The Big Picture - Pictorial Report No. 31

Sergeant Stuart Queen: Twelve years ago, Imperial Japan surrendered unconditionally what was left of the armed forces which had spread like a cancer over the Orient and half the islands of the Pacific. After nearly four years of war, the army of the western democracy which had so effectively shattered the dreams of the Japanese warlords landed in Japan with a peaceful purpose.

To help a convalescent country back to its feet, so that it might take its rightful place among the community of free nations, the American soldier made friends. And he helped pick up the pieces.

Gradually the country's economy gained strength as the lifeblood of peace coursed through the production line. The principles of democracy replaced the old order of empire and a free and independent people emerged. To help safeguard...