

THOMASVILLE
HISTORY CENTER

Thomasville Treasures



OUR HISTORY BEGINS HERE. LET US START YOU ON THE JOURNEY.

Share your completed coloring pages with us!

Tag @thomasvillehistory on Facebook and Instagram and use #ourhistorybeginshere!

THOMASVILLE HISTORY CENTER

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Coca-Cola Sign, c. 1955


Hello, from Thomasville History Center!


Pleased to meet you, friends! This is your guide to discovering all of Thomasville's treasures at home and across the community.

When you see a  that means there's something you can find!

When you see a  that means there's something you can color, a question you can answer, or an activity you can complete!

When you see a  that means you're about to learn something new!

When you see a  that means there is something you can make!

Remember, some items with a  don't have to look exactly like the picture. Use it as inspiration to explore something new, find things that are alike, and things that are different.



Thomasville History Center Word Search

Can you find all of the words that describe the History Center? Words may be horizontal (left to right), vertical (top to bottom), or diagonal (across).

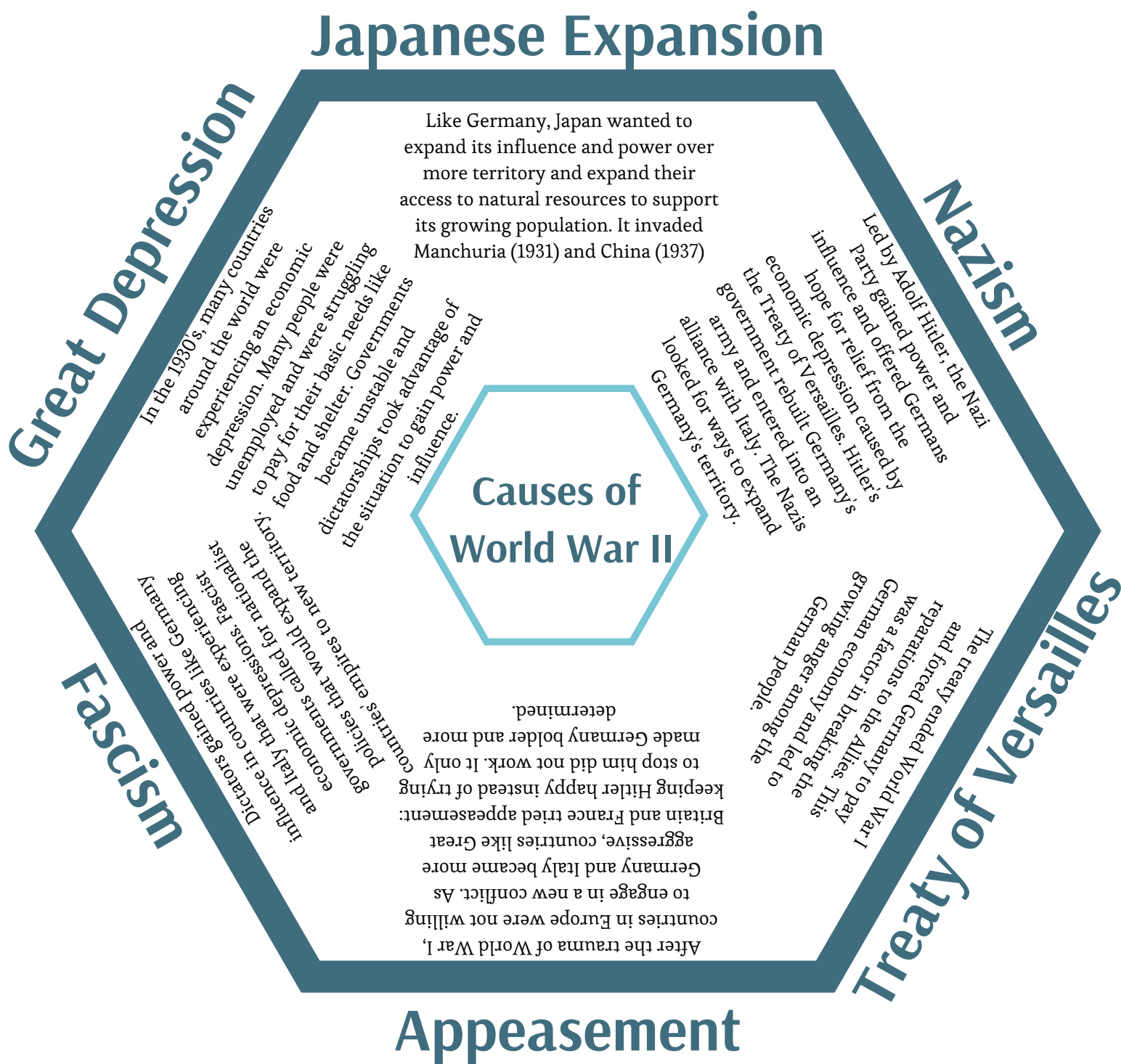
Thomasville
History
Center
Museum
Dawson Street
Fountain
Bowling Alley
Courthouse
Log House
Story
Explore
Discover
Community
Preservation
Historic District

D	H	M	X	U	M	G	L	U	H	D	T	D	I	S	C	O	V	E	R
B	Y	I	O	A	R	X	Q	Z	O	I	A	H	O	O	X	Y	C	M	B
C	V	T	S	N	G	O	P	F	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	C	E	M	P
V	O	V	D	T	Q	G	K	H	V	W	F	U	Q	A	U	X	N	I	R
I	Z	U	A	A	O	G	U	C	S	S	L	A	C	H	S	P	T	Z	E
J	E	L	R	V	E	R	Z	I	G	R	V	T	W	R	Q	N	E	G	S
X	D	D	W	T	M	X	I	V	J	Z	F	T	B	V	M	E	R	K	E
J	L	R	P	O	H	A	B	C	M	E	D	A	G	J	U	X	S	B	R
F	Y	D	W	K	E	O	I	F	D	E	A	A	Z	Q	S	P	C	O	V
B	L	L	Y	B	T	J	U	V	U	I	W	I	S	E	E	L	O	W	A
D	L	C	X	H	H	E	P	S	U	R	S	O	I	N	U	O	M	L	T
S	O	A	C	I	O	Z	Z	T	E	C	O	T	I	A	M	R	M	I	I
T	G	H	S	X	M	U	T	Y	B	P	N	Z	R	O	E	E	U	N	O
O	H	Q	Z	Z	A	B	H	N	Q	Z	S	W	Q	I	S	T	N	G	N
R	O	J	L	K	S	Q	X	H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	C	H	I	A	X
Y	U	P	K	H	V	S	S	W	A	H	R	L	B	L	M	T	T	L	M
L	S	Q	Y	I	I	E	G	X	V	B	E	F	Y	E	N	M	Y	L	I
K	E	T	O	Q	L	A	P	S	C	H	E	A	K	G	R	N	P	E	M
Z	G	F	G	Z	L	L	J	H	J	D	T	W	B	A	P	J	H	Y	M
P	X	D	A	Z	E	Y	Z	M	E	A	A	R	P	N	W	F	E	T	R

World War II 1939-1945

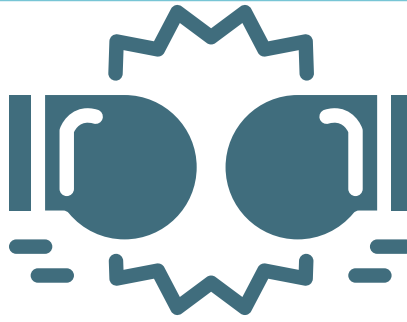
The U.S. practiced isolationism, the policy of staying out of World War Two from 1939-1941. However, the United States supported Britain and the other Allied powers financially and with weapons. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, causing many to die and many naval ships to sink, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared war on Japan. This began the Pacific Theater part of WWII. Germany was Japan's ally and declared war on the U.S. The United States declared war back. This began the Western Front or European Theater of World War II.

Causes of World War II



Axis Powers

Germany
Italy
Japan



Allied Powers

United States
Great Britain
France
USSR



Decode the Message

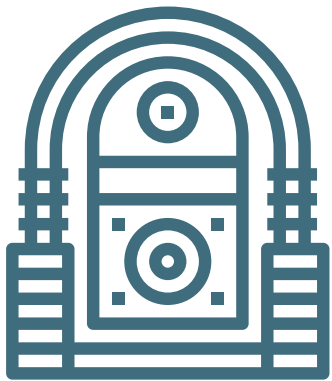
The United States military has intercepted a message from Japan to Germany in December 1941. Use the substitution method to break the code. The substitution method is when you replace each number with its place in the alphabet: for example, A=1, D=4, and K=11.

23|5 23|9|12|12 1|20|20|1|3|11 9|14 4|5|3|5|13|2|5|18

"A Day that Will Live in Infamy"

Japan attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the morning of December 7, 1941. This triggered the United States' entry into World War II.

WE WILL ATTACK IN DECEMBER
Answer:



Listen to President Roosevelt's famous "A day that will live in infamy" radio address.

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy>

YESTERDAY, December 7, 1941 a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. The United States was at peace with that Nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its Government and its Emperor, looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific.

Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in the American Island of Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to our Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. And while this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or of armed attack.

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/day-of-infamy>



You can listen to President Roosevelt's speech or read the excerpt above and react to his message. How do you think the American public felt on December 8, 1941?

In the Fight

The American military fought the Axis Powers (Germany, Japan, and Italy) in two parts of the world, the European Theater and the Pacific Theater. Soldiers from Georgia and Thomas County fought in both. Georgia and Thomas County sent many men and women to the war effort, some estimates put the number close to 320,000.

Some soldiers were drafted and some volunteered. Not all of them returned home safely. Enlistment in Thomas County and across the nation began in 1941, in the months leading up to the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. After the attack, enlistment in the armed services skyrocketed.



Locate the following items on the map:

- Draw a ○ around the European Theater
- Draw a ○ around the Pacific Theater
- Draw a △ on the United States

Frieda Patterson: Army Nurse

Frieda Patterson was a registered nurse in New York City when Pearl Harbor was attacked. A Thomasville native, Frieda joined the Red Cross who supplied nurses to the Army. In April 1942, she and her unit received top-secret orders that they were headed overseas. For a long time, the nurses couldn't even put the words "South Pacific" in their letters home.

Frieda worked in hospitals in Tongatapu and India. The nurses were responsible for caring for the soldiers and sometimes in tents using vintage World War I medical supplies. In February 1945, Frieda and the nurses received word that they were to go home. She arrived back in Thomasville in

May 1945. When she arrived home, she began work at Finney General Hospital. She was released from active duty in November 1945 after three years of service.



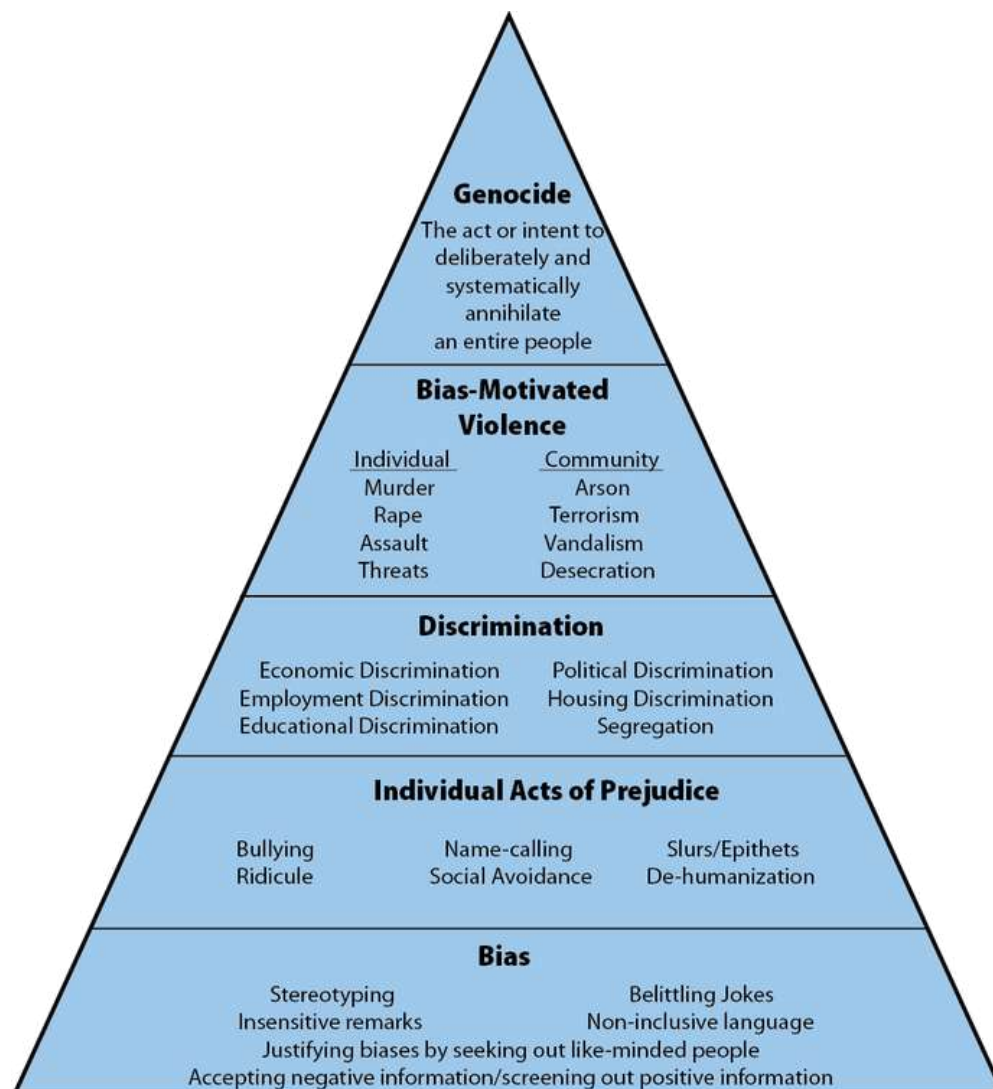
The Holocaust

The Holocaust was the genocide of the European Jews during World War II. Between 1941 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its collaborators systematically murdered some six million Jews, around two-thirds of Europe's Jewish population.

A genocide is the deliberate killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic group or nation.

The Holocaust was a horrific and truly evil time in our world's history. Unfortunately, though, genocides continue to happen around the world. Genocides never happen by accident. They are planned, coordinated, and deliberate.

You can help end genocide around the world by knowing its signs and stages. The Pyramid of Hate was created by the Anti Defamation League to help prevent genocide. The Pyramid of Hate illustrates that genocide is built upon the acceptance of hateful behaviors described in the lower levels of the pyramid. If countries accept the hatred shown on the lower levels, they risk the danger of eventually accepting a hatred that leads to genocide.



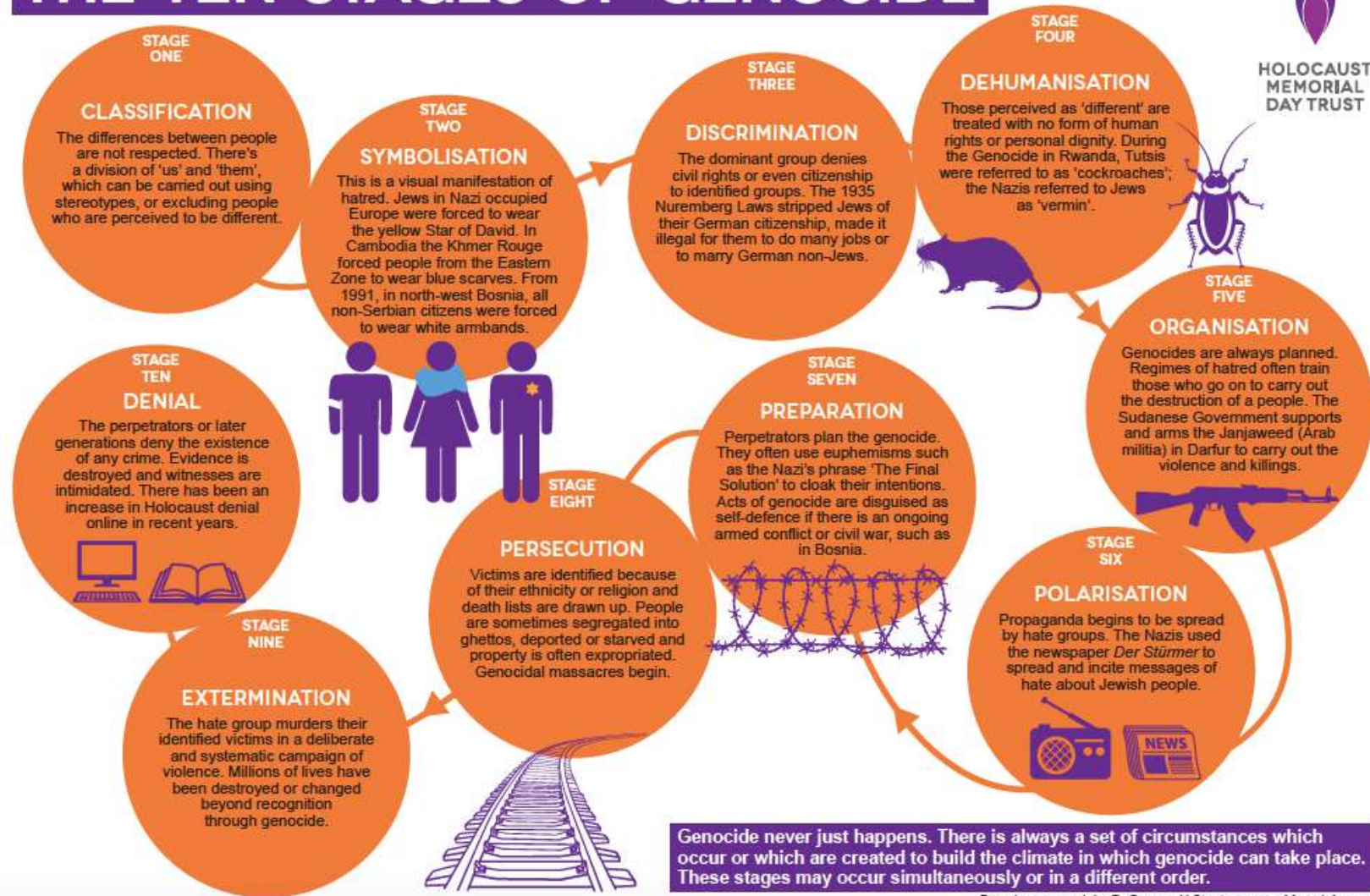
The Holocaust

The Ten Stages of Genocide diagram was created by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust to educate the world about the warning signs of genocide. It uses examples from different genocides in the world.

THE TEN STAGES OF GENOCIDE



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST



Want to Know More?

Sometimes the best way to learn about history is to watch it. We recommend these movies and documentaries about the Holocaust.

"The Boy in Striped Pajamas" (PG-13)

"La Vita E Bella" (PG-13)

"The Book Thief" (PG-13)

"Escape from Auschwitz" (PG-13)

"The Diary of Anne Frank" (Approved)



Now that you know, what will do you?

Now that you know about genocides like the Holocaust what will you do with that information?

Tuskegee Airmen

The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of African-American military pilots who fought in World War II. They formed the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group of the United States Army Air Forces.



DID YOU KNOW?

1. The Tuskegee airmen once shot down three German jets in a single day!
2. Thurgood Marshall, the future Supreme Court justice, got his start defending Tuskegee bomber trainees.
3. First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt was instrumental in the forming of the Tuskegee Airmen.
4. Three Tuskegee airmen went on to become generals: Daniel James, Benjamin O. Davis Jr., and Lucius Theus.

 *Keep us flying!*

Racial Discrimination

Being a Tuskegee Airman was not easy. In addition to being pilots, navigators, bombardiers, maintenance and support staff, and flying instructors, the airmen faced racial discrimination inside the military and in the United States.



and the world
SUPER
COLORS

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2021 the U.S. Mint will issue an America the Beautiful quarter commemorating the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site. The coin depicts a Tuskegee Airman suiting up with two P-51 Mustangs flying overhead and the motto "They fought two wars." This motto represents the Tuskegee's Airmen's commitment to fighting in World War Two and fighting racial injustice in the United States.



Thank you, Tuskegee Airmen!

Write a letter thanking the Tuskegee Airmen for their service and sacrifice during World War II.



Roger Terry (center) at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Dec 1944. Source: National Archives.

D-Day

Under the code name Operation Overlord, the Allied Powers joined forces to plan and execute an invasion of German-occupied France at Normandy in June 1944. A combined attack from the air, sea, and on land turned the tide of the War in favor of the Allies.

"The eyes of the world are upon you..." General Dwight D. Eisenhower

June 6, 1944

WEATHER FORECAST
Partly cloudy and cool today with
warm showers. Fair and mild to-
morrow. Partly cloudy with showers
Wednesday through Thursday.

ST. MARK'S TIDES
6:50 A. M.
6:50 P. M.

Thomasville Times-Enterprise

VOL. LV. NO. 22. — THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 7, 1944. — DAILY EDITION 1c PER COPY

FRENCH COAST FLAMING BATTLEFRONT

ALLIES LINKING UP BEACHHEADS IN BATTLE OF CHUTISTS

PATTERN OF THREE-PRONGED ALLIED STRATEGY

The Allied invasion of France's north coast, plus the drive in Italy and potential new offensives on the Russian front, constituted Germany's main concern from June 6th after the June 6 landings. Shaded areas and figures indicate strategic distances—from Le Havre to Berlin, from Rome to Berlin and from Moscow to Berlin. (AP Wirephoto)

GREAT AIRBORNE TRAINS CARRY TROOPS ACROSS CHANNEL TODAY

13,000 AERIAL SORTIES MADE

Greatest Demonstration Air Power in History of World As Great Troop Carrying Plane Ferry Gliders with Troops and Equipment

(By W. W. SCHUCHING)
London, June 7.—(AP)—Allied air forces, today expressed confidence in the air over invaded France, flew over 13,000 sorties today in support of assault forces and against the enemy's beachhead.

Last night, more than 1,000 heavy British bombers poured a stream of explosives upon German reinforcements moving toward the Normandy front. As they returned to their bases, they carried out over 100 strafing attacks on the coast of France which has been the scene of the invasion.

The American Sixth Air Force, which is the mainstay of the Allied air effort in the west, and especially a tactical unit, flew more than 4,000 sorties today. More than 1,000 sorties were flown by heavy bombers and fighters of the Eighth U. S. Air Force.

The Allied command and control system, which is the key to the success of the invasion, today was in full operation. The American Sixth Air Force, which is the mainstay of the Allied air effort in the west, and especially a tactical unit, flew more than 4,000 sorties today. More than 1,000 sorties were flown by heavy bombers and fighters of the Eighth U. S. Air Force.

12 BIG TROOP CARRIERS AND GLIDERS LOST

First Reports of Losses From Overnight Reinforcement Operations Received

WITH THE SHIPS AT PACE, June 7 (AP)—Twelve C-47 troop carriers and 12 gliders were reported missing today from overnight reinforcing operations toward the beachhead in Normandy. This was the first specific report of losses from airborne operations since the landings began.

In three waves, the C-47s, gliders and gliders flew reinforcements to the beachhead.

PROGRESS BEING MADE TODAY AT MIDDAY IN CHERBOURG AREA

FACE STRONG NAZI ATTACKS

German Counter-Attacks Resulted and Initial Beachheads Secured by Allies Being Cleared of Enemy. Bad Weather and Stiffening German Resistance Is Reported

(By W. W. SCHUCHING)
Second Advance Commanded Over, Allied High-Command Force, June 7.—(AP)—Allied troops have cleared inland in France in heavy fighting, according to Navy correspondence today. They also were told the week, after clearing the enemy from all their landing beachheads and linking up some of the beachheads.

Reports from the Cherbourg peninsula indicated first stages of "the risked improvement" at midday, and the Allies are making "some" progress on the whole front.

Despite bad weather and stiffening resistance, a beachhead is being held.

Both sides dropped airborne troops into the Normandy battlefront, with Allied paratroopers and glider troops pushing down enemy tanks from a 10-mile-long airborne air strip.

Caen is the base of the Cherbourg peninsula, and westward of Le Havre.

The British sixth air force division captured bridges north of Caen, headquarters said. There was an Allied command on a German report that an enemy glider airborne division had landed on the western coast of the Cherbourg peninsula.

Reinforcements said that reports showed improvement in the air after long "disappointing" still this morning.

"With the initial beachheads," which the Germans had expanded over more than a 50-mile stretch

RUSSIA READY TO START NEW OFFENSIVES

Moscow Reports Indicate Soviets Ready to Add Weight of New Attacks Against Nazis

By ROY O'DONNELL
Moscow, June 7 (AP)—Soviet

"WE HAVE WON THE FIRST ROUND" SAYS BRITISH NAVAL COMMANDER OF GREAT NAVAL SUPPORT FLEET

Successful Beyond All Expectations in Initial Efforts Against Hitler's Atlantic Wall, Great Naval Forces Ready for Second Round of Big Battle

By The Associated Press
London, June 7.—(AP)—British naval forces today, after a successful first round of the battle against Hitler's Atlantic Wall, said they were ready for a second round of big battle.

The fleet of two United States battleships flew on two United States destroyers in the assault in the Atlantic.

REPUBLICS WIN SEAT IN CONGRESS IN NEW YORK VOTE

Unseat Democrat in District Which Has Gone Democratic for 25 Years

By the Associated Press
Washington, June 7.—(AP)—

Extra, Extra! Read All About It!

Newspapers and radio were the main ways that people got updates on the War because there was no television. In most communities, the local newspaper ran a morning edition and an evening edition that had updates on battles, casualties, and national news in addition to local news. Using the newspaper front page above, fill in the blanks:

Headline (attention grabber) _____

City & State: _____

Date: _____

Masthead (newspaper name): _____

The Battle of Iwo Jima

February 19 – March 26, 1945

The Battle on Iwo Jima was fought for more than 3 weeks. A photographer on the island captured the now famous photograph of Marines raising the American flag on the top of Mt. Suribachi.

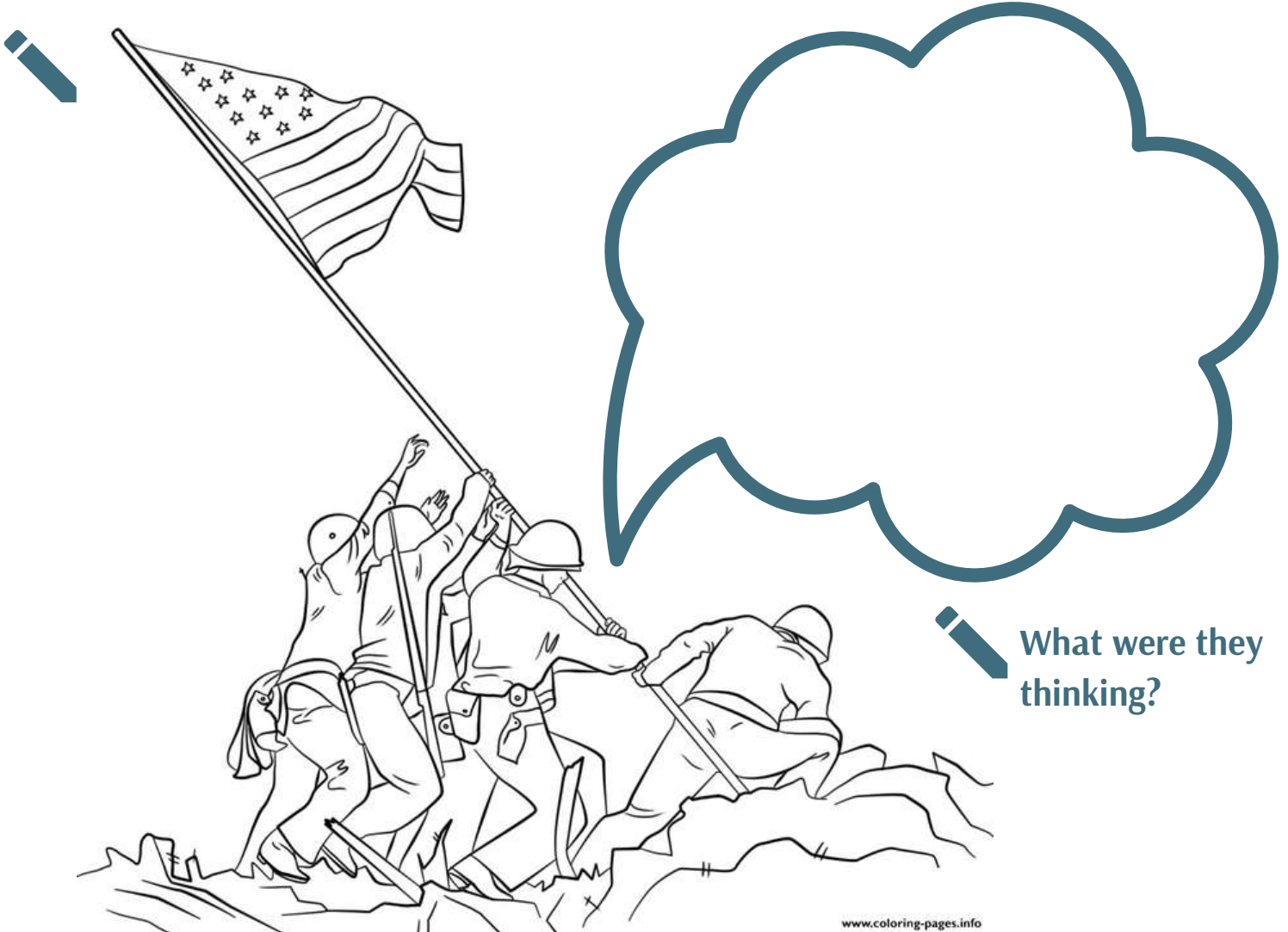
Dr. Julian Neel



Dr. Julian Neel, a Thomasville native, was still in medical school when Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941. After finishing his training at Emory University in late 1944, he entered the Navy. Neel left the States for the Pacific Theater in early 1945, just in time for the Battle of Iwo Jima. Dr. Neel saw the invasion of the island from the ship saying

**“In the darkness, I witnessed the most magnificent fireworks
I had ever seen in my life.”**

Neel and his fellow medics landed on the beach while fighting was still going on around him. He and his unit followed behind the front line giving medical care to the injured Marines and soldiers. Working out of old Japanese foxholes, the medical team treated the minor wounds and sent the troops back to the front and provided medical care to stabilize those wounded more seriously. The Battle of Iwo Jima was the first time that chilled blood was used for transfusions; it was shipped from Guam and saved lives.



Thomasville in World War II

Thomasville Army Air Base

The new Thomasville Municipal Airport was leased to the US government for \$1 per year to be used as a military reservation and air base. The Thomasville Air Base trained fighter pilots in the newest planes developed for warfare: P-39 AirCobra, P-40 Curtiss Warhawk, P-51 Mustang.

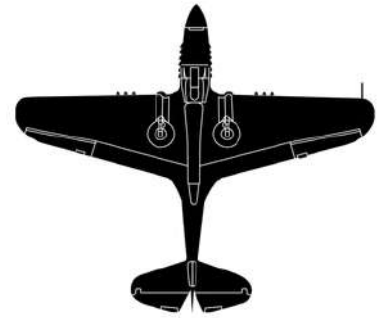
Pilots arrived in Thomasville to begin training at the Air Base in March 1943 but news of their arrival and their training was highly secret. Even Mrs. Virginia Ball, a local woman who provided food for the base, did not know what her customers were up to! Pilots at Thomasville's Air Base practiced flying in formation, flew long flights to the Gulf Coast, and practiced night flights. To condition their eyes to night flying, pilots wore special goggles with bright red lenses for thirty to forty-five minutes before their flight. The Base had its own newspaper called the "Air Puffs" that kept everyone informed. The Air Base was also important in transporting patients to and from Finney General Hospital in Thomasville. Very little of the Base is still visible but the property now functions as the Thomasville Municipal Airport.

Air Puffs Editorial

Write a brief article about the training that pilots experienced at the Thomasville Air Base using the photo in the box as inspiration.

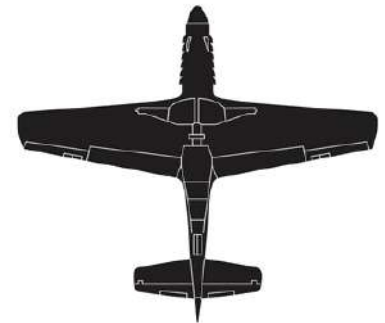


Check out the plane spotter sheet from the Air & Space Museum that describes World War II Planes:



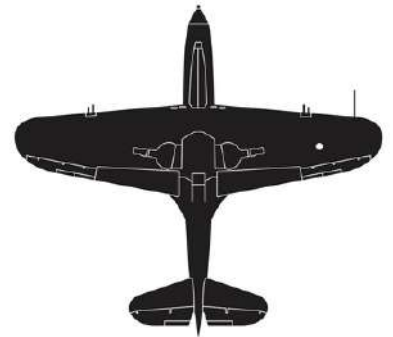
CURTISS P-40 WARHAWK

As the fighter of the Flying Tigers, painted with a shark's mouth on the air scoop under its long snout; it could out-dive most adversaries.



North American P-51 Mustangs

The primary, long-range fighter escorts for Allied bombers headed to Berlin and other German cities. The first U.S. heavy bombers struck Berlin in March 1944. The formations were enormous: On that first mission, 730 bombers struck, escorted by 800 fighters.



BELL P-39 AIRACOBRA

Smallish, low-wing fighter with rounded wings and tail. Pretty in profile and hugely effective in the hands of Soviet pilots.

Thomasville in World War II

Finney General Hospital

Finney General Hospital, named in honor of Brigadier General John M. T. Finney, who pioneered taking medical care to the front, was dedicated June 16, 1943, on a large property on S. Pinetree Blvd. Finney was one of sixty Army hospitals built across the country to care for sick and wounded WWII soldiers.

At its peak, Finney included two hundred buildings linked by nine miles of covered walkways. In addition to hospital wards, a theater, gymnasium, chapel, bowling alley and barracks for German prisoners of war were parts of the compound. Numerous celebrities visited to entertain patients and staff. Citizens of Thomas County provided support through the Grey Ladies Corps, plantation picnics, use of the YMCA, and lodging for soldiers' families in private homes.

Finney General closed December 15, 1945, having treated 23,055 WWII veterans. Several Finney buildings, including the chapel, water tower, power plant, and a few barracks still stand.

Pop Quiz!

How many veterans were treated at Finney General Hospital?

Who was Finney General Hospital named for?

How many buildings were on the property?

How many Army hospitals were built across the country?



DID YOU KNOW?

The Georgia Historical Society placed a state historic marker at the former site of Finney General Hospital in 2006. The sign tells the story of the doctors, nurses, and patients who spent time there during World War II.

1-1-2

Rosie the Riveter

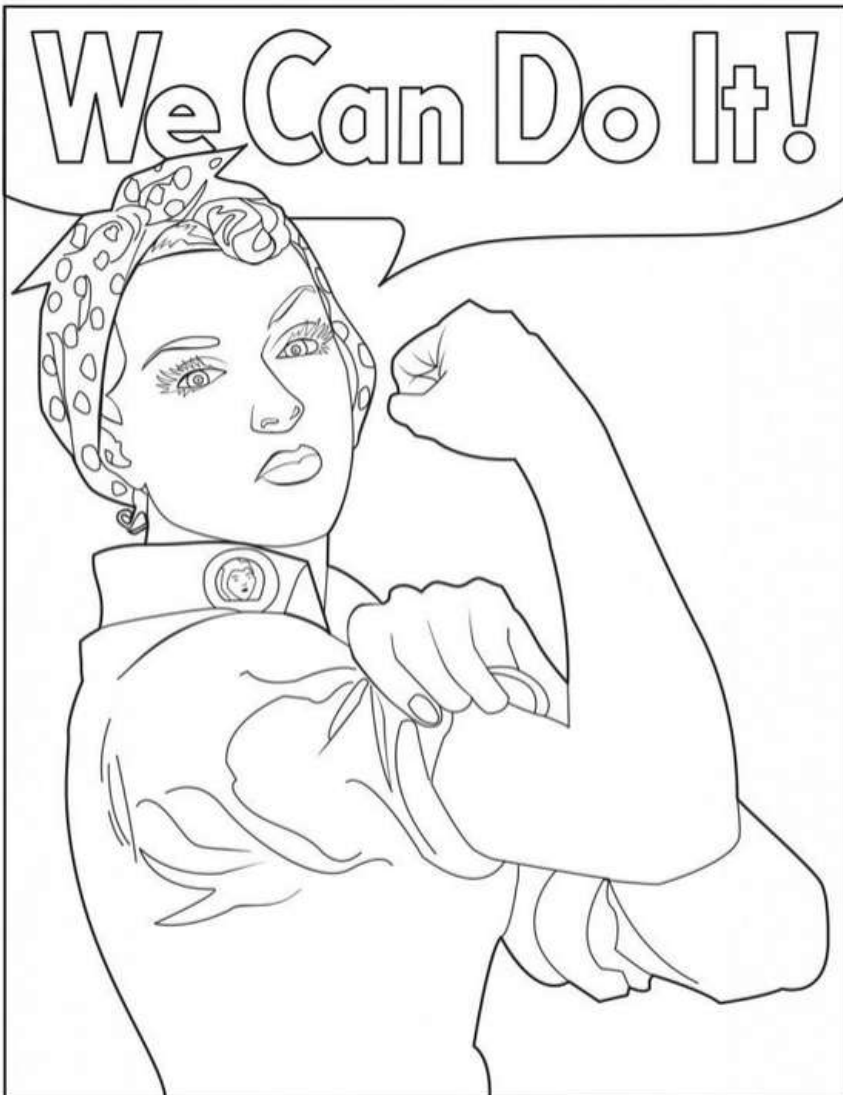
Rosie the Riveter was the character created to represent the thousands of women across the country who went to work for the war effort in factories. The character of "Rosie" appeared in several different propaganda campaigns to encourage more women to join the war effort. Around 5 million women joined the workforce and helped to produce munitions, weapons, airplanes, and more.

Did You Know?

The famous "Rosie" featured in the "We Can Do It" poster was based on a photograph of Naomi Parker Fraley, a 20 year old factory worker in California whose photograph was taken in 1942 and used in a brief propaganda campaign. The poster gained popularity in the 1990s and has become the image people think of when they hear about the "Rosie's".



A real-life "Rosie the Riveter" operating a hand drill at Vultee-Nashville, Tennessee, working on an A-31 Vengeance dive bomber. Downsampled from original and sharpened slightly and resaved to increase managability of file. February 1943 , Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>



J. Howard Miller, "We Can Do It!" Poster, 1942

<https://coloring-pages.info/rosie-the-riveter-printable-coloring-pages-book-18080>

As you color the photograph of "Rosie," think about what she and her fellow factory workers accomplished. What words would you use to describe their actions?

A large empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to write their response to the prompt.

V-E DAY

Victory in Europe Day, May 8, 1945, is the day that Germany surrendered to the Allies and fighting ended in the European Theater. After peace was declared in Europe, the focus of the Allied forces turned to the Pacific Theater where years of island hopping and bloody battles had resulted in a stalemate with Japan.



"The most terrible bomb in the history of the world..."

The Manhattan Project & the Atomic Bomb

President Roosevelt died in the spring of 1945 before V-E Day. His Vice President, Harry S. Truman succeeded him as the new President. In addition to inheriting the presidency, Truman inherited the command of the military and the ongoing war effort. For years, American scientists had been working with the government to develop a new nuclear weapon called the atomic bomb. The Manhattan Project was so secret that even Truman, the Vice President, had no idea the program existed!

President Truman had to make a tough decision: drop the new atomic bombs on Japan or prepare to invade Japan which would prolong the war and result in even more loss of life. President Truman decided to drop the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6 to try and force Japan's surrender. The bomb killed thousands of Japanese civilians and destroyed the city but Japan still would not surrender. Three days later, on August 9, Truman authorized the use of a second bomb on Nagasaki, Japan. Finally, Japan surrendered on September 2. This is known as V-J Day. This officially ended World War II.



What would you do?

List the pro's and con's of dropping the atomic bombs on Japan to help you decide what you would do in Truman's place.

Pros

Cons



Learn More: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/trumanatomicbomb.htm>