

Hollyn Fussell

Project Description

Students will explore the ways that South Georgia contributed to World War II close to home. Through their exploring, students will examine the Raymond-Richardson Aviation School in Douglas, GA to study how the base was activated and used throughout the war time.

Questions to Consider:

- 1. Why was Douglas, GA chosen to house the airbase and training field? What event occurred that sparked the need for more training bases in the US?
- 2. Where did cadets go when they had "earned their wings" at Raymond-Richardson?
- 3. What caused the base to be decommissioned? What happened to the base when it was no longer under the military's command?

Inquiry Format

Students will examine the way that Georgia contributed to WWII by closely analyzing sources related to the Raymond-Richardson Aviation School in Douglas, GA.

Students will participate in a Document Based Inquiry activity where students will be placed in small groups and given a set of copies containing primary and secondary sources including images, reports, and personal writings of the Aviation school. They will work in their groups to analyze and assess what is important about the base and how it played a role in Georgia's overall participation.

We will then discuss as a whole group their findings and allow students to compare and contrast what each of their groups found about the sources.

Georgia Standards of Excellence

SS8H9 Describe the role of Georgia in WWII.

a. Describe key events leading up to American involvement in World War II; include the Lend-Lease Act and the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Evaluate the purpose and economic impact of the Bell Bomber Plant, military bases, and the Savannah and Brunswick shipyards.

Primary & Secondary Sources to Use

Potential Primary Sources







Final Project Lesson Plan-2024

- I. <u>Early History Activation to Dec. 1941 document</u> from WWII Flight Training.org
- 2. <u>Historical photos</u> from the base. Photos located at WWII Flight Training.org
- 3. <u>Cadet John Blair Watson's write-up</u> of his arrival and experience at Douglas located from WWII Flight Training.org

Potential Secondary Sources

1. WWII Flight Training.org's World War II History Page

Expected Outcome/Output for Students

Students will gain a higher understanding of Georgia's participation in World War II.

Students will be able to have a higher understanding of the need for wartime support across the United States after the start of Pearl Harbor and the great economic contribution of the wartime industry and needs.

Students will also be able to make connections to their experiences of living near-by Douglas and possibly seeing it at one point in their lives and comparing that experience to what they are reading in the documents.

Historical Marker Connections

Animated Historical Marker- Make a poster (drawing or digital) of what students think it may have looked like in that time based on what they have learned through the historical marker and their inquiry-based research. Along with the drawing that makes the historical marker "come to life", students will need to write a series of paragraphs to explain their image and its connections to the Aviation School and WWII.

Write a research paper about the many ways that Georgia participated in World War II, including the information learned from the Raymond-Richardson Aviation School historical marker.



