

# **APRIL 2012 HIGHLIGHTS**

\*\* Denotes programs with artwork available on Military Channel's Press Website
All Times EST and PST // All airdates are subject to change

#### MILITARY CHANNEL PRESS CONTACTS:

Charlotte Bigford
Publicist
240-662-3125
Charlotte Bigford@discovery.com

David Schaefer Sr. Director, Communications 240-662-2954 David Schaefer@discovery.com

## **PREMIERES**

#### **EDGE OF WAR \*\* TV-PG**

## Season 1 Premieres Tuesday, April 3 at 10 PM E/P

Military Channel's all-new original series EDGE OF WAR revisits the string of events that paved the way for the world's most critical declarations of war, examining each pivotal decision's unfurling with minute-by-minute storytelling. Hosted by retired U.S. Army General Wesley K. Clark, EDGE OF WAR transports viewers into the minds, war rooms, and military operations that shaped the world as we know it. From World War II to Korea, Argentina, and the Middle East, see how leaders brought their countries to the very edge, and learn their motivations in risking it all.

- **Hitler's False Flag** *Premieres Tuesday, April 3 at 10 PM E/P* Hungry for territory, Adolf Hitler needed to convince the world he was justified in attacking Poland. SS leaders trained and equipped recruits to act as Polish soldiers, then attacked German facilities along the German-Polish border. Making the world believe Poland was the aggressor was among the first 'false flag' operations in history and set into motion the events that lit the world on fire.
- MacArthur's Great Gamble *Premieres Tuesday*, *April 10 at 10 PM E/P* Having failed to stop Kim Il Sung's forces on land, Gen. Douglas MacArthur devised an amphibious assault at Inchon. But Gen. MacArthur needed information, so he dispatched naval officer Lt. Eugene Clark to gather precious intelligence on troops and tides. Lt. Clark recruited local operatives who wanted the invaders stopped. With Lt. Clark's critical intelligence, Gen. MacArthur and the UN invasion swung into action hoping to crush the North Koreans.
- Castro's Revolution *Premieres Tuesday*, *April 17 at 10 PM E/P* Fidel Castro's failed attack on Gen. Fulgencio Batista's Moncada Barracks drove him to Mexico, where he and his army trained for a date with Batista's mighty military. Despite facing almost certain failure, Castro emerged from the mountains to crush Battista and win his revolution.
- Saddam vs. the Ayatollah *Premieres Tuesday, April 24 at 10 PM E/P* Bitter enemies Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran vied for regional supremacy in a deadly conflict that rose from angry rhetoric over religious slights, ethnic differences, and territorial ambitions. Khomeini uncovered a coup plot amongst the Iranian air force and executed scores of airmen, giving Hussein the opportunity to strike.

## **WORLD WAR I IN COLOUR** TV-PG

## Season 1 Premieres Monday, April 9 at 10 PM E/P

Narrated by Academy Award-nominated actor Kenneth Branagh, WORLD WAR I IN COLOUR brings the gritty reality of life in the trenches to screen in full color for the first time. Hundreds of skilled technicians worked to restore and colorize rare archive footage from Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Britain, and the U.S. The series includes interviews with eyewitness survivors and documents material that has never previously been shown on television.

- Catastrophe *Premieres Monday, April 9 at 10 PM E/P* Between 1914 and 1918, 65 million men took up arms. Ten million were killed while 20 million more were emotionally and physically incapacitated. The war ushered in new terminologies, new and massive weapons, and a scale of artillery barrages never before imagined.
- Slaughter in the Trenches *Premieres Monday*, *April 16 at 10 PM E/P* Examine trench warfare on the Western Front, which was at stalemate in 1915. Communications proved to be a major drawback for both sides as messages were sent by runners, who invariably faced death. Two simultaneous battles to push back the Germans were launched by the French at Artois and by the British at Festubert in May 1915.
- **Blood in the Air** *Premieres Monday, April 23 at 10 PM E/P* In the battles of WWI, a new theatre of war emerged in the sky. This new warfare was to prove just as deadly as the trenches, as pilots flew into battle in 1914 with as little as five hours of flying experience and an average life expectancy of 11 days. The aircraft initially replaced hot air balloons as reconnaissance devices to spy deep behind enemy lines, until an aviation pioneer revolutionized aircraft as a weapon by synchronizing a machine gun with a propeller, thereby allowing German pilots to annihilate French and British planes.
- **Killers of the Sea** *Premieres Monday, April 30 at 10 PM E/P* Naval battles of WWI were less about clashing of fleets and more about blockades, sinkings, and a small-but-feared German Uboat. By August 1914, Germany and Britain were building massive, expensive warships called dreadnoughts. The British controlled the North Sea and built up supplies by commandeering all goods heading for Germany. Britain's survival depended on keeping trade routes open and, for this reason, Germany declared unrestricted submarine warfare on merchant shipping.

### **GREAT PLANES TV-G**

## Season 1 Premieres Wednesday, April 25 at 10 PM E/P

In GREAT PLANES, get inside the influential, innovative combat aircraft that survived the most dangerous missions, and learn how they influenced aircraft engineering of today through interviews with the pilots that flew them. The series' host, former Navy Commander and F-14 Tomcat pilot Terry Deitz, analyzes the remarkable technical features and examines the groundbreaking tactics that advanced aerial combat.

• **B29 Superfortress** *Premieres Wednesday*, *April 25 at 10 PM E/P* The U.S. B-29 bomber, also known as the Superfortress, played a crucial role in World War II. It was a B-29 that dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. After many bombing raids from both China and Saipan, the B-29 Enola Gay struck Hiroshima with the B-29 Boxcar striking Nagasaki thereafter. Superfortresses were the true pioneer of the USAF refueling systems. They continued to drop atomic bombs into the 1950s for testing purposes, with B-17 drone planes sent in to do the readings. The B-29 later played a crucial role in Korea to destroy roads and communications but were an easy target for the Russian MiGs.

## **ONGOING SERIES**

## **AN OFFICER AND A MOVIE \*\* TV-PG**

## Season 2 Continues Saturdays at 8 PM E/P

Hollywood film and television star Lou Diamond Phillips hosts Military Channel's hit franchise AN OFFICER AND A MOVIE. Airing Saturday evenings, AN OFFICER AND A MOVIE pairs Phillips with retired and active duty officers who lived through major battles or have an expertise in the conflicts depicted in iconic military flicks. As each film makes its Military Channel premiere, AN OFFICER AND A MOVIE provides expert commentary that can only come from being "on the ground" during the action as these officers reflect on the themes of that night's film and also provide personal insight that puts each movie into a modern context.

• The Alamo Premieres Saturday, April 14 from 8-11 PM E/P The historical 1836 Battle of the Alamo is portrayed in John Wayne's 1960 film, The Alamo. Host Lou Diamond Philips sits with Four-Star General Barry McCaffrey (Ret.) to discuss his take on the film and his own experience as a young soldier fighting in Central America. A graduate of West Point, Gen. McCaffrey was awarded two Distinguished Service Crosses, three Purple Hearts and two Silver Stars for his service in Vietnam. He commanded the 24th Infantry Division on Operation Desert Storm and served as a Deputy Representative to NATO and as Assistant Chairman on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His last command was SOUTHCOMM, putting him in charge of U.S. military activities in Central and South America.

## **FINALES**

## **COMBAT TECH TV-PG**

### Season 1 Finale Airs Wednesday, April 4 at 10 PM E/P

Mankind's greatest engineering feats are often its most powerful weapons. Helicopters, stealth technology, guns, bombs, planes... these are the tools of war, and they often provide the key advantage that secures victory on the battlefield. COMBAT TECH takes an in-depth look at the greatest military engineering accomplishments, revealing how they work, how they came to be, and how they made a difference in the theater of war.

• Armor *Premieres Wednesday, April 4 at 10 PM E/P* It protects our warriors with geometry, science, and top-secret formulas. Made of steel, glass, and pixels, it can catch a bullet, stop a bomb, and hide a soldier in plain sight. From the latest body armor to camouflage that conceals troops in a virtual cloak of invisibility, from the multi-layered Kevlar sheaths that that shield vehicles from IEDs to the virtually impenetrable armor of tomorrow, this episode reveals how the remarkable defensive technology of armor works, and how the greatest offensive force isn't always the best armed but the best armored.

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