

# *Chapter 18 Section 1*



- Mobilization

# *Selective Training and Service Act of 1940*

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- Males between 21 and 36 must register for the military
- Thousands of American men received official notices to enter the army.
- This was America's most diverse Armed Forces ever.
- 350,000 Women volunteered to serve.

# *The GI War*

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- Lives changed
- GI is the term used for American soldiers from the term Government Issue
- American GI's slogged through swamps, crossed deserts and turbulent seas
- Native Americans served as “code talkers”
- Army units still segregated

# *Women in the Military*

- WAR PRODUCTION
- Ford Motor converts factory to build B-24 bombers and Henry J. Kaiser made Liberty Ships to transport men and supplies.
- Gov. set up the War Production Board to direct conversion of peacetime industries to industries that produced war goods
- Dozens of additional agencies began to deal with war production

# *Office of War Mobilization*

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- Federal agency formed to coordinate issues related to war production during WWII
- “Cost Plus” system for military contracts
- Each year production goals went up
- Unemployment almost vanished by need for wartime work.
- Union membership rose during the war. Almost no strikes during the war

# *Financing the War*

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- The US Gov. vowed to spend whatever was necessary to sustain the war effort
- Higher taxes paid for about 41% of the cost of war
- John Keynes argued in favor of deficit spending to get the economy moving.
- Bond sales raised \$186 billion to finance the war effort.
- GNP doubles during the war.

# *Daily Life on the Home Front*

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- Shortage and Controls
- Movies, songs, books, and sports became popular
- Victory garden and a vegetable garden were used to add to the home food supply
- Gov. encouraged to recycle scrap metal, paper, and other materials for war production
- Many items needed for the war are rationed.
- People get ration coupons to buy goods.