

off the fence.

America In Color (Series 1)

5 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. The 1920s

The 1920s, kicks off with a bang – researchers tracked rare footage of the 1920 Wall Street bombing that killed 38 to a forgotten nuclear bunker in Britain – then traces a 10 year party through jazz-age speakeasies and booming Model T factories only to end with a thud as a forgotten NYSE video captures the bull market right before the crash.

2. The 1930s

The Christmas Eve fire at the White House – footage of which has seldom been seen and likely never before broadcast – guts the Oval Office and most of the West Wing. It's a fitting start to a decade that will test Americans as never before. In the depths of the Depression, FDR inspires the country with promises of a New Deal; but rare footage of him walking underscores just how fragile the country is.

3. The 1940s

Charles Lindbergh's America First speeches, painstakingly pieced together from radio and film archives, directly accuse the president of manufacturing a war. The argument is settled as cameraman Al Brick famously films the Pearl Harbor attack – now seen in color for the first time. By the end of the decade America will enter the nuclear age and become the world's first superpower.

4. The 1950s

The country is booming. Rock 'n' Roll explodes into mainstream culture. Elvis makes his first appearance on Ed Sullivan -- now seen in color for the first time. But even as much of white America celebrates its success, there is still deep injustice, as footage of the Emmet Till trial – most of it unseen since it was first broadcast -- shows.

5. The 1960s

In Birmingham, Alabama, local news anchor Harry Mabry's home movies show the police turning fire hoses and dogs on Civil Rights protestors. He considers the footage too shocking to show his

children, and it has never been broadcast before. As a turbulent decade draws to a close, rare home movies capture the counterculture at its peak in Woodstock, NY.