

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT RIVERSIDE MAINTAINS FEDERAL RECORDS FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, ARIZONA AND THE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA METROPOLITAN AREA.

WE PRESERVE MORE THAN 35,000 CUBIC FEET OF HISTORICAL PRIMARY SOURCES FROM THE 1790S TO THE 1990S ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NATIONAL HISTORY DAY, WWW.NHD.ORG

OR CONTACT:

THE CALIFORNIA STATE COORDINATOR AT [HTTP://CA.NHD.ORG/](http://CA.NHD.ORG/)

THE ARIZONA STATE COORDINATOR AT [HTTP://ARIZONAHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG/NHD/](http://ARIZONAHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG/NHD/)



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GETTING READY FOR
NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

USING RESOURCES FROM THE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT RIVERSIDE

Each year throughout our region, thousands of 6th-12th grade students and their teachers participate in the National History Day competition. After selecting a topic of their choice related to the annual theme, students become historians as they perform research at libraries, archives, museums and historic sites. Students use their discoveries to create exhibits, essays, documentaries, websites or performances.

Students and teachers are encouraged to take advantage of the rich array of area resources in their communities to pursue local, regional, national and global topics of historical note in connection with this year's theme: **Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.**

The National Archives at Riverside is pleased to provide National History Day student field trips for classes and history clubs, workshops for teachers, and research assistance for individual National History Day competitors. The extensive primary resources and the informed advice from the National Archives staff can help students create more effective projects.

In our National History Day programs, students and teachers will:

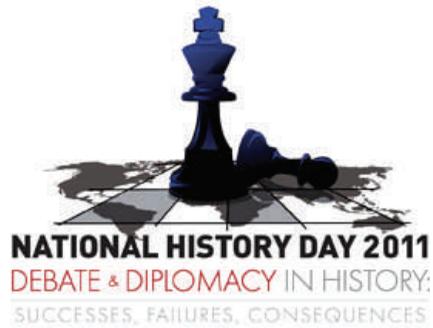
- Discover how to locate and utilize primary sources from the National Archives.
- Analyze primary source documents to increase critical thinking and research skills.
- Understand the research process and the importance of citing records properly.
- Review the significance to determine the relevance of primary sources to the research topic.
- Research original records at our Riverside facility.

We offer these **FREE** workshops and student field trips throughout the academic year. If you would like to schedule a class field trip or a workshop for teachers in your school, call us at (951) 956-2000 or e-mail Riverside.Archives@nara.gov.

Please Note: Students are always welcome to come in and research, but if they are under the age of 14 they must be accompanied by a teacher, parent, or guardian.

DEBATE AND DIPLOMACY IN HISTORY: SUCCESSES, FAILURES AND CONSEQUENCES

SAMPLE TOPICS & RELATED RECORDS FROM THE *NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT RIVERSIDE*



The National Archives at Riverside can help you discover a variety of topics, using primary sources throughout the nationwide network of National Archives facilities. We can help you tell the stories of the diplomatic triumphs and tragedies, the debated successes and failures.

Our records document national policies and their effects in the communities throughout Arizona, southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada. How do we balance national security and freedom? Why is it important for Native Americans to control their own destinies? Take a look into the records here to understand.

Contact the National Archives at Riverside for assistance with National History Day topics at Riverside.Archives@nara.gov.



Desegregation in Orange County: Mendez v. Westminster

In 1946, a group of Mexican-American families in Orange County, California decided to contest the exclusion of their children from whites-only schools throughout Orange County. The families argued that if the children's fathers were good enough to fight along side whites during World War II, then why should students be segregated based on their ethnicity. The families won the court-ordered integration of Orange County schools eight years before the more famous Brown vs. Board of Education desegregated schools across the country.

Debating Race: The Zoot Suit Riots During World War II, Los Angeles was a strange place for most native Angelenos. Minorities and women made up a larger percentage of the workforce, the Japanese communities were gone and on any given weekend, nearly 50,000 servicemen might be in the city. Young Mexican-American men dressed in oversized "zoot suits" in contrast with the rest of the public who had done away with extra fabric to support cloth rationing. Animosity toward the young men ran high. Sailors from the Eleventh Naval District and the zoot suiters engaged in a week of fighting. Commonly known as the Zoot Suit Riots, this violence illuminated the racial issues lurking beneath Los Angeles' society.

Are You Now or Have You Ever Been? In 1947, a group of Hollywood writers, directors and producers were summoned to Washington, D.C. to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee. They endured several days of testimony in which they all refused to answer the question, "Are you now, or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?" They became known as the Hollywood Ten. In a series of cases filed in Federal court, members of the Hollywood Ten accused the studios of breach of contract for firing them based on their testimony before Congress.

Native American Autonomy: Mission Indian Federation

In 1919, California Indians from over 30 different reservations met at the Riverside, California home of Jonathan Tibbet, a white realtor and Indian rights activist, to form the Mission Indian Federation. Through much of the 20th Century, the organization agitated for Indian self-rule on southern California's reservations. They debated that the Bureau of Indian Affairs denied the Indians of their rights and defrauded them from their lands. Our records document the debate between the Indians, their supporters and the Federal government over whether southern California tribes would be in charge of their own destinies.

The Politics of Working Where is the line between the rights of workers and the goals of business owners and managers? Our holdings contain many stories of the struggles of workers to improve their working conditions. In the Imperial Valley in 1934, the Senate investigated the treatment of Mexican agricultural workers. During World War I, the International Workers of the World (IWW) organized the Bisbee, Arizona copper mine workers to strike. The next morning, the sheriff and the mining company executives rounded up the workers and shipped them to the desert of New Mexico. During the Great Depression, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) began to include immigrant women into their numbers and organized a strike in Los Angeles.

Freedom of Speech: Spirit of '76 Case As the United States became involved in World War I, Congress passed the United States Sedition Act. In 1917, Robert Goldstein completed patriotic film about the American Revolution, *The Spirit of '76*. Goldstein was prosecuted under the Sedition Act for refusing to edit out negative images of America's British allies in his final production. We hold this case and a number of others which document the restriction of speech during this period.

Becoming American...Again In the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, many daughters of wealthy businessmen had married foreign aristocrats. As a result, Congress feared that the husbands of these women would have an undue amount of influence over their wives' votes. They passed a law which rescinded the citizenship of American women who married foreign born men between March 2, 1907 and September 22, 1922. During World War I, American women who had married German and Italian men were classified as enemy aliens, and after the law was adjusted in 1940, women whose marriages had ended through death or divorce could petition the Federal courts to regain their citizenship.

The Chinese Exclusion Acts From 1882 to 1943 the United States Government severely curtailed immigration from China to the United States. This Federal policy resulted from concern over the large numbers of Chinese immigrants. Competition with American workers and a growing nativism brought pressure for restrictive action. Other restrictive immigration acts affecting citizens of Chinese ancestry followed, until 1943. Our records document the story of Chinese immigrants from the Federal perspective.

Dear President Roosevelt, I am an American Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, people in the United States of Japanese ancestry found themselves caught in the midst of a national panic. Many who were residents of the western coastal states were removed to War Relocation Authority camps where they remained for much of the war. In the camps, some resisted the draft, some demanded to be sent back to Japan and others maintained that they were loyal Americans whose rights had been diminished. Our records document these debates about ethnicity versus nationality and what it means to be American.