

## *Who Were The Tuskegee Airmen? (Who Was?)*

The story of the men and women who served at Tuskegee Army Air Field from 1941 to 1946.

During the first sixty years following World War II, a powerful myth grew up claiming that the Tuskegee Airmen, the only black American military pilots in the war, had been the only fighter escort group never to have lost a bomber to enemy aircraft fire. The myth was enshrined in articles, books, museum exhibits, television programs, and films. In actuality, the all-black 332d Fighter Group flew at least seven bomber escort missions, of the 179 it flew for the Fifteenth Air Force between early June 1944 and the end of April 1945, in which one or more of the bombers it escorted was shot down by enemy aircraft. In fact, 27 bombers the 332d Fighter Group was assigned to escort were shot down by enemy aircraft during the war, most during the summer of 1944. This article explores how the "never lost a bomber" myth originated and grew, and then refutes it conclusively with careful reference to primary source documents located at the Air Force Historical Research Agency. Among those documents are the daily mission reports of the Tuskegee Airmen's 332d Fighter Group (which indicates the bomb groups the Tuskegee Airmen escorted, and where and when), the daily mission reports of the bomb groups the Tuskegee Airmen escorted (which indicates if bombers were shot down by enemy aircraft at the times and places the 332d Fighter Group was escorting them), and the missing aircrew reports, which show which aircraft were lost, including the type of aircraft, the unit to which it belonged, when and where it went down, and whether it went down by enemy aircraft fire. By piecing together these documents, the author not only proves that sometimes bombers under the escort of the Tuskegee Airmen were shot down by enemy aircraft, but when and where those losses occurred, and to which groups they belonged.

The story of the Tuskegee Airmen, the first African American pilots in American military service, is a complex tapestry with many story threads, such as the training story, the 99th Fighter Squadron story, the 332d Fighter Group Red Tail story, and the 477th Bombardment Group story. One story did not end when another began. The stories unfolded simultaneously. For example, while some Tuskegee Airmen were learning to fly at Tuskegee, others were flying combat missions overseas, while still others were being arrested for resisting segregation at another base. This Tuskegee Airmen Chronology links the stories together, filling a crucial historiographical niche. All the important events in Tuskegee Airmen history are included, such as the graduation of each flying class at Tuskegee Army Air Field, the activation and movement of each Tuskegee Airmen flying unit, the movement to and from each base, the award of each of the 96 Tuskegee Airmen Distinguished Flying Crosses, the achievement of each of the 112 Tuskegee Airmen aerial victories over enemy aircraft, a brief summary of every one of the 312 missions the Tuskegee Airmen flew for the Fifteenth Air Force, all the important Tuskegee Airmen leaders, and when each assumed command of his flying unit, the transition to each new aircraft type, and each Tuskegee Airmen who was shot down, disappeared, was captured, or returned. Readers should find it a unique and valuable tool for understanding and appreciating the varieties of Tuskegee Airmen experience as they distinguished themselves in the air and on the ground and forged new frontiers for equal opportunity. Dr. Dan Haulman the

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leading authority on the Tuskegee Airmen, a sought-after presenter on the topic. The chronology format is unique and comprehensive; it significantly adds to the published literature about the Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen Chronology is being released at time of increased interest in Tuskegee Airmen history. The Tuskegee Airmen Chronology: A Detailed Timeline of the Red Tails and Other Black Pilots of World War II provides a unique year-by-year overview of the fascinating story of the Tuskegee Airmen, embracing important events in the formation of the first military training for black pilots in United States history, the phases of their training at various airfields in Tuskegee and elsewhere, their continued training at other bases around the United States, and their deployment overseas, first to North Africa and then to Sicily and Italy. The book is the fifth on the subject by Airmen expert Dr. Daniel Haulman. The Tuskegee Airmen are best known for flying P-47s and red-tailed P-51s to escort B-17 and B-24 bombers deep into enemy territory. Their exemplary performance proved conclusively that given the opportunity and resources black men could fly and fight in combat every bit as well as their white counterparts. They lost fewer bombers than the other fighter groups, and they shot down 112 enemy aircraft. The Tuskegee Airmen Chronology also includes abundant information on the many Tuskegee Airmen who were not fighter pilots, including B-25 bomber crews who trained in the U.S., and the thousands of Tuskegee Airmen who served as ground support. They fought two enemies, Nazis in Europe and racism at home, and through their dedication and efforts earned a hard-won double victory.

A history of African American pilots with a focus on World War II.

Freedom Flyers

The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen

Soaring to Glory

Wind Flyers

Keep Your Airspeed Up

This history in verse celebrates the story of the Tuskegee Airmen: pioneering African-American pilots who triumphed in the skies and paved the way for a new barrier.

This book begins its story almost four hundred years ago, when the first twenty African slaves were landed in Virginia. It then traces the quest for freedom and liberty, through participation in military conflict, from the days of the Revolutionary War to the 21st Century. It tells the story of the fight for liberty from slavery, when, in the Civil War, some 200,000 African American slaves and free men fought on both sides in return for freedom for all. A few achieved this, but the abolition of slavery did not give them equality. The Spanish-American War came next, followed later by the "Great War", where over five hundred African American soldiers were awarded the Croix de Guerre, France's highest award, but only one was awarded the Medal of Honor by the United States – seventy-three years after his death on the battlefield. World War II brought the Tuskegee Airmen, a black-crewed fighter squadron, the 99th, followed by the 332nd Fighter Group, the most highly decorated group of men in their theater. They were the catalyst of political change to bring desegregation to the Armed Forces, by means of President Harry Truman's Executive Order 9801, which preceded the Civil Rights Act by twenty years. Since President Lyndon Johnson's signing of the Civil Rights Act into law, there have been many faltering, steps forward. African Americans have finally risen to the top in their chosen careers – four-star generals, astronauts and ultra-

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American President. This book is that story.

All he ever wanted to do was fly. Three-time Coretta Scott King Award-winning author Angela Johnson and New York Times bestselling Long invite readers to ponder a band of undercelebrated World War II heroes -- the Tuskegee Airmen. With fleeting prose and transcendent book by the masterful author/artist duo reveals how a boy's love of flight takes him on a journey from the dusty dirt roads of Alabama of Europe and into the hearts of those who are only now beginning to understand the part these brave souls played in the history of A A-Train is the story of one of the black Americans who, during World War II, graduated from Tuskegee (AL) Flying School and served as Army Air Corps' 99th Pursuit Squadron. Charles W. Dryden presents a fast-paced, balanced, and personal account of what it was like to career traditionally closed to African Americans, how he coped with the frustrations and dangers of combat, and how he, along with many pilots, navigators, bombardiers, and crewmen, emerged with a magnificent war record. Under the command of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Tuskegee airmen fought over North Africa, Sicily, and Europe, escorting American bomber crews who respected their "no-losses" record down, many of them were killed or captured by the enemy, and several won medals of valor and honor. But the airmen still faced great prejudice in the armed forces and at home. As a member of that elite group of young pilots who fought for their country overseas while liberties at home, Dryden presents an eloquent story that will touch each and every reader.

Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman and POW, Revised Edition

The Tuskegee Airmen History And Chronology In Text And Photographs

Red-tail Angels

American Heroes

Misconceptions about the Tuskegee Airmen

With primary source photos, infographics, timelines, charts and strongly controlled leveled text this title describes the heroic efforts of the African American pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen who served during World War II.

Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Free is a rare gift detailing the experience of Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson, who was one of 32 Tuskegee Airmen from the 332nd Fighter Group to be shot down defending a country that considered them to be second-class citizens. In this vividly detailed, deeply personal story, Jefferson writes as a genuine American hero about what it meant to be an African American pilot in enemy hands, fighting to protect the promise of freedom. The book features the sketches, drawings, and other illustrations Jefferson created during his nine months as a POW, and Lewis Carlson's authoritative background on the man, his unit, and the fight Alexander Jefferson fought so well. This revised edition covers the story of Jefferson's continuing outreach and education work, as he brings the story of the Tuskegee Airmen to communities and schools across the country, and the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Airmen in 2007. Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Free is perhaps the only account of the African American experience in a German prison camp.

\*Includes pictures \*Includes accounts of training, combat, and segregation written by multiple members of the Tuskegee Airmen

\*Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading \*Includes a table of contents "When World War II started, the black press and the black community wanted blacks to be able to fly because in 1925, the military had done a study that said that

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blacks didn't have the intelligence, ability, or coordination to fly airplanes. The pressure from the NAACP and the press caused them to start an experimental group that was to be trained in Tuskegee, Alabama, and that's why we were known as 'The Tuskegee Airmen.'...I come from a generation of African Americans where we were always trying to be better. We were taught that you had to be better than whites in order to move ahead, so we were very competitive...Practically everyone in the Tuskegee Airmen was an exceptional scholar and athlete, so the competition was really great and it helped to bond us together." - Roscoe Brown, one of the Tuskegee Airmen

The United States has no shortage of famous military units, from the Civil War's Iron Brigade to the 101st Airborne, but one would be hard pressed to find one that had to go through as many hardships off the field as the Tuskegee Airmen, a group of African American fighter pilots who overcame Jim Crow at home and official segregation in the military to serve their country in the final years of World War II. In fact, it required a concerted effort by groups such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the extreme circumstances brought about by World War II that the military eventually decided to establish the "Tuskegee Experiment." The black crews trained at Tuskegee before being sent overseas, and even then, they faced discrimination from those who didn't trust them to do more than escort bombers flown by white pilots. However, as the men proved their worth in the heat of battle, some of the squadrons' red markings helped them earn the nickname "Red Tails," and their track record was so good that eventually the white pilots of American bombers wanted to fly with them. As Tuskegee airman Roscoe Brown eloquently put it, "They have a saying that excellence is the antidote to prejudice; so, once you show you can do it, some of the barriers will come down." In time, the Tuskegee Airmen would be romanticized and mythologized to the extent that it was erroneously claimed that some escort squadrons didn't lose a bomber to the enemy, which led Tuskegee airman Grant Williams to note in jest, "Back then, nobody realized the significance of what we were doing. Now, they seem to think we could walk on water." However, even though the suggestion that the escorts lost no bombers on their missions was inaccurate, there is no question that the Tuskegee Airmen's record was elite and some of the fighter pilots were among the best to serve. Ironically, this was a byproduct of the systemic racism the men had to overcome, which resulted in extra training and planning among other issues. *The Tuskegee Airmen: The History and Legacy of America's First Black Fighter Pilots in World War II* chronicles the story of the Tuskegee Airmen and their important place in American military history. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about the Tuskegee Airmen like never before, in no time at all.

It's up, up, and away with the Tuskegee Airmen, a heroic group of African American military pilots who helped the United States win World War II. During World War II, black Americans were fighting for their country and for freedom in Europe, yet they had to endure a totally segregated military in the United States, where they weren't considered smart enough to become military pilots. After acquiring government funding for aviation training, civil rights activists were able to kickstart the first African American military flight program in the US at Tuskegee University in Alabama. While this book details thrilling flight missions and the grueling training sessions the Tuskegee Airmen underwent, it also shines a light on the lives of these brave men who helped pave the way for the integration of the US armed forces.

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Tuskegee Airman

The Biography of Charles E. McGee : Air Force Fighter Combat Record Holder

The Tuskegee Airmen Story

The Tuskegee Airmen and the "Never Lost a Bomber" Myth

The Tuskegee Airmen

Many documentaries, articles, museum exhibits, books, and movies have now treated what became known as the Tuskegee Experiment involving the black pilots who gained fame during World War II as the Tuskegee Airmen. Most of these works have focused on the training of Americas first black fighter pilots and their subsequent accomplishments during combat. This publication goes further, using captioned photographs to trace the airmen through the stages of training, deployment, and combat actions in North Africa, Italy, and Germany, in an attractive coffee-table-book format. Included for the first time are depictions of the critical support roles of doctors, nurses, mechanics, navigators, weathermen, parachute riggers, and other personnel, all of whom contributed to the airmens success, and many of whom went on to help complete the establishment of the 477th Composite Group. The authors have told, in pictures and words, the full story of the Tuskegee Airmen and the environments in which they lived, worked, played, fought, and sometimes died.

This book honors the Tuskegee Airmen, known as Red Tails who never lost escorted bombers during World War II. These decorated African American pilots overcame the prejudicial report of the 1925 War Department Study that concluded Blacks cannot fly a complex airplane. Eleanor Roosevelt who was flown by a Black pilot dispelled these myths along with the success of the fighter pilots in the war. Two issues are clarified: 1) who is considered an Original Tuskegee Airman? 2) The difference between the two experiments, namely, the Tuskegee Experiment involving the study of Syphilis and the Tuskegee Pilot Experience. This personal account of a Tuskegee pilot provides insights into the struggles of the pilots in the 1940's. Six values anchored their success, namely, intellectual attainment, collective responsibility, creativity, faith, overcoming fear and determination. The unique timelines from 1861 to 2007 enables the reader to decipher the events leading up to the Tuskegee Pilot training and the achievements during and after the war culminating with each pilot receiving Honorary Doctorate degree from Tuskegee University and being awarded the coveted Congressional Gold Medal by President Bush. This book documents Lt. Col. Hiram Mann's progress from a bellman at a Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio to studying romance languages at Philander Smith College and becoming a pilot in the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 332nd Fighter Group. Insights are provided about these pilots fighting the enemy in Europe only to return to a segregated military and civilian life.

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The uplifting story of the African American Philadelphians who joined the prestigious WWII unit to serve as fighter pilots, nurses, mechanics, and more. At the outbreak of World War II, Philadelphians heeded the call, including the valiant airmen and women of Tuskegee. Although trained in Alabama, the prestigious unit comprised dozens of Philadelphia-area natives, second only to Chicago in the country. They served as fighter pilots, bombers, nurses, and mechanics, as well as in many other support roles. The African American service members had to overcome racism and sexism on the home front in order to serve with great distinction. Their battle for equality didn't end at the war's conclusion. Tuskegee alumni continued to serve their nation by working to secure civil rights and serve their community back home in Philadelphia. In this book, historian Robert Kodosky presents the trials and triumphs of Philadelphia's Tuskegee airmen and women. Includes photographs

The members of the 332d Fighter Group and the 99th, 100th, 301st, and 302d Fighter Squadrons during World War II are remembered in part because they were the only African American pilots who served in combat with the Army Air Forces during the war. They are more often called the Tuskegee Airmen since they trained at Tuskegee Army Air Field. In the more than sixty years since World War II, several stories have grown up about the Tuskegee Airmen, some of them true and some of them false. This book focuses on eleven myths about the Tuskegee Airmen, thoroughly researched and debunked by Air Force historian Daniel Haulman, with copious historical documentation and sources to prove Haulman's research.

Tuskegee Airman Fighter Pilot

A Detailed Timeline of the Red Tails and Other Black Pilots of World War II

Tuskegee Airmen

A Tuskegee Airman's Firsthand Account of World War II

Eleven Myths about the Tuskegee Airmen

Chronicles America's first African American military pilots, who fought against two enemies, the Axis powers of World War II and Jim Crow racism in the United States.

CONTENTS By CHAPTER: A History Of The Tuskegee Airmen Tuskegee Airmen Chronology News Stories Historic Photographs

INTRODUCTION The Tuskegee Airmen were the first black pilots in American military history, those who were stationed at the bases where they trained or from which they flew, those who belonged to the organizations to which the pilots belonged, or those who belonged to the support organizations for those flying units. The pilots were called Tuskegee Airmen because they trained at airfields around Tuskegee during World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated uses the term DOTA (Documented Original Tuskegee Airman) to define anyone, "man or woman, military or civilian, black or white, officer or enlisted," who served at any of

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the air bases at which the Tuskegee-trained pilots trained or flew, or in any of the Army Air Force units “stemming from the ‘Tuskegee Experience’ between the years 1941 and 1949.” The Tuskegee experience began in 1941, when the first military black flying unit was activated, and ended in 1949, when the last segregated all-black flying units were inactivated. Certainly there have been a great many black pilots who have served in the Air Force since 1949, but unless they served in Tuskegee Airmen units or at Tuskegee Airmen bases between the years 1941 and 1949, they were not technically Tuskegee Airmen. There were no “second-generation Tuskegee Airmen,” because during the years 1941-1949, there were no fathers and sons who both took part in the program.

Looks at the life and military career of Charles E. McGee, who served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Themes: Pilots, WWII, Nonfiction, Tween, Emergent Reader, Chapter Book, Hi-Lo, Hi-Lo Books, Hi-Lo Solutions, High-Low Books, Hi-Low Books, ELL, EL, ESL, Struggling Learner, Struggling Reader, Special Education, SPED, Newcomers, Reading, Learning, Education, Educational, Educational Books. World War II was coming. Soon the United States would join the war. Everyone knew it was a matter of time. African Americans wanted to fight for their country. They wanted to be pilots. But they had to overcome racism to earn their wings. Engage your most struggling readers in grades 4-7 with Red Rhino Nonfiction! This new series features high-interest topics in every content area. Visually appealing full-color photographs and illustrations, fun facts, and short chapters keep emerging readers focused. Written at a 1.5-1.9 readability level, these books include pre-reading comprehension questions and a 20-word glossary for comprehension support.

Tuskegee Airmen 1941-1945

The Story of the Negro in the U.S. Air Force

You Can Fly

The Tuskegee Airmen and Beyond

An Illustrated History, 1939-1949

*"This book is a masterpiece. It captures the essence of the Tuskegee Airmen's experience from the perspective of one who lived it. The action sequences make me feel I'm back in the cockpit of my P-51C 'Kitten'! If you want to know what it was like fighting German interceptors in European skies while winning equal opportunity at home, be sure to read this book!" —Colonel Charles E. McGee, USAF (ret.) former president, Tuskegee Airmen Inc. "All Americans owe Harry Stewart Jr. and his fellow airmen a huge debt for defending our country during World War II. In addition, they have inspired generations of African American youth to follow their dreams." —Henry Louis Gates Jr., Alphonse Fletcher University Professor, Harvard University He had to sit in a segregated rail car on the journey to Army basic training in Mississippi in 1943. But two years later, the twenty-year-old African American from New York was at the controls of a P-51, prowling for Luftwaffe aircraft at five thousand feet over the Austrian countryside. By the end of World War II, he had done something that nobody could take away from him: He had become an American hero. This is the remarkable true story of Lt. Col. Harry Stewart Jr., one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen pilots who experienced air combat during World War II. Award-winning aviation writer Philip Handleman recreates the harrowing action and heart-pounding drama of Stewart's combat missions, including the legendary mission in which Stewart downed three enemy fighters. Soaring to Glory also reveals the cruel injustices Stewart and his fellow Tuskegee Airmen faced during their*

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*wartime service and upon return home after the war. Stewart's heroism was not celebrated as it should have been in postwar America—but now, his boundless courage and determination will never be forgotten.*

*Almost everyone you meet has heard about the Tuskegee Airmen, but surprisingly few can answer with accuracy questions relating to their most important leaders, aircraft, missions, stations, phases of flight training, and unique accomplishments. Some of the Tuskegee Airmen stories in circulation are downright false. This book, designed primarily for students and teachers but also useful for general readers, answers 76 of the most common questions that people ask about the Tuskegee Airmen, enabling readers to separate the facts from the fictions. This short and accurate summary of Tuskegee Airmen history honors the first African American pilots in U.S. military service -- pioneers in the continuing struggle for racial equality. Inspiring memoir of Colonel Harold H. Brown, one of the 930 original Tuskegee pilots, whose dramatic wartime exploits and postwar professional successes contribute to this extraordinary account. Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Story of a Tuskegee Airman is the memoir of an African American man who, through dedication to his goals and vision, overcame the despair of racial segregation to great heights, not only as a military aviator, but also as an educator and as an American citizen. Unlike other historical and autobiographical portrayals of Tuskegee airmen, Harold H. Brown's memoir is told from its beginnings: not on the first day of combat, not on the first day of training, but at the very moment Brown realized he was meant to be a pilot. He revisits his childhood in Minneapolis where his fascination with planes pushed him to save up enough of his own money to take flying lessons. Brown also details his first trip to the South, where he was met with a level of segregation he had never before experienced and had never imagined possible. During the 1930s and 1940s, longstanding policies of racial discrimination were called into question as it became clear that America would likely be drawn into World War II. The military reluctantly allowed for the development of a flight-training program for a limited number of African Americans on a segregated base in Tuskegee, Alabama. The Tuskegee Airmen, as well as other African Americans in the armed forces, had the unique experience of fighting two wars at once: one against Hitler's fascist regime overseas and one against racial segregation at home. Colonel Brown fought as a combat pilot with the 332nd Fighter Group during World War II, and was captured and imprisoned in Stalag VII A in Moosburg, Germany, where he was liberated by General George S. Patton on April 29, 1945. Upon returning home, Brown noted with acute disappointment that race relations in the United States hadn't changed. It wasn't until 1948 that the military desegregated, which many scholars argue would not have been possible without the exemplary performance of the Tuskegee Airmen.*

*In the 1940s, when the world was at war, finding enough pilots for the military was a national challenge. The solution came from a small university tucked in the middle of Alabama. Tuskegee University was teaching African Americans how to fly, but was the rest of the world ready to accept black pilots? In the beginning, the answer was a clear no. However, hundreds of missions and amazing aerial acrobatics turned that opinion around. Today, the Tuskegee Airmen are considered key role models in the country's fight for civil rights and equality for everyone.*

*Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman*

*The History and Legacy of America's First Black Fighter Pilots in World War II*

*Freedom Flyers of World War II*

*Black Knights*

*The Men who Changed a Nation*

Long before Civil Rights, the Tuskegee Airmen fought for equality. First they integrated the Armed Forces, then a whole nation and did it with competency, skill, valour, and courage in combating the enemy abroad and racism at home. Because they stood tall, African Americans and fellow Americans are the better for it.

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Across black America during the Golden Age of Aviation, John C. Robinson was widely acclaimed as the long-awaited “black Lindbergh.” Robinson’s fame, which rivaled that of Joe Louis and Jesse Owens, came primarily from his wartime role as the commander of the Imperial Ethiopian Air Force after Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935. As the only African American who served during the war’s entirety, the Mississippi-born Robinson garnered widespread recognition, sparking an interest in aviation for young black men and women. Known as the “Brown Condor of Ethiopia,” he provided a symbolic moral example to an entire generation of African Americans. While white America remained isolationist, Robinson fought on his own initiative against the march of fascism to protect Africa’s only independent black nation. Robinson’s wartime role in Ethiopia made him America’s foremost black aviator. Robinson made other important contributions that predated the Italo-Ethiopian War. After graduating from Tuskegee Institute, Robinson led the way in breaking racial barriers in Chicago, becoming the first black student and teacher at one of the most prestigious aeronautical schools in the United States, the Curtiss-Wright Aeronautical School. In May 1934, Robinson first planted the seed for the establishment of an aviation school at Tuskegee Institute. While Robinson’s involvement with Tuskegee was only a small part of his overall contribution to opening the door for blacks in aviation, the success of the Tuskegee Airmen—the first African American military aviators in the U.S. armed forces—is one of the most recognized achievements in twentieth-century African American history.

The history of the United States is steeped in contribution of the Air Force formerly Army Air Corps, in preserving and maintaining freedom. The American airmen have been victorious in all of our nation’s conflicts. It is important that we continue to acknowledge the sacrifices and service of these men who perform so admirably. I know the accomplishments of the brave and dedicated Tuskegee Airmen will never be forgotten.

"Discusses the heroic actions and experiences of the Tuskegee Airmen and the impact they made during times of war or conflict"--

The Tuskegee Airmen Chronology

Who Were the Tuskegee Airmen?

A-Train

Father of the Tuskegee Airmen, John C. Robinson

Refuting Myths about America's First Black Military Pilots

- 16 original documents relating to the creation and performance of the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, each accompanied by a brief description that provides historical context
- 28 short biographies of black aviation and military pioneers, important people among the Tuskegee Airmen, as well as several of the Airmen themselves
- A comprehensive bibliographic description of major secondary works on the Tuskegee Airmen, World War II, airpower, and black participation in the American military
- A glossary of specialized terms pertaining to the military, aviation, World War II, and African Americans

Tens of thousands of Americans flew aircraft in World War II. These brave young men risked their lives by serving their country. And they were greatly admired for their courage and their piloting skills. But many white Americans did not want blacks to become pilots. Rumors claimed that blacks were less capable of learning how to fly than whites. A group of servicemen would crush those racist rumors. A project created by the United States Army Air Corps in 1941 at Alabama's Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) trained nearly a thousand African Americans to become fighter pilots, and

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many more to be ground crewmen servicing the planes the pilots flew. Called the Tuskegee Airmen, the all-black group was credited with 15,500 sorties (individual missions) during the war. This book about the brave Tuskegee Airmen will help you separate the legend from the fact.

Tuskegee Airmen 1941-1945 shares the memories of 22 original Tuskegee Airmen and their experiences as African American combat aviators during World War II. Filled with photographs, combat records, mission reports, official correspondence, newspaper clippings, and the personal annotations of the original document owners, Tuskegee Airmen 1941-1945 provides a singularly unique resource for anyone researching the history of these legendary aviators. The first aviation class of Tuskegee Airmen, which comprised 13 cadets, began at Chanute Airfield in Rantoul, Illinois, on July 19, 1941. These cadets received ground school training in subjects such as meteorology, navigation, and instruments. Successful cadets then transferred to Tuskegee Army Air Field in October 1941 to complete pilot training. From 1941 to 1945, more than 900 pilots were trained at Tuskegee, receiving their commissions and wings. Tuskegee also graduated a group of twin-engine pilots assigned to the 477th Bombardment Group. These black navigators, bombardiers, and gunners of the 477th were trained at Army Air Corps bases located elsewhere throughout the United States. Tuskegee Airmen 1941-1945 is organized in a format similar to that of a high school or college yearbook. A significant difference is that unlike in a school "Annual," the authors of this historical book have covered a four-year period recording, highlighting, and commemorating the accomplishments of their fellow Tuskegee alumni. This narrative has a manifold purpose, which has interwoven threads of deeds, actions, thoughts, and ideals into one composite story. It goes inside the lives of many of the surviving Airmen, recounting stories of racism within the military alongside the Airmen's tenacious heroism. Tuskegee Airmen 1941-1945 is a must-read for any serious student of American military, aviation or civil rights history of the 20th century.

Pamphlets from the vertical file.

The Tuskegee Airmen of World War II

Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Free

Tuskegee Airmen Questions and Answers for Students and Teachers

Tuskegee Airmen Chronology

Rising to the Challenge

Once an obscure piece of World War II history, the Tuskegee Airmen are now among the most celebrated and documented aviators in military history. With this growth in popularity, however, have come a number of inaccurate stories and assumptions. Misconceptions about the Tuskegee Airmen refutes fifty-five of these myths, correcting the historical record while preserving the Airmen's rightful reputation as excellent servicemen. The myths examined include: the Tuskegee Airmen never losing a bomber to an enemy aircraft; that Lee Archer was an ace; that Roscoe Brown was the first American pilot to shoot down a German jet; that Charles McGee has the highest total combat missions flown; and that Daniel "Chappie" James was the leader of the "Freeman Field Mutiny." Historian Daniel Haulman, an expert on the Airmen with many published books on the subject, conclusively disproves these misconceptions through primary documents like monthly histories, daily narrative mission reports, honor-awarding orders, and reports on missing crews, thereby proving that the Airmen were without equal, even without embellishments to their story.

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These Airmen lived & fought for equality, resulting in the integration of the Armed Forces & of the whole nation. They showed competency in skills, valor on missions, & courage against the enemy abroad & racism at home. Because they stood tall, African Americans & fellow Americans are the better for it.

The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II

The Road to Equality

The Story of a Tuskegee Airman

Tuskegee in Philadelphia

A Story of an Original Tuskegee Pilot Lt. Col. Hiram E. Mann