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American History in Video

Booklist Top Reference 2009 Award Winner

"A solid ten. It tops any other similarly themed resource in its field and, at this price, is an amazing deal. . . . This is a product I wish every library in the United States could make accessible to its researchers, from elementary-school children to history scholars, and everybody in between. Resoundingly recommended." —Library Journal

People who witness notable historic moments remember forever how they felt at the time. Who could forget the shock of seeing the helicopter pushed off the USS Blue Ridge carrier at the Fall of Saigon in 1975, or the thrill of watching Neil Armstrong taking his first step onto the moon's surface? Now today's students and scholars can experience these and tens of thousands of other historical moments in the same visceral way, with *American History in Video*.

A landmark collection, the largest of its kind, *American History in Video* brings more than **5,000 titles** together for a fraction of what it would cost libraries to purchase them individually. Alexander Street's *Semantic Indexing*TM makes the entire collection powerfully cross-searchable. New, powerful tools and features let users navigate, access, repurpose, and share video as never before.

Contemporaneous footage

At completion, American History in Video will include 2,000 total hours of streaming video content. More than half will be contemporaneous video from the 1890s to the 1980s. The early newsreels, including the complete series of United Newsreel and Universal Newsreel—available online in their entirety only from Alexander Street Press—capture history as it was made and reported to viewers of the time.

Award-winning documentaries

American History in Video also includes 750 of the documentaries most frequently used in history classrooms, from leading video content producers such as **PBS**, **California Newsreel**, **Ford Motor Company**, **Educational Video Group**, **Pennebaker Hegedus Films**, **WGBH Boston**, and others. Featuring dramatic reenactments and engaging analysis from prominent scholars and experts, these documentaries bring history alive for students and give library patrons hundreds of educational video titles they can view at home or in the classroom. Learn about the Battle of Gettysburg from Pulitzer Prize-winning historian James McPherson. Understand the scope and legacy of the American Civil War with Ken Burns's riveting PBS series.

Tools for teaching and research

American History in Video is designed specifically for teaching and research, packed with features that help users find, view, share, and analyze.

- Search power: Fifteen combinable search fields—including subject, event, era, date, place, historical figure, and speaker—let users guickly find what they're looking for.
- **Browse tools:** In addition to the browse fields, the visual tables of contents let users scan what's in a 30-minute video within seconds.
- **Synchronized transcripts** scroll along with the videos and are keyword searchable, letting students and researchers jump around within the video quickly.
- Linking and sharing: Permanent, per-second URLs allow users to cite, bookmark, link, embed, and share either entire videos or custom clips. Organize clips in playlists by theme, research topic, or course unit.
- **Embed video** directly in your online syllabus, course management system, library Web site, and online subject guides. Show clips or entire videos without worrying about permissions or copyright infringement—you're automatically covered by the terms of your library's subscription.

How will you use it?

As a biographical resource, *American History in Video* includes hundreds of profiles of great American leaders and personalities. As an encyclopedia of history, it provides footage of seminal historic events. Compare Kennedy's rhetorical flair with Nixon's. Examine racial stereotypes as presented in newsreels featuring African Americans prior to 1950. Consider Ed Herlihy's use of alliteration and other tropes of propaganda in WWII newsreels. These and thousands of other searches are easy with *American History in Video*.

Publication details

American History in Video is an online collection available to academic, public, and school libraries via subscription or one-time purchase of perpetual rights. No special setup or software is required—all you need is an Internet browser. For more information, or to request a free trial, email sales@alexanderstreet.com.