

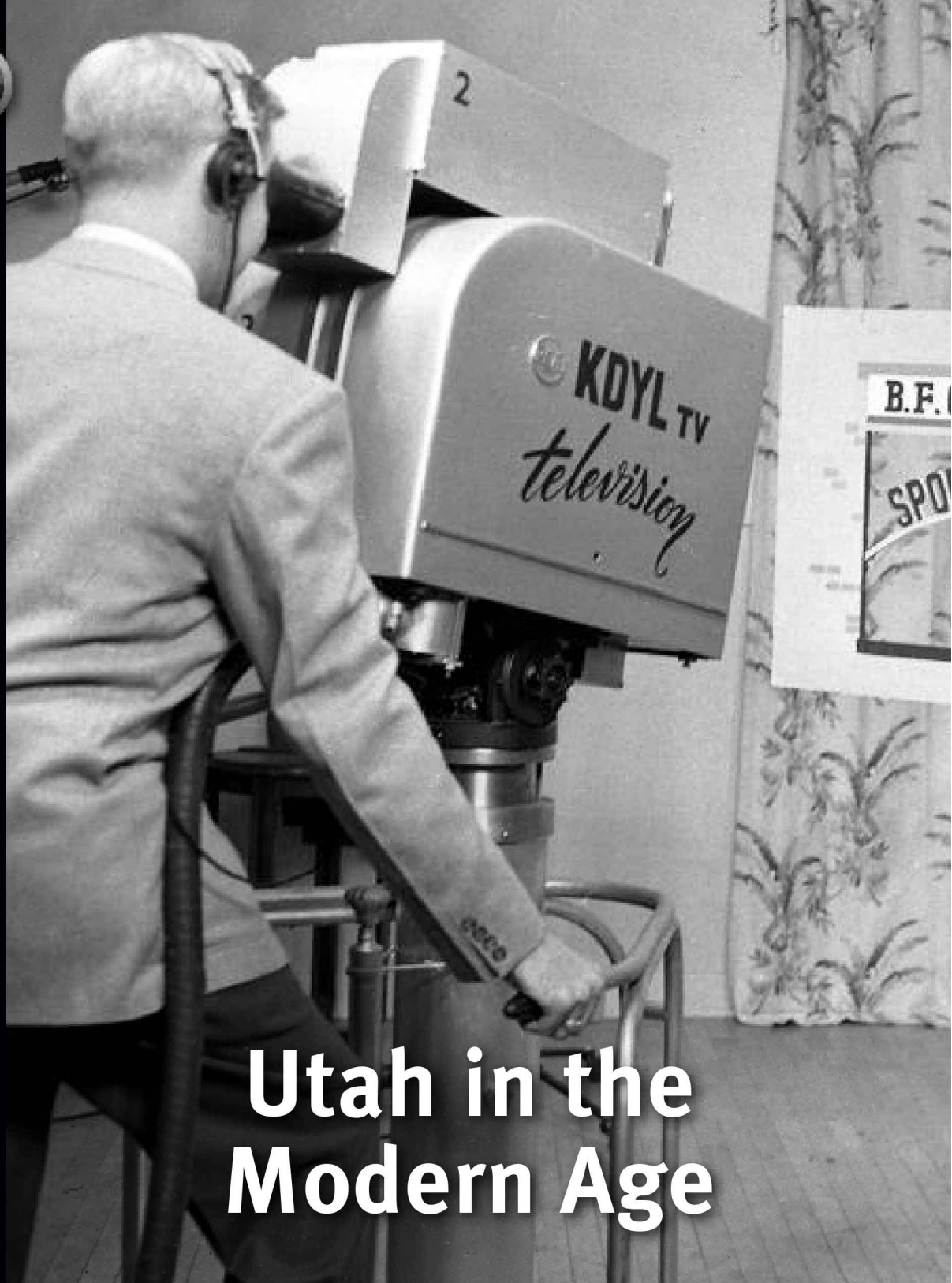
PEOPLE TO KNOW

Alan Ashton
Bruce Bastian
David Evans
Philo Farnsworth
Jake Garn
Gail Halvorsen
Robert Harris
Adolf Hitler
John F. Kennedy
Martin Luther King Jr.
Benito Mussolini
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Paul Tibbets Jr.
Terry Lee Williams

WORDS TO UNDERSTAND

communism
dictator
inferno
intercept
naturalize
refugee
repeal
urban

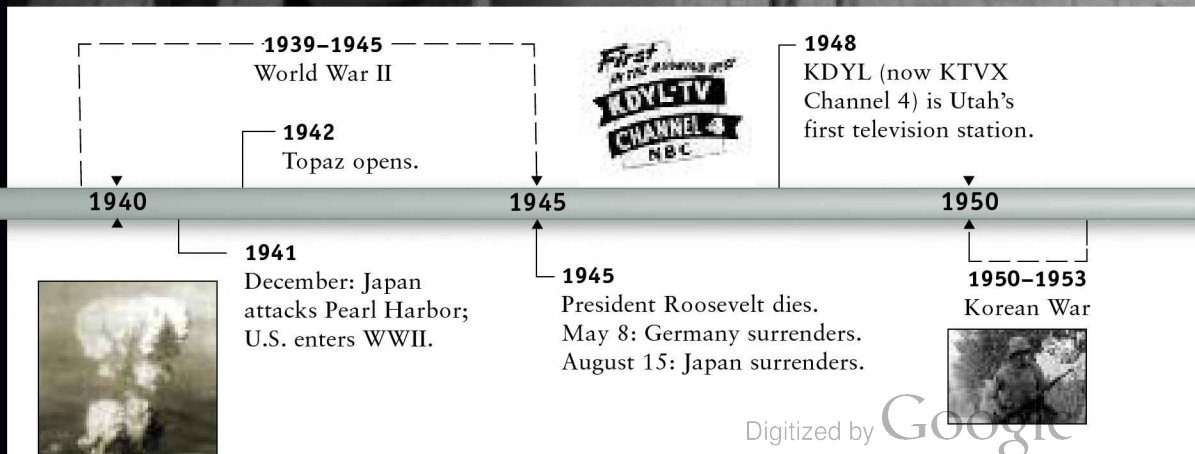
The introduction of television helped usher in the modern age. KDYL TV (Channel 4) was Utah's first television station. This photograph shows a sports program. Which company sponsored the program?



Utah in the Modern Age



Timeline of Events



Chapter 13

SETTING THE STAGE

Utah and the rest of the country slowly emerged from the depression, and most people had enough food on their tables. Then the unthinkable happened. Japan dropped bombs on a U.S. naval base in Hawaii. The United States entered World War II, and Utah's military defense plants went into full production.

Life in Utah reflected the rest of the nation. For the first time, people drove on freeways. We supplied materials and technology for the space race. People of many cultures came to work and raise families in the Beehive State.



1985
Utah Senator Jake Garn orbits in a space shuttle.



2001
September 11th:
Foreign terrorists
attack the United
States.

2003
War
in Iraq
begins.

1960s-1973
Vietnam War

1960

1960
Construction begins
on Utah's first freeway
system and on Glen
Canyon Dam, forming
Lake Powell.

1970

1969
A Thiokol engine helps Neil
Armstrong land on the moon.

1964
The national Civil
Rights Act outlaws
racial discrimination.



1980

1982
Computer software
is developed
in Utah.



2002
Utah hosts the Olympic
Winter Games.

SALT LAKE 2002

253

World War II

“ We were thinking of Christmas and peaceful things, when suddenly war was in the making. ”

—Maurice Harding

In Europe and Asia, *dictators* were gaining power. In Germany, Adolf Hitler was building a strong army and starting a campaign of terror against Jews and others. In Italy, Benito Mussolini joined Hitler. In Asia, Japan sought to build an empire by conquering Manchuria and attacking China.

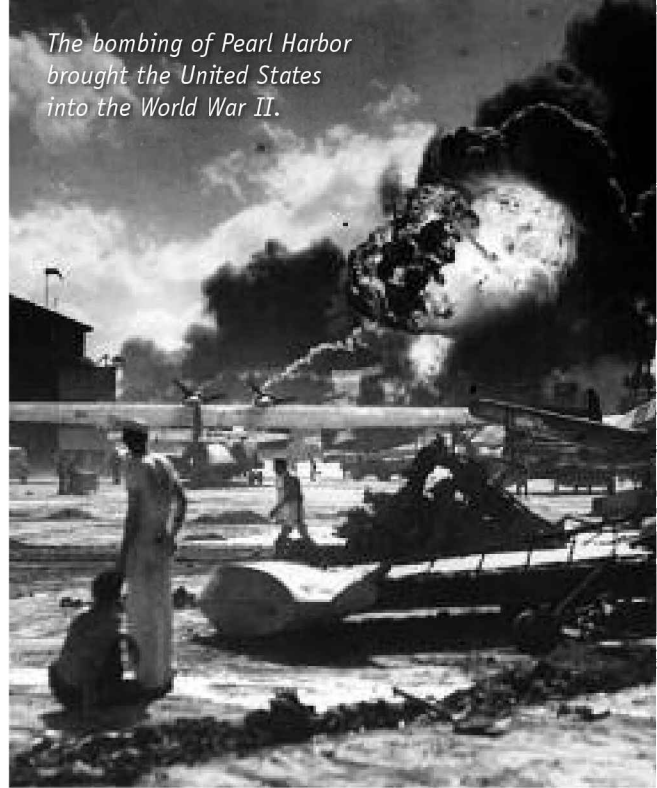
Then German armies invaded Poland. England and France declared war. World War II had begun, but the United States did not enter the fighting. They wanted to leave Europe's problems in Europe. With the Great Depression, Americans had enough to worry about at home. And, they had already been through the horrors of World War I.

Pearl Harbor

When Japan invaded Manchuria, China, and other countries, the United States objected. This caused tension between the two countries.

Despite the uneasy news of war across the oceans, Utah residents greeted December 7, 1941, as a typical peaceful Sunday. Families relaxed over their newspapers, attended church services, or planned their Christmas shopping. By evening, however, everything had changed. The Japanese attacked U.S. warships at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and other U.S. Pacific Ocean territories. The surprise of the deadly attacks left Americans shocked and stunned.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the World War II.



The next day, Congress declared that a state of war existed between the United States and Japan. Three days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States.

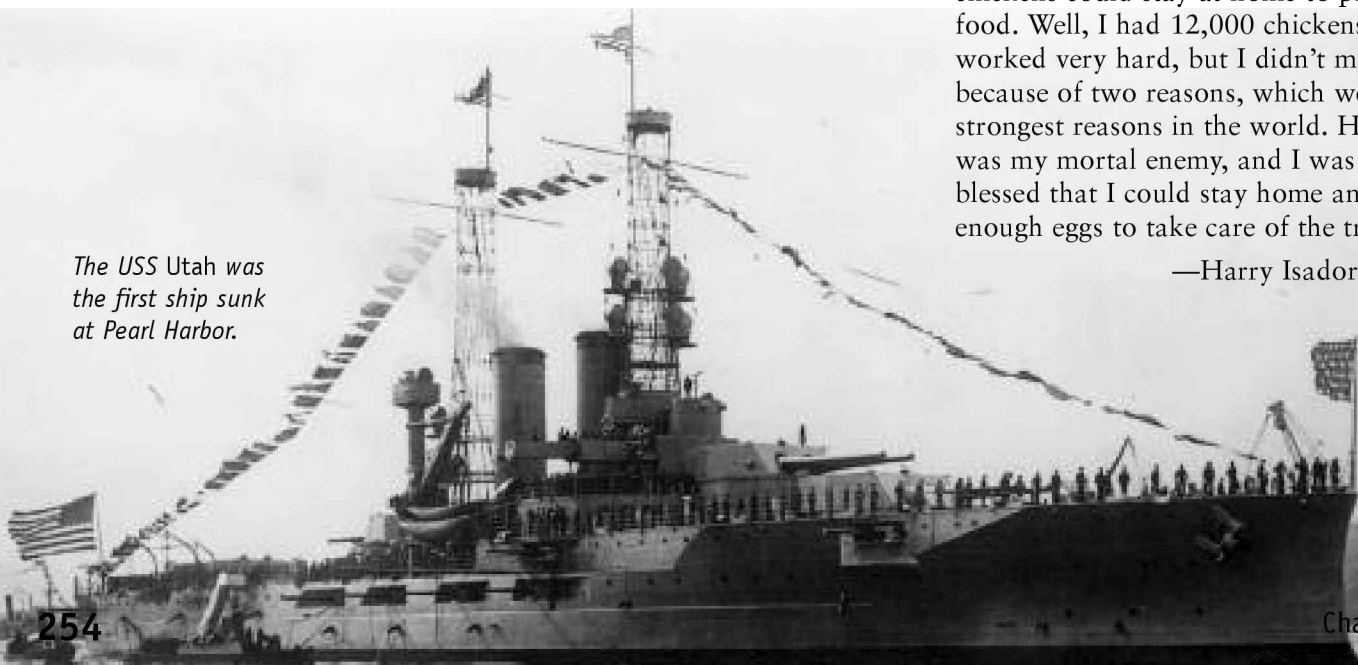
Utah Gets Involved

Utah was involved in all aspects of the war. More than 71,000 Utahns left for service in the armed forces. Utahns also gave support at home. They went about their jobs with a determination to make their work count toward winning the war as quickly as possible.

Every person who grew 3,000 or more chickens could stay at home to produce food. Well, I had 12,000 chickens. I worked very hard, but I didn't mind it because of two reasons, which were the strongest reasons in the world. Hitler was my mortal enemy, and I was blessed that I could stay home and raise enough eggs to take care of the troops.

—Harry Isadore Smith

The USS Utah was the first ship sunk at Pearl Harbor.



For the following reasons, Utah was in an ideal position to help the government during the war:

- Utah was inland, far away from either coast, and was thought to be safer from attack by enemy forces.
- Utah's open spaces, where few people lived, were good for training pilots.
- Utah had a good transportation system in place. There were highways, railroads, and airlines that could move troops and materials to port cities on the west coast.
- Utah's rich natural resources were available to produce things needed in the war. Mines were expanded and new ones were opened. Processing plants were enlarged.
- Utah provided a well-educated labor force. Civilians trained to work for the war effort at home.
- Utah already had defense facilities. These included Fort Douglas in Salt Lake City, Hill Field in Clearfield, and the Ogden Ordnance Depot. The Ogden Arsenal was where bombs, artillery shells, and machine gun belts were made. Hill Field was a huge training base for pilots. Aircraft were repaired, aircraft parts were made, and parachutes were repaired. Pilots were trained in bombing missions.

New Defense Installations Support the War

To better aid the war effort, a new steel plant was built on the shore of Utah Lake near Orem. Geneva Steel Company used iron ore from the mines near Cedar City and other places. Coal for the furnaces was brought from Carbon County. The first steel was sent to shipbuilders to make warships.

Storage and supply depots were built in Salt Lake City, Ogden, Clearfield, and Tooele. Pilot training bases were built in Kearns and other places. A shooting range and a bombing range were built at Wendover Air Force Base. The crew that

later dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima trained there. Dugway Proving Grounds and the Deseret Chemical Depot near Tooele handled chemical warfare materials.

Before the United States entered the war, Utah had been mostly a mining, agriculture, and businesses state. In the 1940s, the government became Utah's largest employer. By 1942, a year after the United States entered the war, Utah reached full employment for the first time in the twentieth century.

Machine guns developed in Utah by John Browning were used extensively in the war. One man wrote: "The decision of British officers to mount ten caliber .303 Brownings on their Hurricane Fighters [airplanes] brought about the turning point of the war."

Navajo Code Talkers

When the war began, many Navajos from Utah and Arizona volunteered for service. Some joined the Marine Corps. The marines soon discovered the advantages of the Navajo language. It was not like any other language, so it made a perfect secret code.

A group of Navajos volunteered to become code talkers. After careful training, they were sent to the Pacific, where each man was assigned to a separate unit. They used portable telephones and two-way radios. One Navajo soldier would send a message to a second Navajo. He would then translate the message back into English. The code talkers gave the names of birds, fish, and other animals to military terms. Then they used the animal names to report air strikes.

The Navajo code talkers left the Japanese baffled. The enemy **intercepted** many radio messages, but they never realized the code was a real language. More than 350 Navajos worked as code talkers in the Pacific and in Italy.



Life in Topaz



After the attack on Pearl Harbor, there was great discrimination against Japanese Americans, even if they had been born and lived all of their lives in the United States and were U.S. citizens. There was a feeling that they might be more loyal to Japan than to America, or that they might contact relatives in Japan and serve as spies.

The U.S. government gave an order to move all the Japanese who lived along the west coast to special new camps in other places. The people had to leave their jobs and homes, sell their belongings, and move quickly. A racetrack in California was used as a temporary camp. Until the government decided what to do with them, the people had to sweep out stalls where horses had been kept and use the stalls for apartments.

A relocation camp near Delta, Utah, was quickly built as one of the places to house the Japanese. It was an interesting situation, because the Japanese already living in Utah were not forced to live at the camp. Before the long wooden barracks were even completed and covered with tarpaper, the Japanese families were brought to the Topaz Relocation Center on trains. What a depressing sight greeted them when the long ride was over.

Topaz was a mile-square city of row after row of barracks out on the barren desert. A tall barbed wire fence surrounded the prison town. Each barrack was divided into small rooms. During the winters the barracks were heated with coal stoves, but the thin walls didn't keep the heat in except during the scorching summers. There was very little furniture—mainly army cots provided by the government. Each block had a mess hall where the group ate.

The adults were paid wages to work at different jobs around the camp. People could also get passes to work outside the camp in farming projects and at other jobs in Delta.

People who had relatives or friends outside the camp who would provide jobs were allowed to leave. Many left to work in the mines, smelters, farms, and other businesses in and out of Utah.

The following quotes are taken from a book titled *Beyond Words*. The quotes give an idea of what life in Topaz was like.

It was so hot and crowded that we all went outside to sleep. We'd talk all night long—about girls, sports, boys, the army. So for us kids, just get up, eat, and play, that's all. Every now then have a dance party. So it wasn't that bad for us.

—Jack Matsuoka

We were suddenly uprooted—lost everything. There we were in an unfinished camp, with snow and cold.

The people helped sheetrock the walls for warmth and built the barbed wire fence to fence themselves in. We had to sing "God Bless America" many times.

—Mine Okubo

I kept busy with young adults who wanted to learn fashion designing and art. We didn't have any materials. We tried to get in touch with friends in Los Angeles to send us whatever objects they could get their hands on. Slowly we were able to get a few pieces of paper, a few pens, drawing ink, and a little coloring material.

—Lawrence Sasano

The Japanese love clubs. We were clubbed to death in all the camps—sewing clubs and poetry clubs and this and that. Right away, we put together a writers' club, artists' club, and even an exercise club. I could get up in the morning and hear them exercising. We decided we might have dancing—got all the musicians who could play jazz records. So we did have a lot of dances.

—Lili Sasaki



If you were taken from your coastal home in California, how would you feel as you entered the dusty streets of Topaz?



Women organized sewing and other clubs to socialize and be productive.



Barracks were made of wood frames covered on the outside with tarpaper and on the inside with sheetrock. There was no insulation from heat or cold.

The U.S. Congress, responding to efforts by Mike Mosaoke of Utah, began a process of payment to the Japanese Americans who had been taken to the camps. Forty years later, more money was approved, and an official apology was presented by Congress.



Sports and games were a favorite activity at the two elementary schools and one junior/senior high school in the camp.

The people landscaped and gardened outside the barracks when they could get plants.

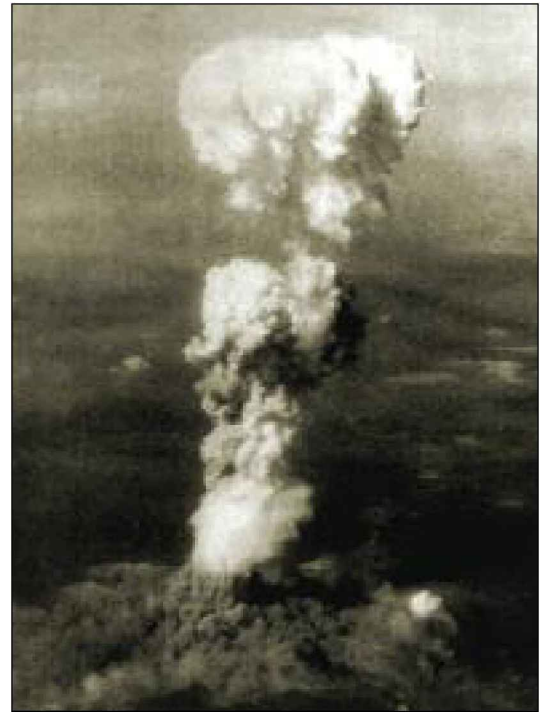
Death of the President and End of the War

In April 1945, the nation was stunned to learn that President Roosevelt had died. Businesses closed. Theaters emptied. Traffic slowed to a halt. For three days and nights radio stations aired only news broadcasts and religious music.

Less than a month later, Germany surrendered, ending the war in Europe. The war in the Pacific, however, was still raging. Leaders in the United States had to make a terrible decision. Should they invade Japan, which might cost a million American casualties and even more deaths to the Japanese? Or, should they use a new weapon—the atomic bomb? It was decided to drop the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

“ I was home on leave when the war ended, you see, and all of a sudden the whole country was on a great high. The day Japan surrendered, it was broadcast on all the radios, in all the media. And you wouldn't believe the reaction! It was just one big celebration that lasted for days. People were out in the streets . . . grabbing hands and just snake-dancing all over. . . ”

—Silas Ephraim Lobato



In her book, *The History of US*, Joy Hakim wrote:

The size and fury of the explosion are greater than anything ever before created by humans. The pilot can see the *inferno* from 250 miles away. Buildings are instantly smashed by a ferocious wind and consumed by fire. Dust makes the city as dark as midnight. The wind tosses people about and thermal rays burn their bodies. An enormous mushroom cloud rises into the sky. It is a time of horror to end a war of horror.

Several days later another bomb was dropped on Japan. In Utah and around the world, people mourned the horrendous human cost of dropping the bomb, but were relieved the war was over.

Colonel Paul Tibbets Jr. named his plane the *Enola Gay*, after his mother. A bomb 28 inches in diameter and 10 feet long had been loaded on the plane. Tibbets was part of an Air Force bombing team trained at a Utah airfield near Wendover. The pilots had volunteered for a special mission, but they didn't know until later they would be dropping the deadly bomb that ended the war.



The Berlin Candy Bomber

Gail S. Halvorsen from Tremonton was stationed in West Berlin after the war ended. Roads, rail lines, and canals had been blockaded by the Russians, closing the city off from supplies and food. The Berlin Airlift, operated by British and American soldiers, dropped food, clothing, and coal on the city twenty-four hours a day for over a year.

One day Halvorsen met thirty children at a fence by the airstrip. He wanted to give them something, but he had only two sticks of gum. He knew he would have to come back the next day in his plane to drop candy for all the children.

By the end of the mission Halvorsen had dropped more than 250,000 parachutes of treats, including candy. Much of it was provided by Americans back home. They tied the candy into handkerchief parachutes and sent them overseas.

Halvorsen was known in Germany as "Uncle Wiggly Wings" because he always wiggled the airplane wings to alert children that he was about to drop his load of candy.



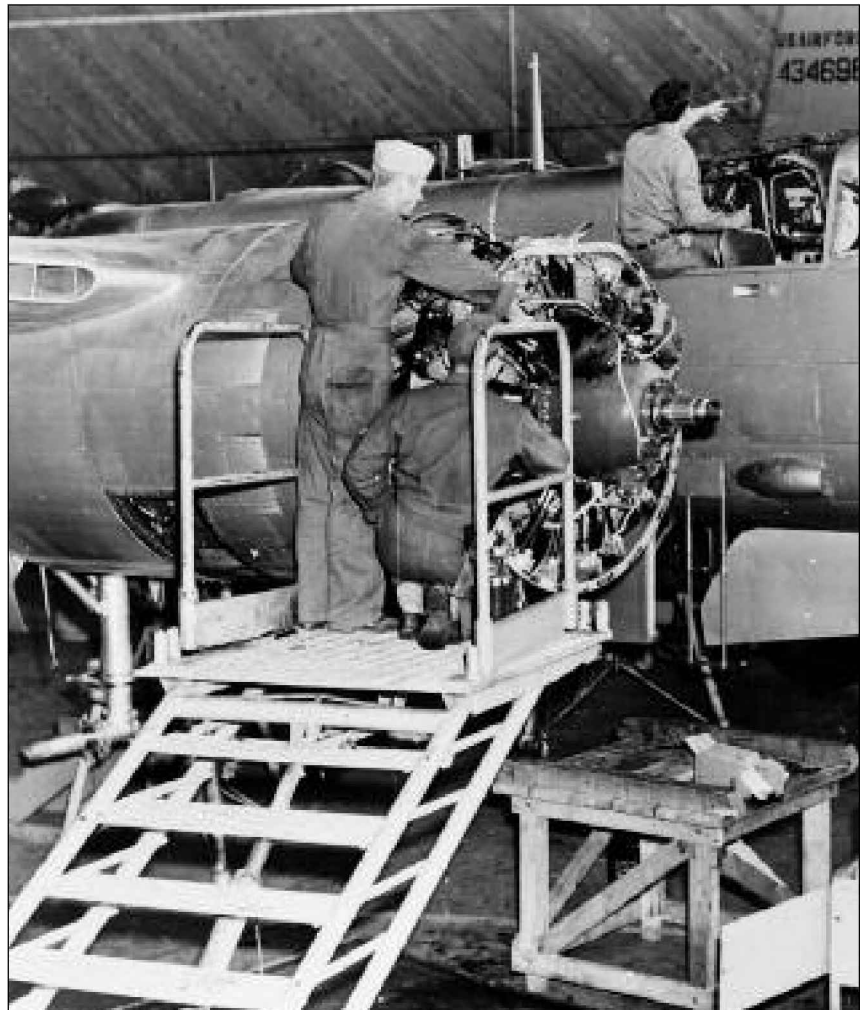
The Cold War Boosts Utah's Defense Industry

Soon after the war, England's Winston Churchill warned the world that an "Iron Curtain" had fallen over central Europe. The Soviet Union began conquering border countries in Eastern Europe. The Soviets wanted to expand *communism*. A "Cold War" cast its shadow across the world.

In Utah, as elsewhere, fear of an atomic bomb attack by the Russians caused some families to convert their basements into bomb shelters and to store a supply of food, water, and medical supplies.

Because the federal government wanted to keep America's defense strong in case of war, it continued to spend millions of dollars at Hill Air Force Base and other Utah supply depots.

Hill Air Force Base in Clearfield was like a busy city, employing thousands to keep the U.S. military defense strong in case of war with the Soviet Union.





Activity | Oral History

Oral histories are a way to keep history alive. An oral history of someone who lived during a time of war gives a human voice to the event. When studying oral histories, remember that a person's memories are not the whole story. Remember that a person's memory of events often changes over time and may contain some inaccuracies.

Preparing for an Oral History Interview

With the help of your family or friends, choose a person who was a child or an adult during World War II or any other war. Ask this person if you can interview him or her about life during the war. If you carefully plan an oral history interview, you will learn more than you could imagine. Follow these steps:

- Research your project to learn about the events you might cover in the interview.
- Develop a questionnaire with an outline of topics.
- Choose an elderly person to interview and make an appointment.
- Conduct the interview.
- Prepare a report highlighting what you learned. Use direct quotes in your report.



Benny Lee interviewed George Anderson to learn more about Anderson's experiences in World War II.

This story comes from oral interviews with George Anderson of Elsinore, Utah. George was a senior, sitting in the auditorium at South Sevier High School, when he heard the announcement that the United States had entered World War II. The next year, George was drafted into the army. Young men could accept the draft and wages of \$50 a month, or go to prison. George signed up and was shipped to the Philippines.

One hot night, Japanese soldiers attacked. Anderson, lying in a foxhole on a hill, turned his head to the side and saw large pieces of shrapnel knocking limbs to the ground. It was a frightening experience.

That morning, as he walked down off the hill for breakfast, George walked past the holes of other soldiers in the company. To George's horror, he passed holes that had taken a direct hit, and there laid the remains of several Americans.

"As I recall, there were about twenty-one of us from Utah who went over on the ship together. I was the only one that didn't get killed, wounded, or have malaria," Anderson said.



George Anderson left his family farm when he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1944.



The Television Revolution

The television revolution spread rapidly after the end of World War II. Although experimentation with television broadcasting had begun in the late 1920s, it was not widely available to the public until much later. The first television programming in Utah began when KTVX (Channel 4) went on the air. KSL-TV (Channel 5) and KUTV (Channel 2) followed later. All television pictures at that time were black and white. Another twenty years passed before color television sets were in most homes.

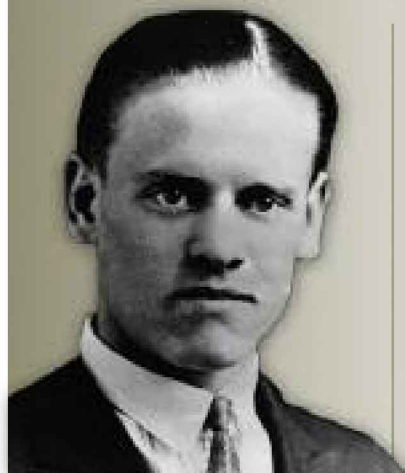
Families gathered in the evenings to watch *The Lone Ranger* and *Ozzie and Harriet*. Years later, *The Ed Sullivan Show* discovered new performers, including Elvis Presley and the Beatles.

“Every day we would look at the television schedule and then wait for a program to come on. . . . When it was over we’d turn the set off because there weren’t any other programs on for hours.”

—Sharon Ann Davis



The Lone Ranger



Philo Farnsworth • 1906–1971

A statue of Philo Farnsworth is one of Utah’s two statues in the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Who was this man often described as a “young genius”?

Philo Farnsworth was born near Beaver, Utah. His family moved to an Idaho ranch when he was twelve. Later, Phil, as he was called, rode a horse to high school four miles away. By the time he was fifteen years old he had developed a theory for the electronic transmission of pictures. The same year he was admitted to Brigham Young University in Provo, where he stayed for two years, studying chemistry and physics.

At age twenty-one Farnsworth married, moved to San Francisco, and set up a laboratory in an empty loft. Working with a partner, he produced the first all-electronic television image. Other people had also been working on the new invention. After a long legal battle with RCA over patent rights, Farnsworth won.

Farnsworth’s son later wrote what his father said about television programming: “There’s nothing on it worthwhile, and we’re not going to watch it in this household.”

Farnsworth’s wife wrote that he changed his mind years later when they watched Neil Armstrong land on the moon. He turned to her and said, “Pem, this has made it all worthwhile.”



A U.S. soldier walks a dirt street in Korea. What kinds of government rule North Korea and South Korea today?

After World War II uranium was in demand for nuclear weapons, including atomic bombs. Unfortunately, radiation is harmful to living things, including people. Many uranium miners later died from lung cancer.

War in Korea

In 1950, only five years after the end of World War II, the United States was at war again, this time in Korea. About 7,500 Utahns joined thousands of other Americans in Korea, trying to keep the communists from taking over the country. When the war was over, 436 Utahns had died.

To help support the Korean War, Utah's defense industry produced missiles and other war equipment, repaired airplanes, and trained for combat. After the war, Thiokol, a company that made missiles, radar systems, and systems and parts for spacecraft, built a huge research center near Brigham City. Thiokol engineers developed the "propulsion system" (a strong force that shot the missiles into the air) for the new Minuteman missiles. Hercules was a new Utah company that helped produce the missiles. The Minuteman missiles could be launched on the ground and targeted at a city hundreds of miles away.

Workers at Sperry Rand, also newly located in Utah, produced missiles, radar systems, and other anti-aircraft weapons. Utah's highly educated population and wide-open testing spaces near railroad shipping lines were big advantages to defense companies.

Moab's Uranium Boom

During the Korean War, the country needed a mineral called uranium to help make atomic energy. Prospectors using a machine called a Geiger counter explored the plateaus of southern Utah for uranium. The Geiger counter beeped when it came in contact with radioactive uranium in rock. Pratt Seegmiller found uranium near the small town of Marysvale. Several years later a poor geologist, Charlie Steen, discovered a rich deposit of uranium near Moab.

Moab became a boomtown as prospectors, miners, and business people moved into the little town surrounded by high red-rock cliffs. Mining companies brought in hundreds of trailers for the workers to live in. Businesses expanded and new ones moved into town to serve the needs of the miners.

Moab grew steadily for twenty years, until uranium was no longer needed in large quantities. The red-rock town by the river switched gradually from a mining town to a tourist town.

Linking the Past to the Present

When you drive into Moab today, you will see Charlie Steen's home high on the red rock cliff. You will also see many hotels, bicycle shops, and river rafting outfits. Moab has become a tourist town for adventure-minded people from all over the world.

Urban Growth and a New Freeway System

Following World War II, more and more people moved to Utah's cities. Around the cities, farmers sold land that was soon covered with new homes.

Urban growth meant a higher demand on public services such as water, sewer, schools, and roads.

A major development in transportation began when the country's interstate freeway system began in the 1960s. The federal government agreed to pay about 95 percent of the cost, and the Utah State Road Commission announced plans for the "thru-highway" that would be a major north-south highway.

I remember when my parents and my six sisters and I traveled in our old brown car to visit my grandmother. I always fought for a window because cars didn't have air conditioning then. Before the freeway was built, we drove from Midvale along State Street, stopping at every corner traffic light, until we reached the Avenues of Salt Lake City. The trip of about fourteen miles took almost an hour.

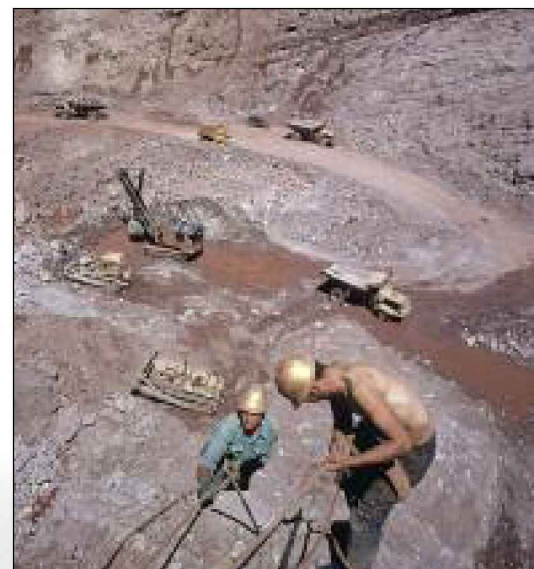
—Susan Allen Myers

Linking the Past to the Present

What are the transportation problems where you live? What is being done to solve them? Do you agree with what is being done or not being done?

Construction of an interstate highway system linked Utah to surrounding states with a faster way to travel. ►

Suburbs—smaller communities on the outskirts of larger cities—spread out along the Wasatch Front. Builders put up subdivisions of almost-identical houses to save building costs and time. ▼



Vietnam— The Longest War

Vietnam is a hot, humid country in Asia. Native animals include elephants, monkeys, and snakes. The people, mostly rice farmers, live in houses made of reeds that serve very well in keeping out the rain. The Vietnamese place great value on honor and families.

In the 1960s, a civil war began between North and South Vietnam. The North was getting weapons from communist China and the Soviets. Over a period of many years, the United States sent money, weapons, soldiers, pilots, and bombs to help South Vietnam. Over the length of the war, about 28,000 Utahns went to Vietnam.

Two-to-three million Vietnamese died in the war. More than 58,000 Americans also died, including 338 from Utah.



Many Utahns supported American foreign policy in Vietnam in order to stop the spread of communism. Others, however, were against our involvement in a war that was so far away and was so costly in money and human life. In 1969, more than 4,000 people marched in downtown Salt Lake City to protest the war.

Vietnam became the first televised war. Reporters and television cameras in Vietnam recorded many events as they happened and sent the film to news programs all over the world. Finally, a peace agreement was signed and U.S. soldiers came home. North Vietnamese troops, however, continued to fight and took over South Vietnam.

Another Wave of Migration

The conclusion of the Vietnam War brought thousands of *refugees* to the United States from Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

Liem Quang Le is one example. He had served in the Army of the Republic of Vietnam. Le immigrated to the United States and found employment at Geneva Steel near Orem and Provo. Another refugee family was Le and Hong Nguyen, who brought their children to Utah after escaping the horrors of war in their homeland. At first, the family lived with a family in Orem. Their three children went to school, learned English, and became part of Utah society.



▲ These students at the University of Utah protested the Vietnam War with demonstrations and marches. What do the signs say that support their case against the war?

These students at Brigham Young University signed petitions supporting U.S. policy to send soldiers to Vietnam. ►



The Civil Rights Movement

The 1960s were a time of tremendous changes for the country and the state. In Washington, a new young president, John F. Kennedy, spoke about a "New Frontier" for the country.

The 1960s were also a time of great social unrest. The Civil Rights Movement was a time when ethnic groups, especially African Americans, worked to get equal rights with white Americans. The movement gained momentum across the country. Some aspects of life were better in Utah than in other states, however. There were no segregated schools in Utah. Children of all races went to school together.

Civil Rights in Utah

Even Utah, however, had a past of racial discrimination. Blacks had been restricted from most hotels and restaurants and from swimming pools, bowling alleys, and skating rinks. Lagoon, an amusement park in Farmington, was off-limits to blacks until the mid-1950s. Singers Marian Anderson, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald, and Harry Belafonte had a hard time finding a hotel they could sleep in, or a restaurant where they could eat, even though their performances at the Salt Lake Tabernacle, Lagoon, and other places were sold out.

Utah had passed anti-discrimination laws at about the same time as other western states. Late in the 1940s, blacks won the right to enter most entertainment places, and Utah cities dropped laws that segregated swimming pools.

In 1956 Utah **repealed** the restriction that kept Native Americans from voting in elections. Discrimination continued, however. It was almost impossible for people of color to buy or rent a home in many neighborhoods.

It took many years for Americans to start thinking differently about how people were being treated. The U.S. Congress finally passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that outlawed discrimination

based on race. The Utah legislature also passed laws against discrimination.

I started seeing the ways of the world; . . . how a state law allowed an establishment to refuse you service. I resented it when they told me to go upstairs in a theater. I resented walking into a cafe and being told, "We don't serve colored here." And I resented the way salesmen in the stores would take your money with a smile on their faces, but wouldn't let you try on clothes before buying them.

—Albert Fritz, president of the Salt Lake branch of the NAACP

What do you think?

How has our state made progress in accepting people of many races and religions?

Lucille Bankhead talked to the Oral History Institute in Salt Lake City about growing up in Utah: "During the summertime, we would all picnic up in the canyon. Sometimes we would have friends sleep over at our house, or we would go to theirs. It didn't matter if you were black or white. We all got along."

In 1976, Reverend Robert Harris, from Ogden, became the first African American elected to the Utah State Legislature.



The Lagoon amusement park swimming pool in 1937 was whites only. In the 1950s, Lagoon became one of the first resorts in the state to welcome African Americans. In 1975, the Utah NAACP recognized Lagoon's management for "integrating the Lagoon resort prior to the passage of the Civil Rights Law, without fear of financial reprisal."