

Saving the **WORLD**

The **CHOCOLATE PILOT**



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Out of the Blue!

Overhead, in the bright blue sky, a plane flew closer and closer. It rolled back and forth before opening a hatch. Three small parachutes wafted to the ground. *Plop, plop, plop.* They landed at the feet of 30 children waiting beyond the barbed wire fence, just as they had been directed to do. They knew the parachutes were coming. Uncle Wiggly Wings had promised them.

As he had also promised, there was a treasure tied to every parachute. It was chocolate and gum. Sweets from the sky dropped at their feet. The children barely had food to eat. Sweet treats were beyond imagining! As Uncle Wiggly Wings—the Chocolate Pilot—flew away, the children waved the parachutes into the air. “Thank you, Uncle!” they seemed to say.



History of Chocolate

The first chocolate dates back more than 3,000 years. But chocolate remained rare until the end of the nineteenth century. That is when a Dutch man made a chocolate press. The press changed how the treat could be made. Today, chocolate is common for many people around the world.



Operation Little Vittles

As Hal left the children, a landing plane caught his attention. It gave him a bold new idea! Why not drop enough gum and candy for all the children from his plane? He excitedly told them his plan. They had to agree to share the treats with one another. If they agreed, Hal would drop treats the next day, and the children could gather there to pick them up.

The children were excited, but they wondered how they would recognize his plane. So many planes flew overhead, and they could not tell who flew which plane. Then, Hal remembered his old flying trick from back home. He told the children that he would wiggle his wings when nearing the spot. His plane would wave to the children just as he had made it wave to his parents on their farm in Utah. Hal had to explain what a *wiggle* was since the children's English was **limited**. But once they understood, they could not wait to watch for his wiggling wings!

Language Learners

English was not commonly taught in Germany before World War II. There were four children in the group who spoke to Hal in English. They told Hal how the war had changed their lives.



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