

Grades: 9-12

History Detectives

Stalag 17 Portrait - A Tempe, Arizona, woman has an intriguing memento of a sobering World War II experience: a portrait of her father sketched while he was held inside the German prisoner of war camp, Stalag 17B. On the back, her father has noted: "Done in May of 1944 by Gil Rhoden, using a #2 lead pencil. We were POWs in Stalag 17 at Krems, Austria. HISTORY DETECTIVES guest host Eduardo Pagan uncovers a stoic act of defiance and dignity behind the Stalag's barbed wire.

Seadrome - A Rochester, New York, man inherited three photos of a Seadrome model from his grandfather. More than a decade before Charles Lindberg made his solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic, an American engineer proposed the Seadrome. HISTORY DETECTIVES host Tukufu Zuberi travels to New York, Delaware and Maryland to find out what happened to this fantastic engineering marvel and discover what role the contributor's grandfather played in the Seadrome's history.

Black Tom Shell - A woman in Whitehouse Station, New Jersey has an explosive artifact in her possession: a large, intact artillery shell, along with a note in her mother's handwriting that reads "Black Tom Explosion of 1914." The contributor's mother's record-keeping is off: It was not 1914, but July 30, 1916. HISTORY DETECTIVES host Gwendolyn Wright travels to Maryland and New Jersey to determine whether this shell was involved in one of the earliest foreign terrorist attacks on American soil.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- What is a Stalag?
- Where is Stalag 17B and how many American prisoners of war were housed there?
- How did these prisoners survive this infamous prison?
- Who is the prisoner in the portrait?
- What did this prisoner get in exchange for allowing his portrait to be drawn?
- What is written on the back of the portrait?
- Who was the artist and what happened to him?
- What is a Seadrome? Describe how the use of multiple Seadromes would work?
- Who is Charles Nagy?
- Why does Ed Mauro believe his family is connected to Seadrome? What evidence does he have?
- Who invented Seadrome? Who built Seadrome?
- How did the Depression influence the concept of Seadrome moving forward?
- How were Roosevelt and the Federal Aviation Commission involved?

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- What was Charles Lindbergh's involvement?
- What is the Black Tom Shell of 1914?
- Who was attacked and by whom?
- How far did people feel the effect of this synchronized raid attack?
- Why does Gwendolyn Wright travel to Maryland and New Jersey to determine?
- What evidence and artifacts does Gwendolyn discover in her travels?

Question Box 2

- What is the most important thing I learned personally?
- What were some of the interesting discoveries I made while watching this episode?
- What were some of my most powerful learning moments in the program and what made them so?
- Who was Armstrong's favorite author and how do you think his novels helped to contribute to the invention of Seadrome?

Box 3 (Tasks)

- Make a timeline of the technological inventions during the time that seadrome was invented such as: the illumination of cities with electric light, the age of gas-powered automobiles, and the advent of air travel.
- Tell how did these inventions make anything seem possible?
 Make a parallel timeline showing what was happening in the United States at that same time. *(ELD) Present the timeline and findings orally to a family member using details and evidence to support ideas.*

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Research air travel novels written by Jules Verne. How did some of his work influence the Wright Brothers?

Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)

- People still consider the idea of a Seadrome. Watch this short video to answer the questions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3J7ueDuOUk>
- Why would a city, state, or country want to build a Seadrome?
- What ship in the US Navy is similar to a Seadrome?
- When was the last Seadrome built?
- What issues would have to be considered before building and using a Seadrome?
- Do you think this would be a good idea? Why or why not?
- Build a prototype:
 - Research and test paper airplanes to see which planes have the best design
 - Research different airship designs...apply what you know from your paper airplane testing

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- Build a prototype of an airship you would design
- Include a list of materials needed
- Include an estimate of cost
- Include a drawing with measurements
- test your prototype and record your results
- Write a proposal to convince others to invest in the development of your prototype