Extension Activity 1: Mattie Gunterman

Extension Activity : Photographic Interpretation

*(If students have not undertaken similar activities it is recommended that you review document 3 Photographic analysis with them prior to this activity)*

Distribute the ten photographs contained in Document 2 and discuss them in groups of three.

Questions to consider:

1. Why did the photographer take a picture of this image?  What was the photographer’s point of view and what message was being conveyed?
2. Was it ‘staged’ for effect or was this a spontaneous (candid) shot?
3. What is missing, or was omitted? What lies outside the frame of the photograph?
4. Is there an event taking place? Describe, but do not interpret, what you see.
5. How does the visual make you feel? Describe your personal feelings and judgments about the image, based on what you have seen.
6. What is your knowledge of the snapshot, based on your background knowledge, studies, and experiences?
7. Can you speculate as to the geographical location of the image or the date or era in which it was created?
8. What do the images provide that is useful to the study of history?