

### American Women in WWII

- Video is from 1944
- "It's Your War. Too"
- Testing various military apparatus - weaponry, transport, radio, etc.
- "We shall live up to the legend of our fighting men"
- **Where will we get thousands more? Who are the women who will help fight our country's war**
- "In many jobs, WACS do the work of two men!" Eisenhower
- Women worked in varying capacities in the ally armies as well
- The "production battle at home"
- The idle housewife, the girl next door,
- WACS did sports and recreation at training camp as well
- WACS receive special discounts (trains, theaters, life insurance)
- There are rumours "they can't use makeup, have same haircuts, all work, no fun"
- Video tries to squash some of these rumors, probably to get more women to sign up
- Identifying that women came from around the country, and have very important jobs
- Some worked in the Pentagon, decoding or working with leadership
- **Valuable men have been released for combat**
- Checking the weaponry. Machine shop, repair shop, taking measurements, aircraft controller
- Volunteer overseas as well - **"Wherever the armies will go, WACs will follow"**
- Jobs women can perform as well as men, or sometimes better than the men
- Overseas bases and at posts in this country. Enlistment in the military should take precedence over just about anything.
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### African-Americans in WWII

- "Colored"
- Soldiers came from all sorts of a careers and social classes
- "the great democracy that gave them birth"
- African-Americans fought in all of America's previous wars
- BUT Even in WWII the military was strictly segregated
- "A Jim Crow army can not fight for a free world" - NAACP
- Men from the North encountered Jim Crow laws for the first time. Some were killed or imprisoned for defying these laws. This included refusals to serve in a segregated army
- Conflicts between black troops and white troops or civilians. Often times over benefits and equal access to military facilities
- Protests brought about some changes including the founding of the Tuskegee institute
- USS Mason was all-black except the commander
- 761st tank battalion - fought in Europe
- 1942 we see the first Black Marines (but in segregated units tho)
- Initially black units were supposed to be support units, some thought so they wouldn't get the glory

- 51st marine defense battalion - "The Lost Battalion" - so little to do because they would never get sent to fight



- YOU PEOPLE
- White marines resented the presence of the black marines, especially around jealousy of local women
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