

off the fence.

Top Ten Warfare

10 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Aircraft

Since the dawn of aerial warfare in the First World War air supremacy has been key to winning the war. From the Sopwith Camel bi-plane and the P-51 Mustang, to the hi-tech F22 Raptor and the game-changing Harrier Jump Jet, this programme uses dramatic and rarely-seen archive footage and expert interviews to identify and rank the most influential aircraft in history.

2. Battles

Wars have been lost and won on the battlefield and during the 20th Century battles have changed the course of history. The Battle of the Somme witnessed over 60,000 casualties on the first day alone and changed how wars would be fought. The Battle of Midway was an aerial battle at sea, with aircraft carriers often hundreds of miles apart fighting to turn the tide of the war. And when the Allies landed on the shores of Normandy on 6th June 1944, an iconic battle began which marked the beginning of Hitler's ultimate defeat. With incredible archive from the heart of the action, and interviews with world-leading historians, this action-packed episode counts down the most decisive and game-changing battles of warfare that have been caught on camera, and includes battles from the first Gulf War, the Vietnam War and the Chinese Civil War.

3. Inventions

Warfare has always driven the development of new technology, and technological innovations of warfare have changed the world. From the mass production of life-saving Penicillin and pioneering Plastic Surgery, to the development of the Internet and GPS, this programme uses rare archive footage and expert interviews to identify and rank the most influential inventions of warfare.

4. Vessels

From the super-dreadnought battleships of the First World War to the stealth submarines of the Cold War, maritime vessels have proved decisive in the fight for naval supremacy. This programme counts down the ten most iconic and game-changing ships and submarines of the 20th century. From the German U-Boat and the Nimitz Aircraft Carriers, from D-Day's Landing Craft to the world's most successful battleship, these vessels have changed the face of warfare. Featuring breath-taking historical archive and contributions from maritime experts, this episode ranks the most iconic vessels of warfare of the last century.

5. Weapons

Weapons win wars. It's been claimed that the human race has spent more time, money and effort in developing weapons than in any other single field of human endeavour. From the mass production of the torpedo and the tank-busting Rocket-Propelled Grenade launcher, to the development of poison gas and the ground-breaking science of the atomic bomb, this programme uses awe-inspiring archive footage and expert interviews to identify and rank the most influential and iconic weapons of warfare.

6. Leaders

What makes a successful war leader? Influential leaders of warfare all share a vision and the ability to inspire others to follow their orders, but how they lead differs hugely. From Winston Churchill and Adolf Hitler, to Mao Tse Tung and Saddam Hussein, this episode investigates what makes or breaks a war leader. With incredible historical archive and interviews with world-leading historians, this programme looks at the most significant war leaders that have ever been caught on camera.

7. Secrets

In warfare, secrecy can mean the difference between victory and defeat. Spies, sabotage, deception plans, at the height of war military commanders frequently turn to secret plans in order to gain a strategic advantage. From the Great Phenol Plot of the First World War to the D-Day deception plan Operation Fortitude, and from the world's first large-scale cyberattack to the greatest counterfeiting scheme in history, this episode reveals the greatest secrets of warfare of the last century.

8. Commanders

The greatest 20th century commanders understood warfare at both the strategic and tactical level. Some installed loyalty in their troops through fear and intimidation, while others inspired confidence in the face of overwhelming odds. With remarkable historical archive and expert interviews, this episode reveals insights in to the greatest generals ever to be caught on camera. From George Patton to Georgy Zhukov, from Vo Nguyen Giap to Dwight D. Eisenhower, these are men whose command of their armed forces shaped warfare.

9. Fighting Forces

What defines a successful fighting force? Over the last century warfare has changed radically and armed forces have had to adapt to new technologies and tactics. From Hitler's army of the Second World War and today's People's Liberation Army of China, to the French Foreign Legion and the SAS, this programme uses incredible archive footage and expert interviews to identify and rank the most influential and iconic fighting forces ever to be caught on camera.

10. Tanks

The Mark 1 battle tank was first used in 1916 to give the Allies an advantage in the trenches. It changed how battles were fought forever and became the foundation of a century of technological innovation in armoured vehicles. From the American Sherman and the German Panzers, to the M1 Abrams and the Soviet T34, this programme uses incredible archive footage and expert interviews to identify and rank the most influential and iconic tanks ever.