Berlin Airlift GCSE Lesson Plans Released by Educational Charity

Thursday 31 October, 2013

Britain's role in the Berlin Airlift is revealed for students in an engaging series of lesson plans.

Independent charity Legasee has today launched a series of lesson plans for GCSE students and teachers about the Berlin Airlift. The pack of five lesson plans has been compiled after exhaustive research, including the never-before-heard testimony of 50 surviving Veterans from the crisis.

The five double-sided A3 lesson plans are aesthetically appealing and contain a wealth of contextual information, such as statistics, facts and infographics, quotes from historical figures, and archive photographs.

Each plan also includes the first-hand accounts of men and women directly involved in the Berlin Airlift, stationed in both in the UK and Berlin. Their testimonies are of unique historical importance, and students and teachers are encouraged to take advantage of this invaluable learning resource.

Martin Bisiker, Legasee founder:

"The Berlin Airlift defined the post-war animosity between West and East and was the first major crisis of the Cold War. Our lesson plans are an ideal way for students to approach the subject, and give teachers a solid structure from which to spark conversation and learning. The interviews Legasee has conducted with the Veterans serve a dual purpose: to add realism and context to our understanding of the crisis, and to preserve their experiences for the next generation."

In 1948, the Soviet Union blockaded supply routes into West Berlin. In response, Britain and the US ferried thousands of tonnes of supplies to West Berlin via a non-stop convoy of planes.

Until now, Britain's role in the crisis has been poorly documented. Charity Legasee has created this series of informative and engaging lesson plans to ensure the important contribution made by British servicemen and woman is not forgotten by the next generation.

The lesson plan titles include: 'Was Churchill right in saying, “He that controls Berlin controls Europe?"': Was the Berlin Airlift a humanitarian effort, or the first battle of the Cold War?'; and, 'Action stations: What was life like in the world's busiest airport?'.
How to contact Legasee

Educational practitioners are encouraged to contact Legasee for a copy for the lesson plans using the contact details below. Teachers and students can also access Legasee's online video archive, containing hundreds of hours of video testimony from war Veterans, by purchasing a license.

Notes to editors:

Legasee is an independent charity committed to preserving the memories of war Veterans for future generations. Its extensive online archive contains over 150 video interviews with war Veterans from all conflicts from the First World War to Afghanistan.

Legasee was set up in 2010 by TV producer Martin Bisiker who despaired of reading the obituary pages each week, reporting that yet another Second World War veteran who'd been on an amazing operation had passing away, with only a few written words as testimony. He decided to start recording their stories through an ongoing series of video interviews.

Legasee is funded entirely through private donations and membership subscriptions. Legasee Educational Trust also creates innovate educational events in partnership with charitable organisations, schools and museums, with the assistance of funding.

Contact details:

Legasee Educational Trust, 14 Printing House Yard, Hackney Road, London, E2 7PR
Tel: 020 7033 9773
Email: education@legasee.org.uk

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Website: http://www.legasee.org.uk

Company Contact:

Legasee Educational Trust

T. 02070339773
E. martin@legasee.org.uk
W. https://www.legasee.org.uk

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