

Annotated Bibliography - World War II, Changing Role of the US

Author	Title	Publisher	Publication Date	Annotation	Grade Level	Genre: Nonfiction, Primary, Fiction, Activities
Piehler, G. Kurt and Sidney Pash (editors)	<i>The United States and the Second World War: New Perspectives on Diplomacy, War, and the Home Front</i>	Fordham University Press	2010	In this compelling book, G. Kurt Piehler and Sidney Pash bring together a collection of essays offering a fresh examination of American participation in the Second World War, including a long overdue reconsideration of such seminal topics as the forces leading the United States to enter World War II, the role of the American military in the Allied victory, and war-time planning for the postwar world, but also tackle new inquiries into life on the home front and America's commemoration of one of the most controversial and climatic events of the war—the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. In this compelling book, G. Kurt Piehler and Sidney Pash bring together a collection of essays offering a fresh examination of American participation in the Second World War, including a long overdue reconsideration of such seminal topics as the forces leading the United States to enter World War II, the role of the American military in the Allied victory, and war-time planning for the postwar world, but also tackle new inquiries into life on the home front and America's commemoration of one of the most controversial and climatic events of the war—the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. These outstanding historians cover crucial moments such as: Franklin D. Roosevelt's pivotal, if at times indecisive, role in leading the United States; The miscalculation of Japanese intentions by American diplomats and the failure of deterrence in preventing war in the Pacific; The experiences and contributions of conscientious objectors to American society in this time of total war; The decision of the United States to fight with an ineffective battle tank at the expense of American lives; The Coast Guard's contribution to the D-Day Landing; How elite foreign policy organizations prior to V-J Day sought to influence American occupation policies regarding Japan. With these essays and much more, <i>The United States in the Second World War</i> is sure to prove a classic to World War II buffs. -From amazon.com		N
Milkis, Sidney M. and Jerome M. Mileur	<i>The New Deal and the Triumph of Liberalism</i>	University of Massachusetts Press	2002	For scholars who have studied it, as for many Americans who experienced it firsthand, Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal has long represented a turning point in the modern history of the United States. More than simply a bold program of political change, it marked a critical departure in the governing principles, institutional arrangements, and policies that shape American life. In this collection of original essays, a distinguished group of political scientists and historians reevaluate the legacy of the New Deal, showing how Roosevelt and his allies forged an enduring public philosophy—modern liberalism—that redefined the relationship of government and governed. Adapting broad principles from the past to the unprecedented circumstances of a worldwide depression, the New Dealers shifted American politics away from its traditional emphasis on self-reliance, private property, and decentralized power. In its place they advocated a new "economic constitutional order"—in effect, a new social contract—in which the government guaranteed protection to individuals against the uncertainties of the marketplace. Although the contributors differ in their assessment of the successes and failures of New Deal liberalism, all agree that its implications for American political life were profound and far-reaching—in the realm of foreign as well as domestic affairs, for the theory as well as the practice of government. Taken together, the essays offer a fresh look at the many ways the New Deal, in Harry Hopkins's phrase, "made America over."		
DK Publishing	<i>World War II: The Definitive Visual History</i>	DK Publishing	2009	World War II is divided into nine chronological chapters, each introduced by a general overview of the military and political situation. This is followed by a comprehensive timeline, covering events in all theaters of the war. The opening chapter analyzes the build-up of hostility in the years leading up to the war, both in Europe and in the Pacific. Similarly the final chapter analyzes the immediate and long-term consequences of the war and the way it has shaped recent history. In the chapters that cover the events of the war itself, the main spreads move from one theater of war to another but are linked by an easy-to-use system of cross referencing to earlier events and the consequences of the actions described on the spread. The main spreads are interspersed with features, eyewitness accounts, and galleries of weaponry and equipment.		N, P
Panchyk, Richard	<i>World War II for Kids: A History with 21 Activities</i>	Chicago Review Press	2002	World War II for Kids: A History with 21 Activities by Richard Panchyk provides a comprehensive survey of the era, beginning with Hitler's rise to power in 1933 to the Japanese surrender in 1945 (a time line opens the volume). Wartime letters, interviews with former soldiers, ordinary citizens and Holocaust survivors provide a personal perspective. Activities include creating a CARE package for enlisted soldiers and writing and performing a radio adventure; Bill Clinton and John McCain provide forewords. -From amazon.com	5-7	Activity
Polmar, Norman	<i>The Enola Gay: The B-29 That Dropped the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima</i>	Potomac Books Inc.	2004	The world entered the atomic age in August 1945, when the B-29 Superfortress nicknamed Enola Gay flew some 1,500 miles from the island of Tinian and dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. The "Little Boy" bomb exploded with the force of 12.5 kilotons of TNT, nearly destroying the city. Three days later, another B-29 dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki. The Japanese government, which had been preparing a bloody defense against an invasion, surrendered six days later. The aircraft was the primary artifact in an exhibition at the National Air and Space Museum from 1995 to 1998. The original, controversial exhibit script was changed, and the final exhibition attracted some 4 million visitors, testifying to the enduring interest in the aircraft and its mission. This book tells the story of the Enola Gay, the Boeing B-29 program, and the combat operations of the B-29 type. After nearly two decades of restoration, the Enola Gay will be one of the highlights of the museum's new Udvar-Hazy Center, which is scheduled to open at Dulles International Airport on December 15, 2003. -From amazon.com	Young Adult	
Yep, Laurence	<i>Hiroshima</i>	Scholastic Paperbacks	1996	Through a staccato, present-tense narration that moves back and forth between the experiences of a 12-year-old girl and the men on the Enola Gay, Yep's novella tells the events of the day the first atomic bomb was dropped and its aftermath. Sachi survives but is badly burned; her sister dies and her soldier father is killed in action. For three years the girl spends most of her time indoors, as newcomers to the city fear the scarred survivors. Then she travels to America for plastic surgery, which enables her to take part in her society again. She returns to Japan, hoping to help other victims. Yep ends with two chapters on the destructive potential of nuclear warfare and on some of the efforts being made toward disarmament. His words are powerful and compelling, and the facts he presents make readers realize the horrors of that day and its impact beyond. As a fictional character, Sachi never becomes much more than a name, but even so, readers will be moved by her tale. -From School Library Journal	4-6	
Burgan, Michael	<i>America in World War II: America in World War Two</i>	Gareth Stevens Publishing	2006	This series examines eight major conflicts in American history, describing how each has shaped and altered the nation and how the United States' role in international conflicts has affected world history. Primary sources and archival images help bring each era to life, while maps, sidebars, and biographies of military and political leaders reinforce the text. Ideal for reports, each volume allows students to investigate a topic at their own pace and to delve deeper into key historical events touched on in their American history textbooks.	5-7	
Garrigue, Sheila	<i>The Eternal Spring of Mr. Ito</i>	Aladdin	1994	A gentle, haunting tale; a strong narrative with a long moral reach. During World War II, Sara, a schoolgirl, is evacuated to live with her aunt and uncle in Vancouver. The family gardener, Mr. Ito, a decorated hero of the Great War, becomes Sara's special friend. Mr. Ito encourages Sara to think for herself, introduces her to the concept of many paths to enlightenment; and teaches her to appreciate the continuity of life, which is expressed in the delicate but sturdy bonsai trees he tends. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and Hong Kong, Japanese-Canadians are persecuted and interned, but Sara manages to maintain her relationship with the Ito's. Garrigue's characters are kind, bigoted, petty, warm, stubborn, capable of change. Sara's is a beautiful portrait: as she grows she becomes aware that the total cost of war includes the wreckage of the lives of "little people" as well as the dry statistics of battlefield reports. Characters and setting give a genuine feeling for the time and place. Sara's undercover adventure in the Ito's camp and her meeting there with her Japanese-baiting security official uncle are a bit much for readers to accept; yet, these things do not mar the story. A serious subject handled without the preaching which could overwhelm the plot. The message here is one of respect for diverse traditions, of hope, of reconciliation. Libby K. White, Schenectady County Public Library, N. Y.	5-8	F
Mazer, Harry	<i>A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor</i>	Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing	2002	Adam Pelko has lived for only two weeks in Honolulu, where his father is an officer assigned to the USS Arizona in nearby Pearl Harbor. When he befriends Davi Mori, a high school classmate whose parents are Japanese, Adam's rigid father forbids him to associate with Davi, fearing that the anti-Japanese sentiment so rampant on the island will tarnish the Pelko family and Lieutenant Pelko's navy career. When his father is called back to the ship unexpectedly, Adam slips away from his house the following morning—December 7, 1941—to go fishing with Davi and another classmate. Rowing close to the fleet in Pearl Harbor, they witness the horrific Japanese air attack and are nearly killed themselves, their boat shot from beneath them by a low-flying fighter plane. Desperate to reach home and find out if his father is alive, Adam is spotted by an officer who mistakes him for a young enlisted man and orders him into action to help rescue survivors and restore order. Before the day is out, Adam proves himself a hero, bravely confronting death and destruction as he struggles to learn his father's fate. Mazer's final chapters leave a few issues unresolved, but his story's quick pace, graphic detail, and nonstop action will keep readers involved. Expect this novel to be in high demand after the blockbuster film Pearl Harbor arrives in the theaters this summer, generating a new wave of interest in this dramatic episode in history.—William McLoughlin, Brookside School, Worthington, OH	5-9	F
Nicholson, Dorinda Makanaonalani	<i>Remember World War II: Kids Who Survived Tell Their Stories</i>	National Geographic Children's Books	2005	Using the same handsome format as Drez's Remember D-Day: Both Sides Tell Their Stories (2004) and Allen's Remember Pearl Harbor: Japanese and American Survivors Tell Their Stories (2001), this book offers views of the Second World War through the eyes of those who experienced it as children. Madeleine Albright contributes an introductory memoir of her early years growing up in Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and England, unaware of her Jewish heritage. Her memories are the first of many, for Nicholson interviewed a series of people about their recollections of the war. Divided into three sections, the discussion begins with the war in Europe, moves to the Pacific, and ends on the American home front. Providing enough background information to give a framework for the progression of the war as a whole and the particular conditions and events surrounding the interviewees' memories, Nicholson lets the first-person accounts bring the experiences to life. Photographs of these individuals as children, other period photos, excellent maps, and pictures of artifacts illustrate the text. The book ends with an epilogue, a time line of the war, a short bibliography, and brief summaries of what happened to the children who survived to tell their stories. Carolyn Phelan	5-8	N
Drez, Ronald J.	<i>Remember D-Day: Both Sides Tell Their Stories</i>	National Geographic Children's Books	2004	This large-format book focuses on a turning point in World War II: the D-Day invasion of Normandy. Drez sets the stage with a brief discussion of the war in Europe prior to 1944. He then turns to the strategy, intelligence, and deceptions that led up to D-Day, the events that occurred during the invasion of Normandy, and what enabled the Allies to succeed. Well-chosen stories and comments from soldiers who participated in the invasion add a sense of immediacy to the historical account. Enhanced by the book's attractive layout, the many fine illustrations include black-and-white photos of individuals and battle scenes and color shots of leaders, sites, and artifacts. An excellent map shows the topography of the Normandy coast, as well as the locations of towns and beaches and the landing places of divisions from Britain, Canada, and the U.S. The book ends with a short bibliography, brief source notes, and an informative time line of the war. A useful and highly readable account. Carolyn Phelan	4-8	N