Truman Breakout Box Activity
Clues

Clue #1 - Use the QR code or website link to take a look at President Truman’s appointment calendar for October 25, 1945. What time did Truman have a meeting about workplace issues and unions?

Clue #2 - Why did President Truman feel that the dropping of the atomic bomb was justified?

Clue #3 - Follow the link to listen to a recording of a speech that President Truman gave to the NAACP on June 29, 1947, related to Civil Rights. In this speech Truman discusses that he has created a committee of citizens to look into the issues of Civil Rights. How many citizens were on the committee?

Clue #4 - Political cartoons often show how the public felt about President Truman’s decisions and actions over time. What direction did the public feel Truman was headed?

Clue #5 - When asked later in his life what decision was the most difficult for him to make as president, Mr. Truman stated that it was the decision to send troops to Korea in 1950. Look at the video, map and photograph of Korean refugees. Then, read the letter to President Truman by William Banning, the father of a soldier lost during the Korean War. On the attached presidential stationery, write President Truman’s response to Mr. Banning. Bring your letter to your teacher for a key to your lock.

Final clue - Unscramble the letters in the box to find the name of the new exhibit for the Truman Presidential Library. Show it to your teacher to receive your reward.

Hint: Return to the archivist’s desk to find one more clue to the name.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the solution to the lock?</th>
<th>How did you solve the puzzle?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clue #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clue #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clue #3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clue #4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clue #5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final clue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Source Information: Appointment Calendar of President Harry S. Truman, October 25, 1945.
My dear Mr. Cavert:

I appreciated very much your telegram of August ninth.

Nobody is more disturbed over the use of Atomic bombs than I am but I was greatly disturbed over the unwarranted attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor and their murder of our prisoners of war. The only language they seem to understand is the one we have been using to bombard them.

When you have to deal with a beast you have to treat him as a beast. It is most regrettable but nevertheless true.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

Mr. Samuel McCrea Cavert
General Secretary
Federal Council of
The Churches of Christ in America
New York City, New York
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Sixteen hours ago an American airplane dropped one bomb on and destroyed its usefulness to the enemy. That bomb had more power than 20,000 tons of T.N.T. It had more than two thousand times the blast power of the British "Grand Slam" which is the largest bomb ever yet used in the history of warfare.

The Japanese began the war from the air at Pearl Harbor. They have been repaid many fold. And the end is not yet. With this bomb we have now added a new and revolutionary increase in destruction to supplement the growing power of our armed forces. In their present form these bombs are now in production and even more powerful forms are in development.

It is an atomic bomb. It is a harnessing of the basic power of the universe. The force from which the sun draws its power has been loosed against those who brought war to the Far East.

Before 1939 it was the accepted belief of scientists that it was theoretically possible to release atomic energy. But no one knew any practical method of doing it. By 1942, however, we knew that the Germans were working feverishly to find a way to add atomic energy to the other engines of war with which they hoped to enslave the world. But they failed. We may be grateful to Providence that the Germans got the V-1's and V-2's late and in limited quantities and even more grateful that they did not get the atomic bomb at all.

The battle of the laboratories held fateful risks for us as well as the battles of the air, land and sea, and we have now won the battle of the laboratories as we have won the other battles.

Beginning in 1940, before Pearl Harbor, scientific knowledge useful in war was pooled between the United States and Great Britain, and many priceless helps to our victories
have come from that arrangement. Under that general policy the research on the atomic bomb was begun. With American and British scientists working together we entered the race of discovery against the Germans.

The United States had available the large number of scientists of distinction in the many needed areas of knowledge. It had the tremendous industrial and financial resources necessary for the project and they could be devoted to it without undue impairment of other vital war work. In the United States the laboratory work and the production plants, on which a substantial start had already been made, would be out of reach of enemy bombing, while at that time Britain was exposed to constant air attack and was still threatened with the possibility of invasion. For these reasons Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt agreed that it was wise to carry on the project here. We now have two great plants and many lesser works devoted to the production of atomic power. Employment during peak construction numbered 125,000 and over 65,000 individuals are even now engaged in operating the plants. Many have worked there for two and a half years. Few know what they have been producing. They see great quantities of material going in and they see nothing coming out of these plants, for the physical size of the explosive charge is exceedingly small. We have spent two billion dollars on the greatest scientific gamble in history -- and won.

But the greatest marvel is not the size of the enterprise, its secrecy, nor its cost, but the achievement of scientific brains in putting together infinitely complex pieces of knowledge held by many men in different fields of science into a workable plan. And hardly less marvelous has been the capacity of industry to design, and of labor to operate, the machines and methods to do things never done before so that the brain child of many minds came forth in physical shape and performed as it was supposed to do. Both science and industry worked under the direction of the United States Army, which achieved a unique success in managing so diverse a problem in the advancement of knowledge in an amazingly short time. It is doubtful if such another combination could be got together in the world. What has been done is the greatest achievement of organized science in history. It was done under high pressure and without failure.

We are now prepared to obliterate more rapidly and completely every productive enterprise the Japanese have above ground in any city. We shall destroy their docks, their factories, and their communications. Let there be no mistake; we shall completely destroy Japan’s power to make war.
Clue 3

Listen to SR64-54. Washington, DC, Lincoln Memorial - Address before the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (12 min., 37 sec.). Recorded by: Columbia Broadcasting System.

https://www.trumanlibrary.org/dbq/docs/civilrights/TrumanCivilRights_NAACP.mp3
Description: Daniel Fitzpatrick’s cartoon entitled “All This and Brickbats, Too?” shows the various domestic and foreign policy issues that Truman faced.

Source: SHS St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editorial Cartoon Collection, March 26, 1948
https://shsmo.org/historicmissourians/name/t/trumanh/index.html
Description: This is a photograph of a political cartoon by John M. Baer. The cartoon is in two scenes: top scene 1921-'33 depicts Old-Time Tory letting Farmer drown. Farmer screaming, "Help! Help!" Old-Time Tory replying, "Oh, Let Him Drown!". Below scene depicts HST throwing life support, Farm-Support Program, to drowning Farmer. Farmer saying, "I'm Getting In A Little Deep, Harry!". Harry S. Truman replies, "Don't Worry! This Will Save You!". Inscribed bottom right corner, "To a loyal friend of all producers- Hon. Harry Truman".

Date: ca. 1949

Description: This is a photograph of a political cartoon by Clifford Berryman, published in the Washington Evening Star. President Harry S. Truman is asking Congressman Harold Knutson to stop banging the drum on Tax Reduction as Truman has a large piece of paper on his desk labeled "Special Session and Foreign Aid."

Date: November 6, 1947

Description: This is a photograph of a political cartoon by Jim Berryman in the Washington Evening Star. It depicts President Harry S. Truman, with his hat and coat off laying on the ground. He is saying "Out of my way, mister....let me at 'im!" He is pushing Thomas Dewey out of the way in order to get at a man labeled "80th Congress." This cartoon was originally published in July 1948.

Date: July 1948

Description: This is a photograph of a political cartoon by Jim Berryman for the Washington Evening Star. President Harry S. Truman is standing inside a grandstand and grabs hold of a figure labeled "Senate Opposition." Clark Griffith runs toward the President, holding a baseball labeled "'49 Major League Opening Pitch," saying "No, no... Mr. President THIS is what you're supposed to throw out!"

Date: ca. 1964

Clue 5

Source:
Korean War June-August 1950, Encyclopaedia Brittanica
https://www.britannica.com/event/Korean-War/images-videos/media/l/322419/70868
Accessed June 6, 2019
A long stream of refugees moves along a road leading south after receiving evacuation orders from the South Korean army. The South Korean forces were reported making small gains in a counter attack near the fallen city of Pohang.

Source: Truman Library Photographs, Truman Library, Credit: United States Army, Accession Number 67-7417, Aug. 12, 1950

https://www.trumanlibrary.org/photographs/view.php?id=400

Korean War video:
https://youtu.be/h1wFrXKanC0

Source: The Korean War: 5 Things To Know | History Channel, 1 Sept. 2017, youtu.be/h1wFrXKanC0.
The White House
President of the United States
Harry S. Truman

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Harry S. Truman
THE
BUCK
STOP
SHERE
Student Final Activity

Exhibit Name:__________________ ________________ ________________ ________________

Congratulations! You are a clever team of museum experts who used the sources to unlock the exhibit title. Now, you have to show the staff that your title is an accurate picture of President Truman’s legacy (how he should be remembered). Use the clue documents, video, cartoons and calendar to show four ways President Harry S. Truman lived out this philosophy in his presidency. Use text, pictures or symbols to showcase your answer below: