

**Theme: How did Truman's (Presidential) decisions change people's lives?**

**Gallery:** Area 4 - First four months and Atomic Bomb

**Significant topics to cover**

1. German surrender
2. United Nations
3. Potsdam Conference/Test in New Mexico
4. Atomic Bomb Decision

**Artifacts to be highlighted**

1. Safety plug
2. Paper crane

**People to be highlighted**

Stimson  
Stalin, Churchill  
Sadako  
US Soldiers  
Japanese people

**Historical context and anecdotes**

Potsdam conference and successful test  
Conversations with Churchill and Stalin about the bomb  
Letters home to Bess  
Decision to use the bomb  
Lack of preparation – only 82 days as VP and met FDR only twice

**Addressing the theme and questions**

Who was most affected by Truman's decision?

**Theme: How did Truman's (Presidential) decisions change people's lives?**

**Gallery:** Area 5 – Post war world

**Significant topics to cover**

1. Japan surrender
2. World in disarray
3. Truman's solutions

**Artifacts to be highlighted**

1. Exhibits on Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan and Berlin

**People to be highlighted**

Stalin

People (US and globally)

Marshall, Acheson

European people

**Historical context and anecdotes**

Cold War, UN and NATO

Truman Doctrine - Opposed to communism

Marshall Plan

Berlin airlift - Rebuilding Europe was paramount and set US on a different course of foreign policy

Domestic issues (strikes, reconversion)

**Addressing the theme and questions?**

How did the Marshall Plan and Truman Doctrine affect people in Europe?

How did the Berlin Airlift help people in Germany?

## **Theme: How did Truman's (Presidential) decisions change people's lives?**

**Gallery:** Area 6 – Israel

### **Significant topics to cover**

1. Recognition of Israel
2. Disagreement in his own cabinet
3. Pressure from both sides

### **Artifacts to be highlighted**

1. Torah, scroll
2. Silver piano?

### **People to be highlighted**

Eddie Jacobson  
Chaim Weizmann  
Marshall  
Clifford

### **Historical context and anecdotes**

Background of Palestine situation back to World War I and Balfour Declaration  
(There is a timeline in the display)  
Eddie Jacobson visit to White House (and Weizmann visit)

### **Addressing the theme and questions?**

How did Truman's decision affect Jewish people?  
How did Truman's decision affect Arabs?  
What other people were affected by Truman's decision?

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**Gallery:** Area 7 – Civil Rights

**Significant topics to cover**

1. Civil Rights program and decisions

**Artifacts to be highlighted**

1. Civil Rights letters
2. Civil Rights video

**People to be highlighted**

Isaac Woodard  
African Americans  
White southerners  
Military

**Historical context and anecdotes**

Role of Civil Rights in an election year

**Addressing the theme and questions?**

How did his Executive Order 9981 and Civil Rights program affect the military, African Americans?

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**Gallery:** Area 8 – Second term, Red Scare and Korean War

**Significant topics to cover**

1. McCarthyism
2. Korean War
3. Firing of MacArthur

**Artifacts to be highlighted**

1. Korean War materials
2. Banning letter and Purple Heart

**People to be highlighted**

McCarthy  
MacArthur  
Ridgeway  
North and South Koreans  
United Nations

**Historical context and anecdotes**

Background on Red Scare, HUAC, Korean War

**Addressing the theme and questions?**

How did Truman's decision to enter the Korean War affect US, South Korea, North Korea, Chinese and others?

How did Truman's decision to fire MacArthur affect others? How did it affect the presidency?

How did Truman's decision to approve the Loyalty Oath affect people's lives?

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**Gallery:** Oval Office

**Significant topics to cover**

1. Truman's decision making

**Artifacts to be highlighted**

Buck Stops Here sign

Oval Office reproduction

**People to be highlighted**

Truman

**Historical context and anecdotes**

Truman's term in office 1945-53

**Addressing the theme and questions?**

What was Truman's leadership style?

What does the sign The Buck Stops Here mean?

What does it tell us about his character and his decision making?

**Additional tour stops**

Working Office

Grave site