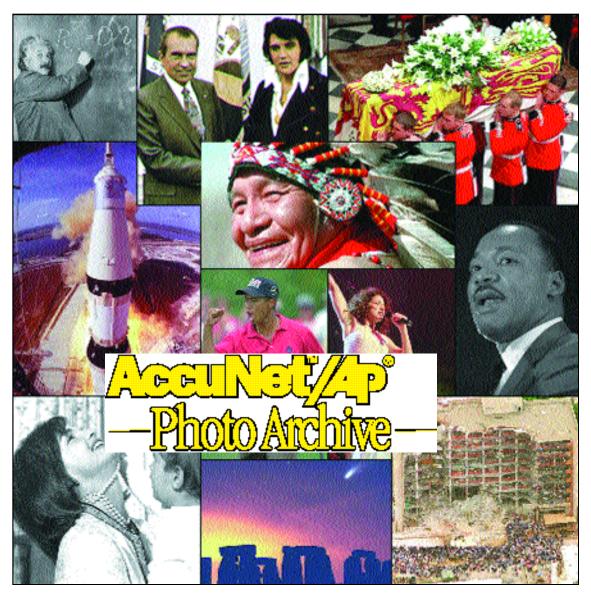
AccuNet/Ap° —Photo Archive—

Teacher's Guide



Social Studies

AccuWeather Education Division

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Welcome to the AccuNet ™/AP® Photo Archive

Over the last few years, gaining access to information of all kinds has grown easier by the minute. Data is flowing rapidly from traditional sources as well as from the new world of the world wide web. Students are so bombarded by the sheer *quantity* of information that they are often not able to process it all. Questions remain about the *value* of some of this mass of information.

Because of this, teachers focus their students on fundamental research skills, such as:

- Organization: how to organize knowledge into a usable format quickly;
- Discrimination: how to discriminate between worthwhile, legitimate information and what may be unsubstantiated opinion;
- Application: how to apply valuable information to solving problems, discovering new ideas and clarifying concepts; and
- Communication: how to communicate newly-acquired knowledge to others, whether orally or in writing.

More and more schools are connecting to the Internet as the worldwide web continues to grow. If teachers and librarians/media specialists had more time and resources, they could find many materials and sites to provide useful and stimulating data to their students for exposure or discussion. Unfortunately, few teachers and librarians/media specialists have the time to do these searches online and, at the same time, check the validity of the information their searches reveal.

This Teacher's Guide has been prepared specifically for teachers of social studies and for librarians/ media specialists who assist them. It is divided into sections identified with four courses which are always taught in high school and very often taught in junior high or middle schools. These courses are American history, world history/world cultures, American government/civics and economics. The identification of photos for use in each of these courses is, of course, open to interpretation since many of the concepts or ideas contained within one course may be addressed with a different emphasis in one of the other courses. Many of these same identified pictures and ideas can be used in courses such as sociology, anthropology, problems in American democracy and any of the other social studies courses offered in schools. The particular samples presented are also linked to various national standards that have been promulgated within the last few years. These include the Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics (1997) developed by the National Council on Economics Education, National Standards for History (1996) developed by the National Center for History in the Schools, and Expectations of Excellence - Curriculum Standards for Social Studies (1994) developed by the National Council for the Social Studies. The examples contained in this guide provide some ideas for addressing the topics presented and offer stimuli for class discussion, projects or activities. The key to using the AccuNet/AP **Photo Archive**, however, will lie with each individual teacher. Innumerable nuances of the social studies curriculum can be pursued through this archive, and teachers will be able to explore and use the archive in the manner that best suits them.

An interesting and instructive feature of the AccuNet/AP Photo Archiv e is the fact that the captions are almost always reflective of the period of time when the photo was taken. For example, using a key

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word phrase such as "World War I" may not yield as good a result as other queries because during the period of the war (1914-1918) it was *not* called World War I since there was no perception that there would be a World War II.

This is also true of the reference "The Great War," because that term was only applied over time. A wealth of photographs and information *is* available, however, when natural language queries or Boolean searches address particular events, places and personalities of the war that people of the time would have recognized and wanted to see in their daily newspapers.

For more current photographs, especially as the 20th century approaches, the AccuNet/AP Photo Archive makes available to students, teachers and librarians/media specialists a wealth of choice and diversity of people, places, events and objects. Hundreds of thousands of photographs taken for use by the leading newspapers of the world become instantly accessible with an increasing percentage of photographs available in color.

Educators may already have found that the old adage, "A picture is worth a thousand words," is especially true for today's visually-oriented students. Being able to *see* the people and places of current and historical events to complement a lesson makes for a more meaningful experience for students and greatly increases the likelihood that students will retain the ideas and concepts contained in the lesson.

This is where the **AccuNet/AP Photo Archive** becomes particularly valuable to students, teachers and librarians in the K-12 environment for research projects and lesson planning. The site contains an enormous cache of more than 500,000 Associated Press news photographs covering over 150 years. About 800 new photos are added each day from countries around the world. Each photograph is available with a caption which summarizes the salient information and is in itself a valuable research tool. The Photo Archive is user-friendly, simple to navigate and fun to use.

The Associated Press is the oldest and largest news organization in the world. On a typical day, the AP delivers information and hundreds of photos and graphics to almost 8,000 newspapers, TV and radio stations in the United States, plus some 8,500 outlets in more than 110 other countries.

The AccuNet/AP Photo Archive is, therefore, unique.

Special thanks is given to the following people who compiled this Teacher's Guide:

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Guides for teachers of foreign languages and for science are now in production, and a guide focused on public librarians is in the planning stages. We welcome your input and suggestions! Please contact us by calling (888) 438-9847 or by e-mail at sales@accuweather.com.

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