The 12 Days of Research

As we celebrate the holiday season, we are grateful for the many gifts of archival research that our true love - the National Archives Catalog - gives to us!

This holiday season, we bring you the 12 Days of Research, as told through the many photographs and records found in the National Archives...

On my first day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

A Partridge in a Pear Tree

While not in a pear tree, this photograph of a game bird in the brush was taken in 1973 by Paul Sequeira as part of the Environmental Protection Agency's DOCUMERICA Program to Photographically Document Subjects of Environmental Concern.
On my second day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Two Turtle Doves**

This World War I flag displays the new world victory peace emblem, a laurel wreath of victory encircling a blue disk upon a field of white. Upon the blue disk is a white dove of peace holding in its beak an olive branch.
On my third day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Three French Hens**

The Hen and Chickens shoal is located in the Florida Keys. This small lighthouse protecting the reef was discontinued in 1909.
On my fourth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Four Calling Birds**

Lady Bird Johnson uses the Picturephone Service, also known as phonovision, at the National Geographic Society Building in Washington DC in 1964. The Picturephone debuted the first transcontinental video call at the World Fair that year.
On my fifth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

Five Gold Rings

On my sixth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Six Geese a-Laying**

This World War II poster is a part of a series of posters from various federal agencies that were used to promote the war effort. This particular one was created by the Bureau of Special Services in the Office of War Information.

![World War II poster](image)

On my seventh day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Seven Swans a-Swimming**

This photograph of wintering trumpeter swans was part of a series by the Environmental Protection Agency related to environmental subjects, including agriculture, air pollution, recycling, water treatment, water pollution, power plants, waste management, and wildlife.
On my eighth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Eight Maids a-Milking**

This float was used in the Milk Maids parade to benefit Free Milk for France during World War I. RG 165: Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs, 1860 – 1952.
On my ninth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

Nine Ladies Dancing
This group of women tap dancing at Talladega College was taken by Kenneth F. Space, a photographer hired by the Harmon Foundation. The photographs in this series document the educational, social and recreational activities of students at several historically black colleges and universities in the southern United States during the 1930's and early 1940's.

On my tenth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

Ten Lords a-Leaping
The US Navy’s parachute team, known as the Leap Frogs, is made up of active-duty Navy SEALs, Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen, and support personnel. In this photo from 1996, a member of the Leap Frogs spots from the rear ramp of a USAF C-130 aircraft to ensure the team is over the drop zone before leaping into an airshow over Naval Air Station Key West.
On my eleventh day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Eleven Pipers Piping**

These pipefitters lay a new line in 1942 at the Tennessee Valley Authority Fort Loudon Dam.
On my twelfth day of research, the National Archives Catalog gave to me:

**Twelve Drummers Drumming**

Happy Holidays from all of us at the National Archives! Looking for a little escape in the holiday season? Why don’t you go on a mission for the National Archives? Check out our Citizen Archivist Missions and help us tag and transcribe records.

Thank you for being part of our Catalog community! We look forward to sharing more records from the National Archives with you in 2018.

Have a question? Find answers on History Hub! History Hub is a support community for history enthusiasts, researchers, citizen archivists, family historians, and archival professionals. Visit us at now at history.gov!