to your students.
- Five questions that can be utilized for class discussion or as individual student written exercises.
- Three student research exercises – including an optional individual exercise that students can use to determine what roles their family may have participated in that were related to WWII.
- Recommended reading list.
- Recommended website list.

The Legacy of WWII in the Early 21st Century

WWII was the watershed event of the 20th century. It brought profound and lasting change (both for good and ill) to the people of many nations.

WWII's Effects on the United States

- Fascist Germany and Italy were defeated along with their pursuit of regional and global dominance.
- Japan's quest to build an Asian empire was ended.
- The decline of European colonial empires was accelerated.
- The outbreak of the decades long Cold War was a direct result of the positioning of the Allied powers at the end of the war.
- In 1945, the economic competitors to the United States in Europe and Asia were destroyed or heavily damaged. By contrast, the U.S. economy (particularly the manufacturing sector) flourished during the war. These factors led to a post war international economic environment where the U.S. enjoyed several decades of prosperity, during which the U.S. was instrumental in the formation of the United Nations, sponsored the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe, and provided for the rebuilding of the Japanese economy in such a manner that Japan became the manufacturing and financial center of the Asian economy in the late 20th century.
- The 1944 Service Man's Readjustment Act (G.I. Bill) led to a large increase in the percentage of Americans with an education beyond high school and in home ownership. Both contributed to the American post-war economic boom.
- Between 1946 and 1964 seventy-eight million births were recorded in the United States. The "Baby Boom" generation would foster significant social, cultural and economic change as it aged through life's phases.
- The experiences of women and African, Hispanic and Asian Americans in contributing to the war effort is cited as being a primary catalyst in their no longer accepting the prewar status quo and accelerated both the Civil Rights and Women's movements of the post-war era.
- The more than sixteen million American men and women who directly served in the Armed Forces as well as the millions more who contributed on the home front established a legacy of service to country that has earned them the title of The Greatest Generation.

***The Educational Rationale for Presenting
The WWII Foundation Documentary
entitled
“DOOLITTLE’S RAIDERS: A Final Toast”
to Your Students***

Any study of the United States late entry into the Second World War should include an appreciation for the strategic and public morale circumstances of America during the initial engagement with The Empire of Japan.

President Roosevelt and his military advisors decided that the struggle against Japan would be “The Second Front”. In early 1942 Nazi Germany was judged to be the far greater threat. Consequently, most of America’s resources were to be directed to the Allied effort in Europe. It was hoped that Japan could be stalemated at an early point and held at bay before being rolled back subsequent to the defeat of the Axis powers in Europe.

After the December 7th, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor and into the Spring of 1942, Japan enjoyed an unprecedented run of military successes over the European colonial powers and the United States in carving out the outlines of its new Asian empire (The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere) around the Pacific Rim. American confidence and morale were at a low ebb when, on April 18, 1942, the Doolittle’s Raiders would conducted one of the most consequential reprisal attacks in history.

In addition to giving the American people a large morale boost when it was so badly needed, the Doolittle Raid shook the confidence of the Japanese people in their military leadership. It also caused Japanese leadership to alter its strategic posture in ways that were ultimately favorable to U.S. war strategy in the Pacific.

The Doolittle Raid, in one bold stroke, brought an end to the beginning and started the beginning of the end for the Japanese Empire in WWII.

**CLASSROOM LEARNING EXPECTATIONS
FOR USE WITH THE**

**WWII FOUNDATION'S
DOCUMENTARY
entitled**

DOOLITTLE'S RAIDERS: A Final Toast

Upon completion of the following exercises your students will be able to:

- (A) Accurately answer factual questions regarding the Doolittle Raid as presented in suggested short-answer questions found on page 6 of this lesson plan.*
- (B) Demonstrate, verbally, or in writing, knowledge of the information requested in discussion questions found on pages 7-8 of this lesson plan.*
- (C) Participate in the suggested research exercises found on page 9 of this lesson plan.*
- (D) Report to their classmates the role that their family may have played in WWII events.*

“DOOLITTLE’S RAIDERS: A Final Toast”

STUDENT QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

1) **Why was Jimmy Doolittle famous before WWII?**

Doolittle was famous for his dare-devil airplane racing and stunts in the 1920’s and 30’s.

2) **What was the model of airplane flown by the Doolittle raiders?**

B-25 (“B” model, manufactured by North American Aviation Corporation)

3) **What was the calendar date of the Doolittle Raid?**

April 18, 1942

4) **How many U.S. airmen participated in the raid?**

Eighty airmen participated – 16 aircraft, each with five crew members.

5) **What were the names of the four cities bombed by the raiders?**

Tokyo, Nagoya, Kobe, Yokomaha

6) **What was the name of the aircraft carrier that transported the raiders to Japan**

USS Hornet

7) **Where were the Doolittle raiders hoping to land after they bombed Japan?**

The original plan called for the raiders to land at a city named Chuchow, and after refueling, to proceed to the then Chinese capitol city, Chungking, where they would leave their bombers for use by the Chinese air forces.

8) **What happened to the Chinese people who helped the raiders after the mission?**

The Japanese army committed mass murder of more than two hundred thousand Chinese civilians who they claimed had in some way assisted the American flyers after they arrived in China.

STUDENT CLASSROOM DISCUSSION

or

INDIVIDUAL WRITTEN QUESTIONS

1) **Why did the raiders run out of fuel before they reached their base in China?**

The American fleet was discovered by a Japanese patrol boat and its position reported to the Japanese Navy twelve hours prior to the planned take off time for the mission. The patrol boat was heard to have broadcast the position of the American task force to their home base, therefore the decision was made by General Doolittle and Admiral Halsey that the raiders would take off early, adding over two hundred miles additional distance to their refueling stop at Chuchow. (Extra five gallon gas cans were provided to each aircraft, but the crews were aware at take-off that they most probably did not have enough fuel to reach Chuchow – none of them did.)

2) **How Are The Following Individuals Associated with the Doolittle Raid?**

a) Admiral William F. “Bull” Halsey

Halsey commanded the fleet that brought the raiders to Japan. He and Doolittle made the decision to launch the raiders earlier than anticipated after the fleet was discovered by a Japanese patrol boat.

b) General Henry “Hap” Arnold

Arnold commanded the United States Army Air Forces during the entire length of WWII. He selected Jimmy Doolittle to lead the raid and approved all major decisions for planning of the raid.

c) Ted Lawson

Lawson was the pilot of plane #7. After returning to the United States he wrote the book Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo about the raid. His book was a best seller

and was made into a movie of the same name with Spencer Tracy portraying General Doolittle and Van Johnson playing Lawson.

d) Richard Cole

Cole was Doolittle's co-pilot of plane #1. He is the last surviving Doolittle raider at age 102 as of September 1, 2018.

3) **Why did the United States conduct the Doolittle raid?**

Strategy – *the Doolittle raid was conceived, planned and conducted to demonstrate to the Japanese government that America was capable of bringing the war to Japan, and to force Japan to bring deployed forces back to the home islands in order to defend the country from future attacks. Both of these goals were accomplished.*

National Morale – *in addition to the strategic implications of the raid to the war effort the planners wanted to provide the American public a message of hope with a display of American military courage and resourcefulness (“Payback for Pearl Harbor!” was the popular comment). A further goal was to reduce Japanese public confidence in their military and government. Both of these goals were accomplished.*

4) **What were the overall results of the Doolittle raid?**

Strategically *As a result of the Doolittle raid Japan redeployed forces to protect their home islands. They also changed their strategic war policy to plan an attack on Midway Island in order to eliminate Midway as the staging point for further attacks on the home islands, and to draw out the U.S. Fleet to a major confrontation. The Battle of Midway resulted in a major defeat for the Japanese navy by U.S. forces, from which the Japanese were never able to recover. Only six months after their Pearl Harbor attack the Japanese were forced to assume a defensive rather than an offensive strategy for the remainder of the Pacific war, until their unconditional surrender in 1945.*

National Morale - *As had been anticipated in the original planning of the raid, Jimmy Doolittle and the raiders were considered heroes by the American public. American civilian morale skyrocketed as the Doolittle raid was considered “payback” for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The Japanese public had been told by their government and military leaders that the home islands of Japan were a “Fortress” that could never be attacked by a foreign power. Japanese civilian morale and confidence in their military leaders was seriously depleted by the arrival of the Doolittle raiders.*

STUDENT RESEARCH EXCERSICES

For use with the WWII Foundation Documentary
entitled

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- 1) Select 16 students to review resource materials, to include the website and book recommendations listed on the following page, with each student preparing a report on one crew of the Doolittle raiders to report to the class.
- 2) Utilizing a map of Japan and China – (Google: Doolittle Raid Maps) have members of the class locate the approximate launching point for the raiders from the Hornet, the four cities attacked during the raid (Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe), and the cities of Chuchow and Chunking, in China, where the raiders hoped to land to refuel and turn over their aircraft to the Chinese government after the mission.

Your Family in World War II

Students wishing to participate in this exercise can utilize the list of questions below to initiate discussion with family members.

- a) Does your family history include any members who served in the military in WWII?
 - Do you know the unit or ship that they served with and where the unit or ship was assigned?

- b) Does your family history include any members who were part of the factory workforce that built the machines needed to win WWII?
 - Name and location of the company? What product(s) did the company produce?

- c) Did your family have members who were part of the support industries that provided the ability to keep fighting WWII? Farmers? Transportation – railroads, merchant marine? Other ways to support the war effort include mothers who stayed at home to care for the children of servicemen.

- d) Does your family include any members who lived in countries other than the United States that were involved in World War II?
 - Were these family members involved in the WWII in any way?
 - Have you visited the countries in which your relatives lived during the war years?

Doolittle's Raiders: A Final Toast

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo – Ted W. Lawson
I Could Never Be So Lucky Again – James H. Doolittle
Target Tokyo – James M. Scott
The First Heroes – Craig Nelson
The Amazing Mr. Doolittle – Quentin Reynolds
The Doolittle Raid 1942 – Clayton K. S. Chun
Destination: Tokyo – Stan Cohen
The Doolittle Raid - Carroll V. Glines.
Doolittle's Tokyo Raiders – Carroll V. Glines
Four Came Home – Carroll V. Glines

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

Wikipedia

(search: Doolittle Raid)

www.history.navy.mil

(search: Doolittle Raid)

www.nationalmuseum.af.mil

(search: Doolittle Raid)

www.smithsonianmag.com

(search: “Untold Story of Vengeful Japanese Attack After Doolittle Raid”)

The following website is not current, but contains excellent original material:

www.doolittleraider.com