

Le chapitre consacré aux relations entre les USA et le monde avec le musée national de l'histoire américaine, Washington....



After three years of uneasy neutrality, the United States entered the war in Europe.

The United States declared war on April 6, 1917. In part, the nation was responding to the growing threat against its economic and diplomatic interests. But it also wanted, in the words of President Woodrow Wilson, to “make the world safe for democracy.”

The first contingent of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) commanded by General John J. Pershing reached France in June, but it took time to assemble, train, and equip a fighting force. By spring 1918, the AEF was ready, first blunting a German offensive at Belleau Wood, then driving back the German lines until the war ended.



## The Dead

Machine guns, poison gas, and a variety of other weapons killed tens of thousands on both sides, but far more troops died under the rain of artillery shells. The dead—often just parts of bodies—were carried back from the front lines. Frequently, an American ambulance driver noted, “there wasn’t anything left to bring.”

Bodies awaiting burial, 1918

*Courtesy of National Archives*



## “Johnnie Get Your Gun”

Two million Americans volunteered for the army, and nearly three million were drafted. More than 350,000 African Americans served, in segregated units. For the first time, women were in the ranks, nearly 13,000 in the navy as Yeomen (F) (for female) and in the marines. More than 20,000 women served in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps.

African American infantrymen



### The Wounded

Advances in hygiene and the rigorous use of antiseptics during surgery saved the lives of many soldiers who might have died in an earlier war. But survivors were often left with disfiguring head and facial injuries. This spurred innovations in reconstructive surgery and facial prosthetics.

American soldier with facial injuries  
*Courtesy of National Archives*

Crutches and prosthetic arm (above), early 1900s



### The Heroes

Two million men in the American Expeditionary Force went to France. Some 1,261 combat veterans—and their commander, General John J. Pershing—were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second-highest award for extraordinary heroism. Sixty-nine American civilians also received the award.

Distinguished Service Cross awarded to General John J. Pershing

In the United States, widespread social disruption and political change followed World War I.

Americans rejoiced at the armistice ending the war, but the Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles peace pact and President Wilson's attempt to include the United States in the new League of Nations. The brief foray into internationalism had exposed the nation to the horrors of war and a flu pandemic that killed millions worldwide.

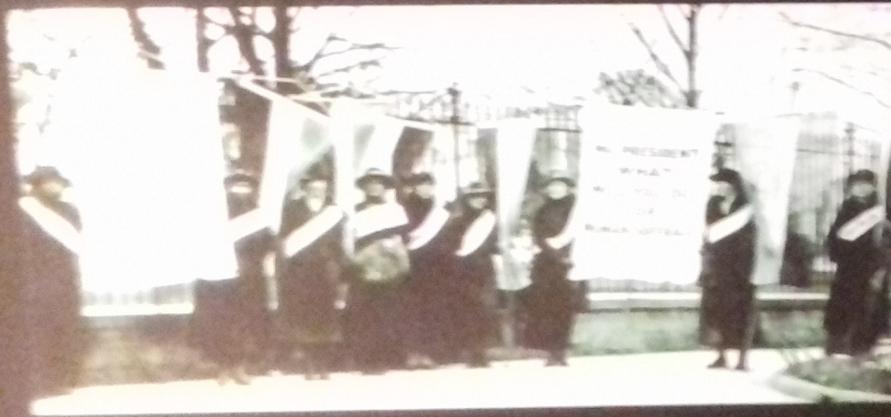
Many Americans longed for a return to the isolationism and social stratification of the prewar years. But others wanted change. Women won the vote, partly for their wartime service. African Americans wanted to keep opportunities gained during the war, but they had little success.

Lynchage ordinaire  
et vote des femmes....

TWO LYNCHED IN MISSISSIPPI.  
DURANT, Miss., May 12.—A race soldier recently discharged from the army and a woman were lynched in the outskirts of Pickens, Holmes county, Miss., according to reports received here tonight by Marshal J. S. Koalofor. The lynching is said to have followed admission by the man that he had hired the woman to write an improper note to a young woman at Pickens.

Clipping from *Cleveland Advocate*, 1919

*Courtesy of Ohio Historical Society*



Suffragists picketing the White House, 1917



Women casting votes, 1920

# Sentiment for Aid to Britain Rises Following Roosevelt Talks Nation-Wide Survey Indicates

## Two Voters in Every Three Found Willing to Risk War to Give Aid; Few Advocate Going to War Now

By DR. GEORGE GALUP  
Director, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 23.—A sharp increase in aid to Britain sentiment following the President's Executive Order and his defense message to Congress is revealed in a new nationwide survey by the Institute.

Sentiment toward Britain has reached the point where more than two voters in every three favor giving her aid even at the risk of going into the war. The figure is nearly double what it was at the time the Nazis invaded the Low Countries and France last May.

However, only a small minority of voters actually advocate American participation in the war as a byproduct of this aid. The same study also revealed that the vast majority favor giving aid to Britain even though they would not support going to war over it. A national conference was held on the issue.

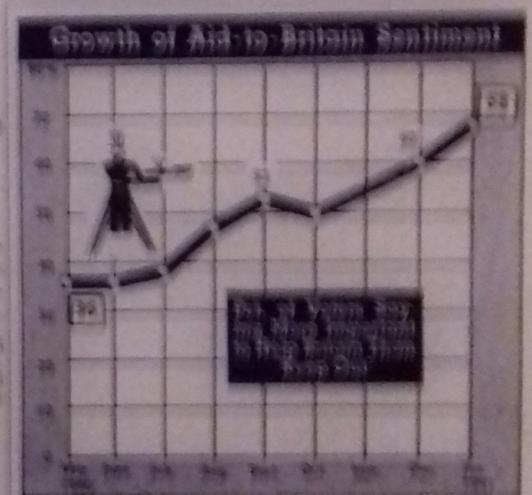
The survey shows two voters in every three favor aid to Britain. This is a sharp increase from the 50 per cent who favored aid to Britain in the survey held in May, 1940. At that time only 10 per cent of the voters favored going to war to give Britain aid. The survey also shows that 70 per cent of the voters favor aid to Britain even at the risk of going to war.

From the situation has changed since then has sentiment for help by England rose to the rank of one in two voters in favor of the following opinion.

“Which of these two things do you think is the more important for the United States to do to help England—(1) to help her with money and help England win over the war?”

Month	Help England	Go to War
May, 1940	50	10
June	55	15
July	60	20
Aug.	65	25
Sept.	70	30
Oct.	75	35
Nov.	80	40
Dec.	85	45
Jan., 1941	88	48

Effect of Executive Order  
The increasing sentiment in the survey shows clearly in the voters who reacted to the President's Executive Order. The survey also reveals that 70 per cent of the voters favor aid to Britain even at the risk of going to war. This is a sharp increase from the 50 per cent who favored aid to Britain in the survey held in May, 1940.



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Les américains étaient très frileux à l'idée de rentrer en guerre dans les années 1930. Il fallut du temps pour que l'opinion se fasse à cette idée..

Ici une page de journal montrant, sondage à l'appui, que l'opinion en faveur de l'intervention est de plus en plus nombreuse...

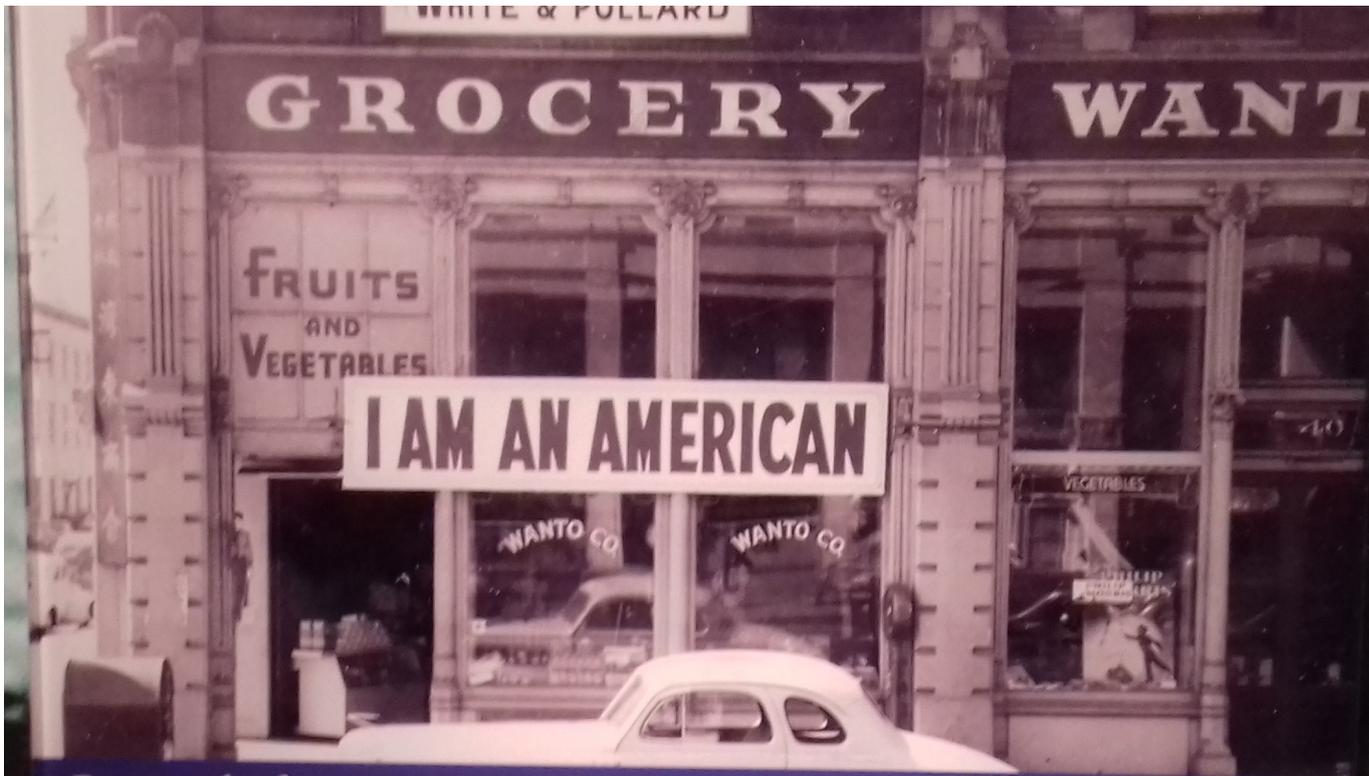
Les sondages sont utilisés aux USA depuis les années 1930.

# American Internment Camps

Foreign nationals and U.S. citizens of “enemy” ancestry were removed from their homes and held in detention camps.

Fearful of threats to homeland security, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942. His order authorized the removal of “any or all persons” from areas of the country deemed vulnerable to attack or sabotage. Nearly 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans—two-thirds of them U.S. citizens—were forced from their businesses and homes. They were held in internment camps in isolated locations for up to four years.

Background Image:  
courtesy of National  
Archives and Library  
of Congress



### Removal of Japanese Americans

Japanese and Japanese Americans in California sometimes had only several days' notice before they were relocated. Thousands were forced to sell their homes and businesses quickly—at an enormous loss.

*Japanese American grocery store in Oakland, California  
Courtesy of National Archives*

## “So They’ll Have Enough”

As natural resources, even agricultural outputs, were diverted to support the troops, Americans faced shortages and rationing.

In 1942, the U.S. government began rationing gasoline and sugar. The next year, fresh meat, butter, cheese, and canned goods were rationed as well. Every month, households received a limited number of ration stamps with point values for fresh and canned foods. Stamps had to be redeemed with each food purchase. Shoppers could exchange meat drippings and bacon fat—used for explosives—for extra points. Even with rationing, foods were in short supply. Many families tended backyard “victory gardens,” canned their own vegetables, or substituted ingredients in favorite recipes.



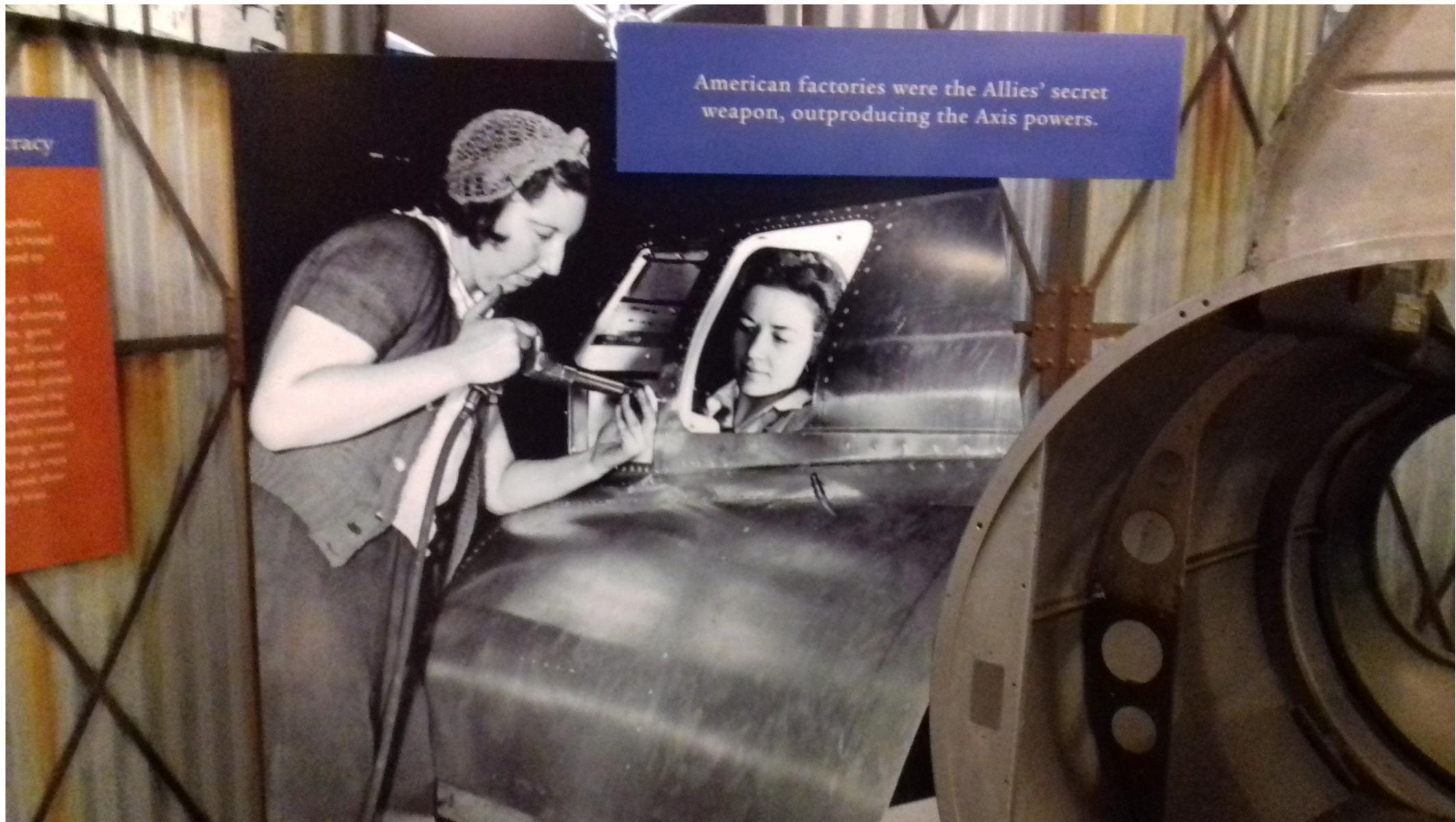
**When you ride ALONE  
you ride with Hitler!**



**Join a  
Car-Sharing Club  
TODAY!**

HEINER  
PUNDEL

American factories were the Allies' secret weapon, outproducing the Axis powers.



## Revolutionizing Production

The application of welding on a large scale helped speed the mass production of ships and other war matériel.

American shipbuilder Henry Kaiser headed a consortium of companies charged by the government to speed construction of desperately needed cargo and transport vessels. He introduced modular construction techniques in which ship components were welded together by electric current rather than hot-riveted; each ship had 600,000 feet of welded joints. Arc welding was faster than riveting, required one person instead of four to join each seam, and was easier for newly recruited war workers to learn. In one record-breaking sprint, workers completed the Liberty ship *Robert E. Perry* in four days and 15.5 hours.

M  
Y  
V  
I  
E  
W



Augusta H. Clawson

There is nothing to prepare you in for the excruciating noise you get on ship. Any who were not heart and soul to stick it out would fade out right away. There are times when those chippers get going and the shipfitters on opposite sides of a tremendous metal sledgehammers start and you wonder if your ears can stand

Shipyard worker Augusta Clawson, 1940s

jacket

George Gay, the sole survivor  
quadron at the Battle of Midway,  
, 1942

life preserver  
ed a "Mae West" after the  
actress



### Jimmy Doolittle's Raid

On April 18, 1942, Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle led sixteen B-25 bombers, launched from an aircraft carrier more than 700 miles out to sea, on a daring raid on Tokyo. Most of his planes hit targets in the capital. Although the raid caused modest damage, it embarrassed the Japanese government and greatly boosted U.S. morale.

*Courtesy of National Archives*

ataan death march, April



The Pacific Theater



## Navajo Code Talkers

Indian “code talkers” used their complex and largely unknown language in an innovative program to protect communications. Some 400 Navajos were trained to convey information about troop movements and tactics. They took part in every Pacific assault from 1942 to 1945, and their code was never broken.

*Courtesy of National Archives*

## The Strategic Air Campaign

The United States tailored its bombing campaign in Japan to cause maximum devastation and break the Japanese will to fight.

In March 1945, U.S. bombers changed tactics. Instead of flying high-altitude daylight runs against industrial targets, they began low-flying nighttime attacks on cities, with incendiary bombs. Firestorms devastated property and killed civilians as well as soldiers and factory workers. On the night of March 9-10, for example, U.S. bombers destroyed sixteen square miles of Tokyo and killed close to 100,000 men, women, and children. By mid-June, most of Japan's major cities were destroyed. Aerial mines were dropped in harbors while the U.S. Navy launched carrier air attacks against coastal targets. Still the Japanese fought on.

June 5, 1945

ograph of Japan

L'usage de la bombe atomique légitimé par les conditions de combat : l'interprétation première et la plus simple.

C'est une première lecture de l'événement.

Le contexte permet une deuxième perspective: fin de la guerre à l'ouest, tergiversations de Staline pour entrer en guerre contre le Japon, concurrence vis à vis de l'URSS, conférence de Potsdam...

**P**resident Harry Truman personally ordered atomic bombs dropped on Japan. Within days, Japan surrendered.

In July 1945, President Truman made his controversial decision to use atomic weapons that had been developed secretly during the war by Manhattan Project scientists. Allied submarines had crippled the Japanese merchant fleet. Firebombs had destroyed dozens of Japanese cities; few targets remained. Yet Japan had not surrendered. Americans incurred enormous losses taking Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Japanese suicide attacks on U.S. ships had killed more sailors in two months than in the previous two years. More than one million troops were moving to invade Japan when the first bomb destroyed Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. On August 9, a second atomic bomb leveled Nagasaki, and Japan surrendered.

Hiroshima images  
Courtesy of National Archives

Engagement extérieur et conséquences intérieures ...

Installation de la croissance et remise en cause de la ségrégation... par le haut !

## Changes at Home

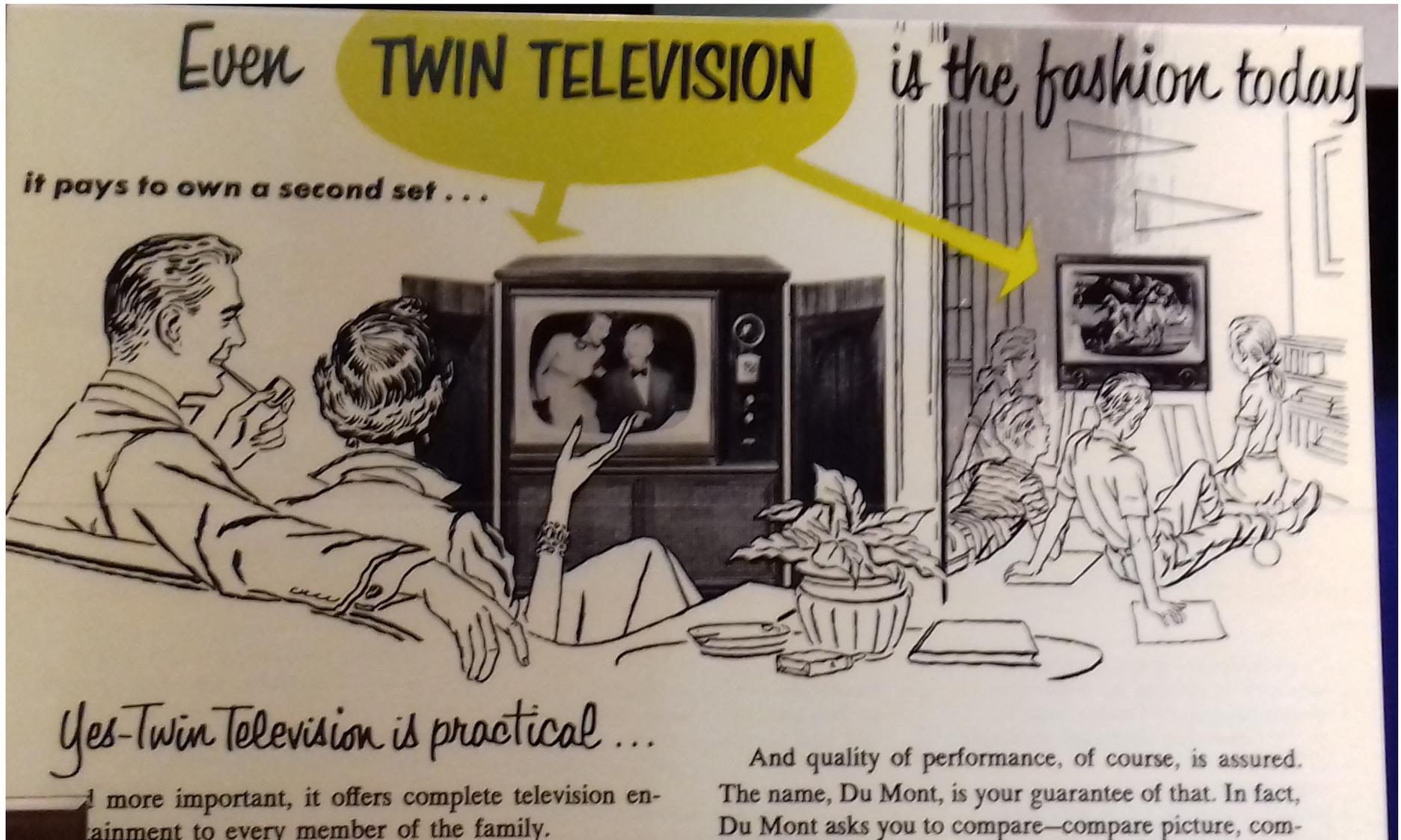
Major social changes in the decade after World War II included suburbanization and an emerging civil rights movement.

Two postwar occurrences altered life in the United States. First, millions of Americans moved to the suburbs for the “good life” of prefabricated houses with picture windows, appliance-filled kitchens, television sets, and station wagons. Second, African Americans, many of them veterans, returned to their struggle against segregation with renewed vigor—and won new support from the government. President Harry Truman ordered the armed forces to desegregate, and federal courts moved to integrate public schools.

La consommation pour vivre mieux mais également comme arme de guerre froide. Multiplier les biens d'équipement comme la télévision, augmente le confort et favorise la production...

Even **TWIN TELEVISION** is the fashion today

it pays to own a second set . . .

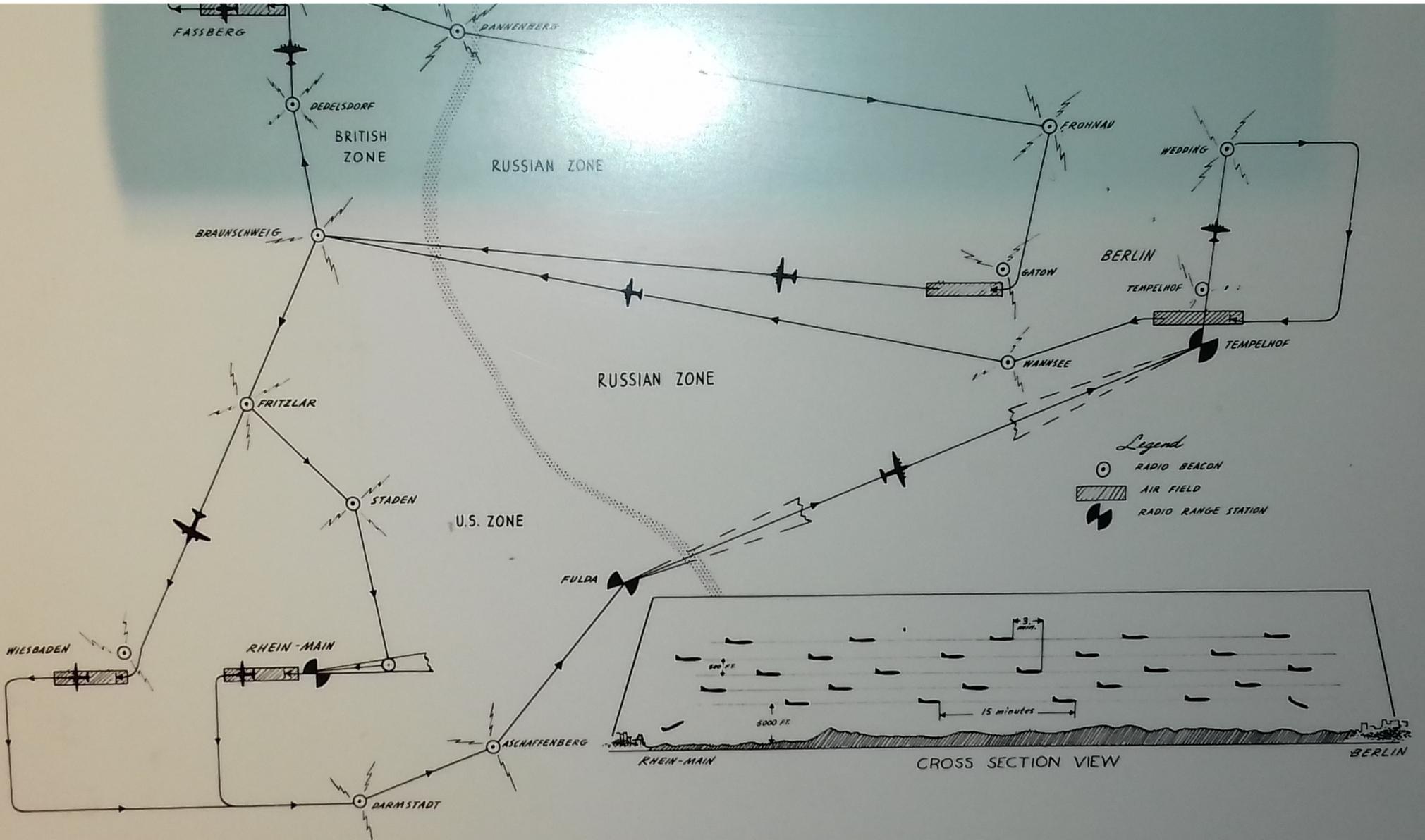


Yes-Twin Television is practical . . .

And quality of performance, of course, is assured. The name, Du Mont, is your guarantee of that. In fact, Du Mont asks you to compare—compare picture, com-

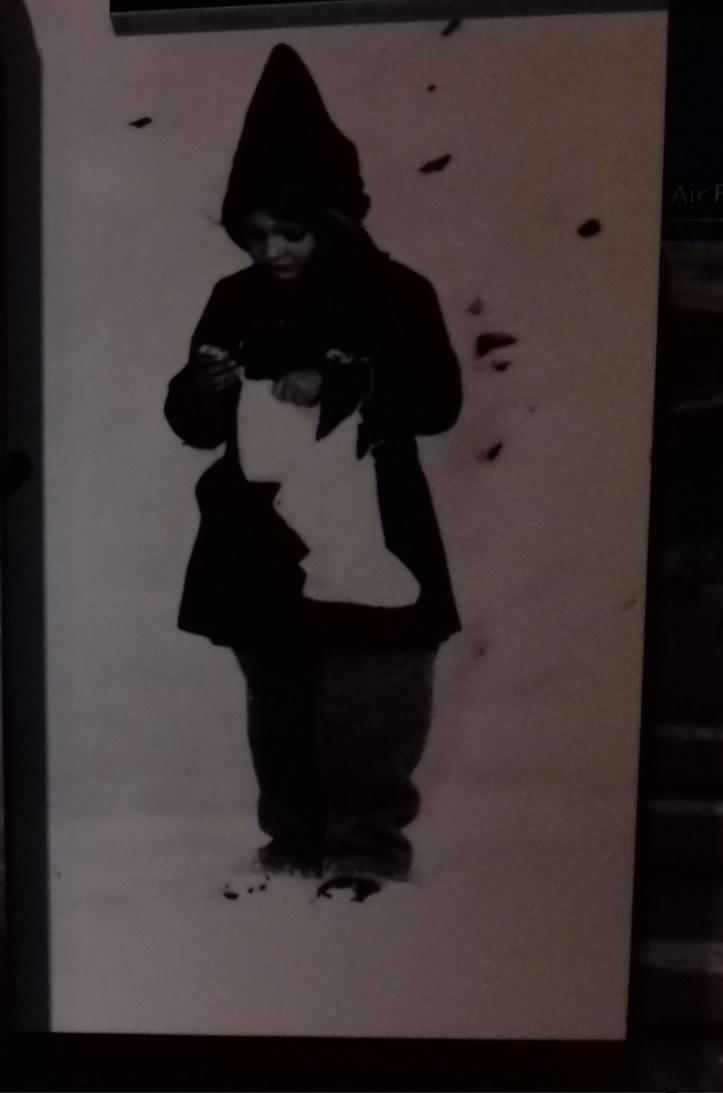
more important, it offers complete television entertainment to every member of the family.

# BLOCUS DE BERLIN





Berlin child retrieving candy dropped in a handkerchief parachute





U.S. Air Force C-47 Skytrains during the Berlin Airlift, 1948



## The Korean War, 1950–1953

The United States went to war to contain Communist expansion fostered by the Soviet Union.

After Japan surrendered Korea at the end of World War II, the Soviet Union and the United States agreed to oversee separate occupation zones. When North Korean forces poured into South Korea on June 25, 1950, President Harry Truman interpreted the invasion as an attempt by Moscow to expand its domain and test Western resolve. He committed American troops and rallied support in the United Nations, establishing a coalition of sixteen nations to mount a counterattack. Three years of brutal fighting left Americans divided over the war. An uneasy truce split the Korean peninsula into a Communist north and democratic south.

Un classique de la cartographie historique : les allers-retours du front lors de la guerre de Corée (1950-1953)



# First Steps into Vietnam

Determined to stop Communist expansion, the United States became increasingly involved in Southeast Asia.

During World War II, the United States supported Vietnamese nationalist Ho Chi Minh in his struggle against the Japanese. But after the war, when he sought assistance from Communist powers to win independence from France, the United States opposed him as an agent of Communist expansion.

A 1954 cease-fire agreement partitioned the country into a Communist north and anti-Communist south. President Dwight Eisenhower sent military advisors and \$1 billion to support South Vietnam. President John F. Kennedy increased the number of advisors and tripled U.S. financial support.

La guerre du Vietnam s'impose peu à peu aux USA...

D'abord ils aident le Sud Vietnam après la défaite française dès 1954.

Puis ils fournissent davantage de « conseillers militaires » au Sud. Les premiers morts arrivent dès 1959 comme on le voit sur tous les monuments en rapport avec cet engagement. (monument de Veteran Plaza à New York, mémorial de Washington)

L'engagement massif commence après l'incident du Maddox (un destroyer qui aurait été attaqué par les Nord Vietnamiens... on sait depuis que cet incident n'a jamais eu lieu. Mais c'est le prétexte que le président Johnson utilise (début août 1964) à peine quelques mois après l'assassinat de Kennedy (22 novembre 1963) pour envoyer l'armée au Vietnam.

1954

1959

1964

1973 accords de Paris

1975 chute de Saïgon

1989 chute du mur de Berlin

Fin 90 début 91 guerre du golfe

Noël 1991 fin de l'URSS



In 1991, the United States became the world's only superpower and began redefining its global role.

## War in Afghanistan

The United States and its allies launched attacks against al Qaeda and the Taliban, the fundamentalist Islamic government of Afghanistan.

In October 2001, U.S. and allied forces unleashed a torrent of precision-guided bombs and sea-launched cruise missiles against terrorist havens in Afghanistan. Several hundred Central Intelligence Agency and Special Forces operatives recruited anti-Taliban armies and joined them in ground fighting. Taliban and al Qaeda strongholds were quickly destroyed, but Osama bin Laden and other highly sought leaders escaped. Early on the morning of May 1, 2011, an elite U.S. counterterrorism unit attacked and killed Osama bin Laden and four others in a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

[ON WALL]  
U.S. Air Force  
combat controller  
deployed with  
Afghan militiamen  
*Courtesy of Air Force  
Association*

[ON WALL, RIGHT]  
Wanted poster  
issued by the  
Federal Bureau of  
Investigation, 2001

[ON WALL, FAR RIGHT]  
*Time* magazine,  
May 20, 2011



### Air Reconnaissance

Remote-controlled, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) like this Predator UAV carried cameras and sensors, as well as Hellfire-C laser-guided missiles.

*Courtesy of General Atomics*

[IN CASE]  
Tire and engine cylinder from the first Predator UAV to fly a combat reconnaissance mission over Afghanistan.

*Lent by Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum*



### Ground Reconnaissance

In Afghanistan, U.S. military used  
for the first time with  
robots. "PackBots" came  
ground troops to sweep  
compounds and caves fr

*Courtesy of Air Force Association*

[IN CASE]

Developed for the military by

Lent by

**W**ars have been defining episodes in American history. For more than 200 years, Americans have gone to war to win their independence, expand their national boundaries, define their freedoms, and defend their interests around the globe.

How have American wars shaped the nation?

How have they affected American society?

How have they touched you and your family?