Mobilizing for War
Chapter 13 Section 4

Mobilizing the Armed Forces
- Pearl Harbor had ended isolationists feelings in America
- 1940-America had increased military spending as a head start-
  that ended the Depressions as many found jobs in factories.
- John Marshall, army chief of staff, helped FDR mobilize for war.
- FDR instituted the draft in 1940
- But many Americans volunteered for the war eager to fight.

Women and the armed forces
- Women not allowed into combat
- But were allowed to do lots of jobs in the army that freed up men for combat.
- **(WAC) Women’s Army Corp**: largest women’s unit in the army:
- At first it was not an actual part of the army, but it did become a part by the end of the war.
- **WAC**: Repaired equipment, electricians, other jobs.
- **WASPs**: volunteer pilots for Air Force
- **WAVES**: women volunteers in Navy
Essential Questions
1. What actually ended the Depression?
2. In what 2 ways did the army get recruits into the army?
3. In what ways did women serve in the army?
4. Why were women serving in the army so important?

Mobilizing Industry and Science
- Many factories turned from commercial products to war products.
- Government spent billions to fund planes, tanks, and vessels.
- **Henry Ford** helped
- **Henry Kaiser** used the assembly line in California to make 5,500 vessels.
- Federal government also created agencies to **regulate** and ensure factories would produce what the army needed.

Labor
- **Rosie the Riveter**: As men went to war, women filled in at the factories
- **Rosie the Riveter** symbolized the working women
- Government war spending helped end the Depression and created new jobs.
- **War Labor Board**: set up to settle labor disputes so production would not be interrupted
- **Smith-Connally Act**: allowed the government to take over an industry in case of a strike.
The Manhattan Project

- Technology would play a big role in the war
- **Manhattan Project** was the most significant program of the war.
- It was a top secret play to build an **Atomic bomb**.
- Was done because they knew the Germans were working on it too
- **J. Robert Oppenheimer** lead scientist on the project.

Essential Questions

1. How did commercial factories help in the war effort?
2. Who is Rosie the Riveter? Why were women so important in the factories?
3. Why was the Smith-Connally Act created?
4. What was the Manhattan Project? Why was it important?

African-Americans during the War

- 100,000’s of African-Americans served in the war
- Served in the **Marines** and **Navy** for the first time
- But still served in segregated **units**.
- None received the **Metal of Honor**; the highest award in the military.
- They found access to more factory jobs, but were forced into the lowest paying jobs.
**Tuskegee Airmen**

- A segregated all-black flying unit
- **First African-Americans to ever receive training** as pilots in the US military
- They provided air support in **North Africa and Italy**
- They flew 15,500 mission
- They **won numerous awards** and were honored for “outstanding performance and extraordinary heroism”

**Hispanic Americans**

- **Bracero Program**: Gave Mexicans a chance to work temporarily on farms.
- Ethnic tensions rose
- **Zoot Suit Riots** broke out in LA: Marines fought flashy young Hispanics wearing zoot suits.
- Many Hispanics also served in the armed forces.

**Essential Questions**

1. What gains did African-Americans make during WWII, what areas were disappointing?
2. Who were the Tuskegee Airmen?
3. Why did the Zoot Suit riots break out?
4. Did WWII help minorities in any way?