ALBUM U-BOATS IN AMERICAN PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS IN WWI

Album Description

This lesson is about the role u-boats played in shaping American public opinion during WWI. Or, rather, it's about how seriously American newspapers portrayed the threat posed by u-boats off the coast.

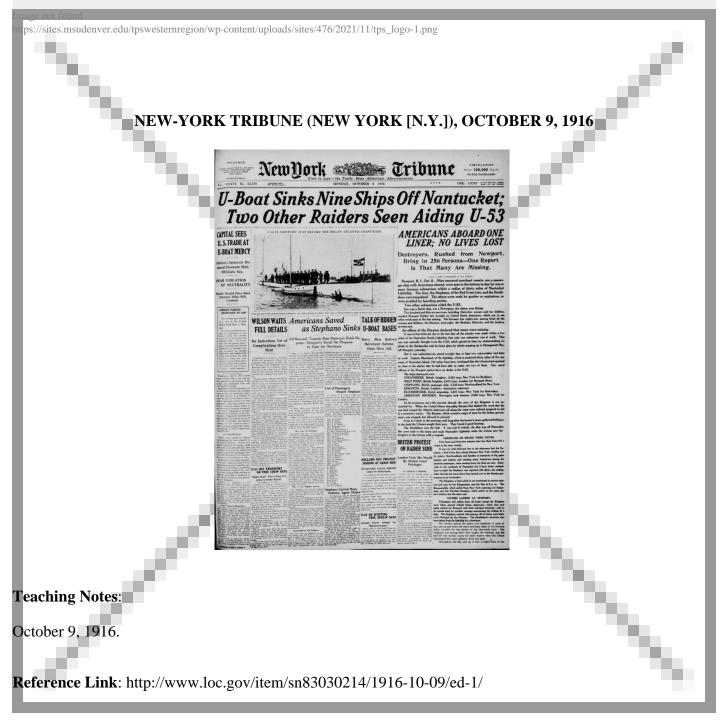
The newspaper headlines and stories form the core set of documents for this lesson; the images of the captured u-boat in New York are included to show students how small and fragile these early submarines were. Like the newspaper albums created earlier in the week, I think these newspapers are best used to show popular opinions. They also show how close the war was to America--not over there across the sea, but right off Nantucket.

The LOC's primary source analysis tool would be a good starting point for the submarine images and also for the newspapers--there more than just u-boats there. Students could usefully reflect on what else made the news in 1916 or other date. They could explore change over time--in Americans' perspective on the Germans and u-boats and much else. Discussion might then move on to the questions below.

Questions to explore include:

- 1. How do different newspapers, from the same date, cover the same or similar news?
- 2. How are the newspapers' accounts similar/different before American involvement in WWI compared to accounts published after the American declaration of war?
- 3. Are these newspaper trustworthy sources for their readers? For you the historian? Why or why not?
- 4. Do you discern any ulterior motive or editorial viewpoint in the newspapers' stories?
- 5. Why would or why wouldn't American have been drawn to read these newspaper stories?
- 6. Do the newspaper accounts line up with the images of u-boats at the end of the album?
- 7. How do these primary sources fit into the narrative of VUS 9b?

This album was inspired by my son, John, who is seven and really interested in submarines this week. 9 - 12 Social Studies/History



Contributor Names: Library of Congress, Washington, DC Created / Published: New York [N.Y.], October 9, 1916 Subject Headings: - New York (N.Y.)--Newspapers

- New York County (N.Y.)--Newspapers
- New York (State)--New York
- New York (State)--New York County
- United States--New York--New York-

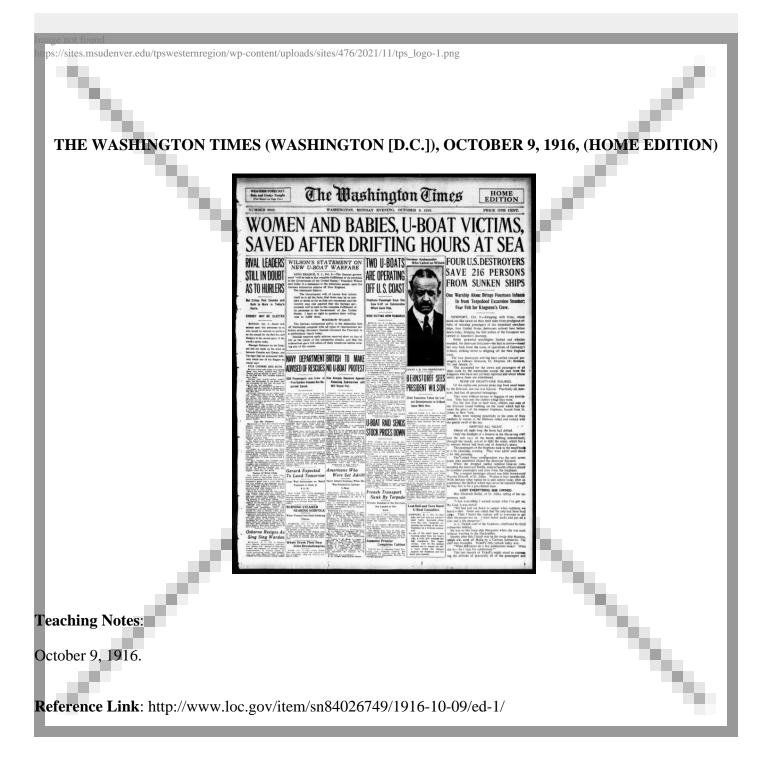
Genre: Newspapers

- Notes: Daily, Dec. 7, 1879-1924
- Vol. 26, no. 7,802 (Apr. 10, 1866)-v. 83, no. 28,247 (Mar. 18, 1924).
- Available on microfilm from University Microfilms International, and Recordak.

- Archived issues are available in digital format as part of the Library of Congress Chronicling America online collection.

- Also available in digital format on the Library of Congress website.
- Merged with: New York herald (New York, N.Y.: 1920); to form: New York herald, New York tribune.









Contributor Names: Library of Congress, Washington, DC Created / Published: New York [N.Y.], June 4, 1918 Subject Headings: - New York (N.Y.)--Newspapers

- New York County (N.Y.)--Newspapers
- New York (State)--New York
- New York (State)--New York County
- United States--New York--New York-

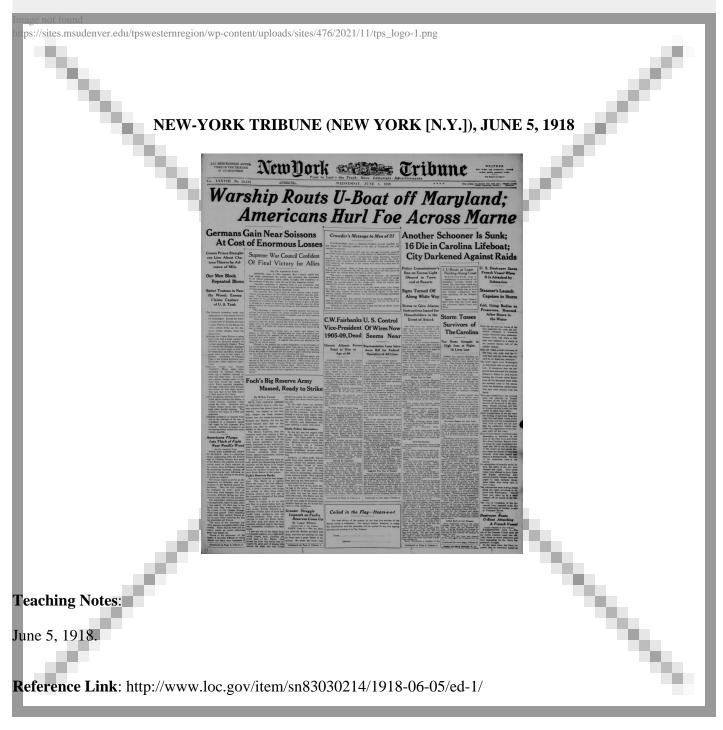
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- New York (State)--New York
- New York (State)--New York County
- United States--New York--New York

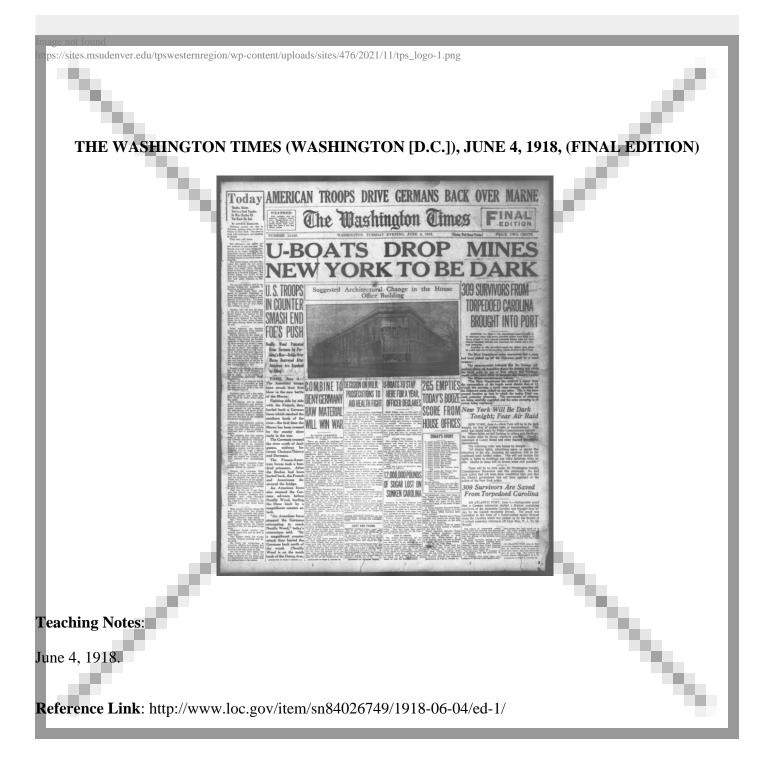
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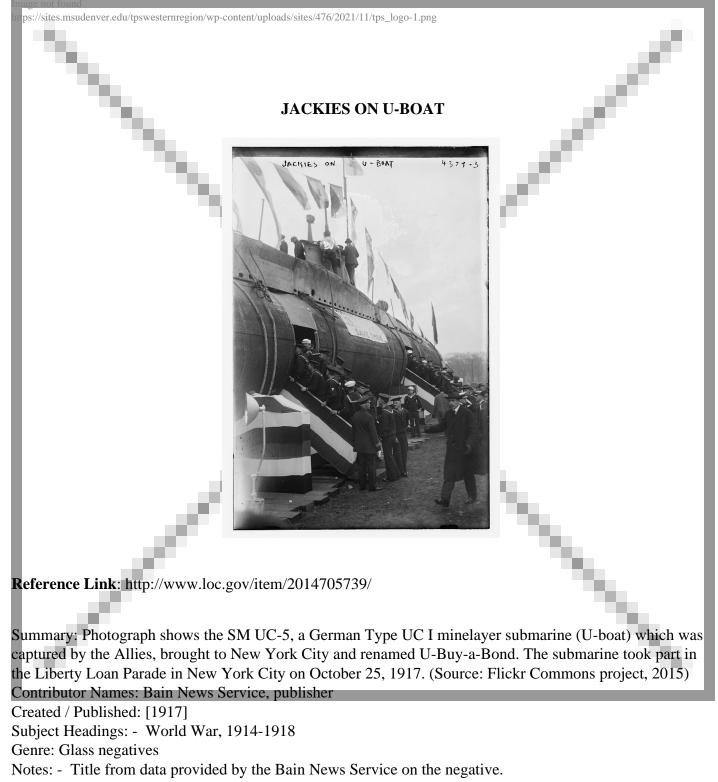
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- General information about the George Grantham Bain Collection is available at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.ggbain

Repository: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print

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