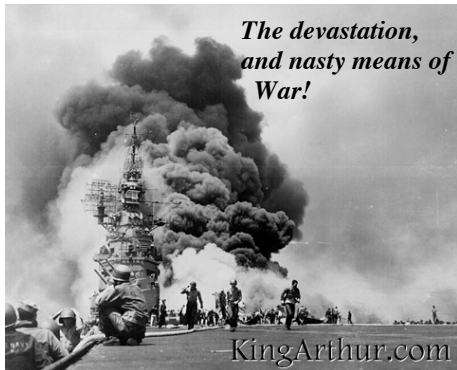


World War II

Thalami High School, Hawaii, USA
Mr. Baxter's 10th grade American History
Tenth Grade American History Newsletter -Vol. I

This past month, our tenth grade American History class has literally thrown itself back in time, back to the warfare of the Second World War. From reading historical accounts to, ultimately, making a trip to Pear Harbor, the students have experienced every realm of WWII possible in this day and age. In this newsletter, I have put together a few highlights of the unit, including: websites, pictures, books, and computer software. Read away and take a peak into the chaos *and* glory of WWII!

At the beginning of this unit, I decided it best to take advantage of the virtually "clean slate" of knowledge that most of the students possessed about WWII.



The first day of class was dedicated to *World War II*, a plain name nonetheless, but a great video that paints a colorful picture

of the war. With a plethora of original footage from the war, this video let the students see the war, first hand!

That same first day, I assigned each student "Echoes of World War II," by Trish Marx. Though the students were not too thrilled by the reading assignment, I was confident that they would find it fascinating. Marx captures her readers, telling the stories of six different people, from six different countries, and how their childhood was affected by the war. We did many assignments throughout the semester that directly pertained to this book, and it was the backbone of numerous projects.

A separate project that the students spent numerous hours discussing was the aura

surrounding Nazi racial ideology, including sterilization, marriage prohibitions, and euthanasia. Students researched all three subjects and were required to write an essay about one of them. The topic was to be judged, ethically, by each student. That student then decided if the subject was morally right or wrong and wrote an essay explaining their answer.

The finale to this unit was a class trip to Pearl Harbor. We were lucky enough to use our textbooks, and information they had. Being



residents of Hawaii, we don't have a clue how lucky we are to have such a valuable resource monument so close to us. The

trip was a success and a great way to end the unit, not to mention the pizza on the way back to the school!

Before I finish, I thought I'd share a great web site that all of the students benefited from over the span of the unit. The site is:

<http://members.aol.com/TeacherNet/WWII.html>

This site includes information itself, as well as a huge list of sites with even more interesting details as to how the war was fought. Well, that's about it folks, have a great month, and remember, "be careful, history repeats itself..."