

Agenda

- Group Brainstorm
- Packet notes on The Homefront
- Century: The Homefront

WWII: The Homefront



Sacrifices During War: Writing Prompt

- How do you think the war might have changed the lives of ordinary Americans who were not soldiers? How do you think it might have changed the nation as a whole?

Group Brainstorming

- Create a list of 5 significant actions in response to a massive war with China and South Africa.
- 3rd year of war
- Fighting on Two Fronts
- Cutoff from trade across both oceans

Mobilizing for Victory

- Mobilization: When a country prepares to meet the needs of war
- What types of things would we have needed to fight the war?
- In order to meet these needs, FDR created government agencies to oversee mobilization.
 - *Office of War Mobilization
 - *War Production Board

WWII Impacts the Economy

- The demand for military goods finally strengthened the U.S. economy and ended the Depression.
- Factories converted from making consumer goods to military goods. Example?
- Historian Stephen Ambrose stated “Production won the war.” What does this mean?
- By the end, the U.S. produced approximately
 - *300,000 planes
 - *100,000 tanks
 - *41 billion rounds of ammunition

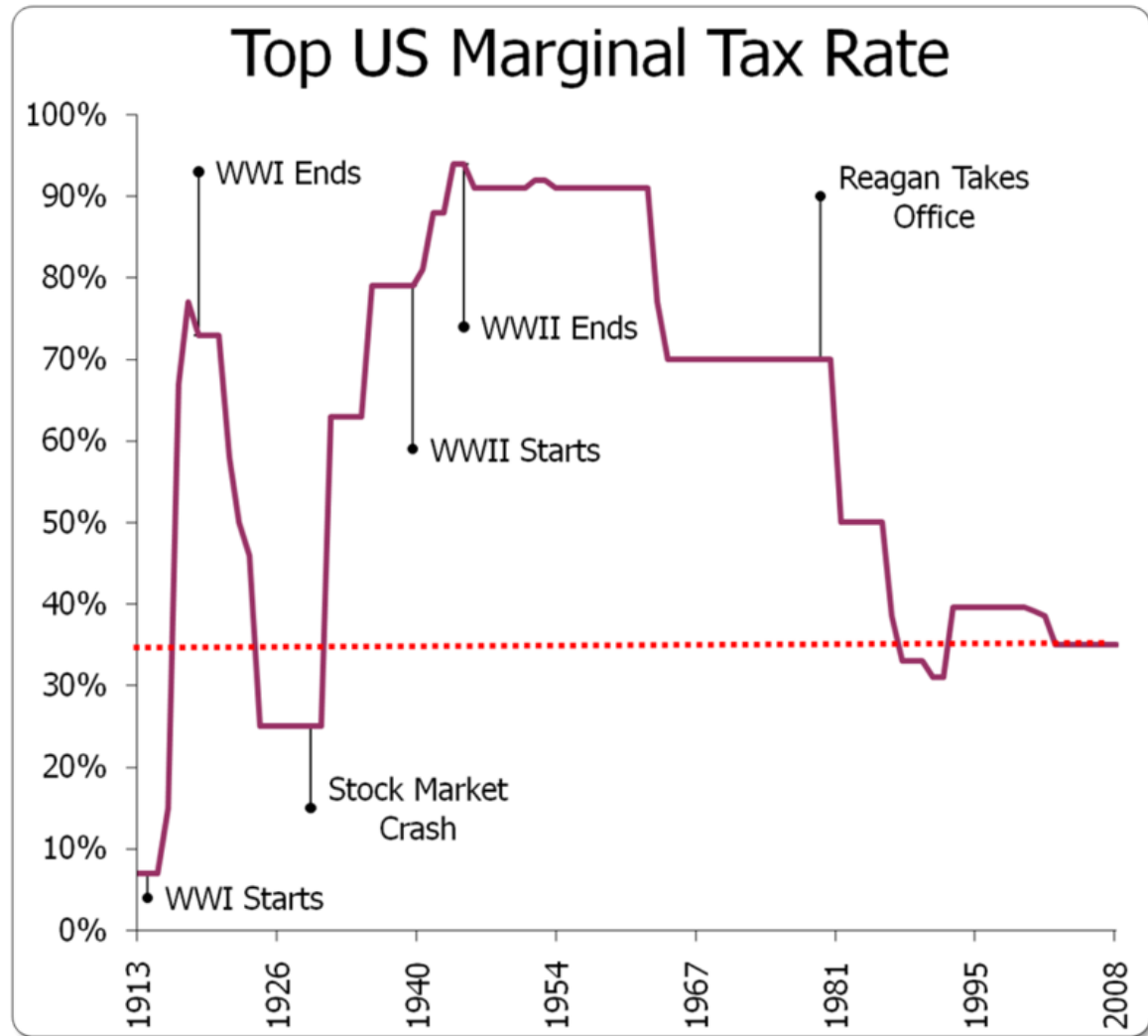


WWII ended the Depression



Paying for the War: Taxes

- In all, the U.S. spent \$300 billion to defeat the Axis Powers (the equivalent of \$4 trillion today).
- Taxes: Congress raised taxes (especially on the richest Americans) during the Depression to help pay for the New Deal programs.
- During WWII, taxes were increased even more to help pay for the war.



Paying for the War: War Bonds

- War Bonds: Certificates issued by the government to help pay for the war.
- Ordinary Americans were encouraged to buy bonds. In essence, they were giving the government a loan
- Just like banks make a profit by giving loans and charging interest, individuals earned interest when they purchased war bonds.
- Example: A \$25 dollar war bond cost \$18.75. After ten years, you could turn in the bond and collect the \$25 from the government.
- Both sides benefit. The government gets the money to pay for the war right away, and the investor makes a profit in the long run.

War Bond



All Americans Sacrifice

- Collection Drives: metals, rubber, nylon
- Ration Books: coupons were needed to buy sugar, meat, gas, and shoes
- Victory Gardens: so farm foods can go to soldiers

THIS STICKER MUST BE DISPLAYED ON THE VEHICLE ONLY IN THAT LOCATION WHICH COMFORMS WITH THE STATE LAW.

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GASOLINE RATION

GROW IT YOURSELF

PLAN A FARM GARDEN NOW



Home Extension Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture

New Opportunities for Women

- Women were needed to do “men’s” work.
- Rosie the Riveter: Fictional woman who was patriotic and worked hard to help the war effort



Fighting for Freedom Abroad - Denying it at Home

- Japanese Internment Camps
 - Fear led to 110,000 Japanese-Americans held against their will during the war
 - Most of them permanently lost their property and possessions
 - About 17,000 signed oath and served in the military

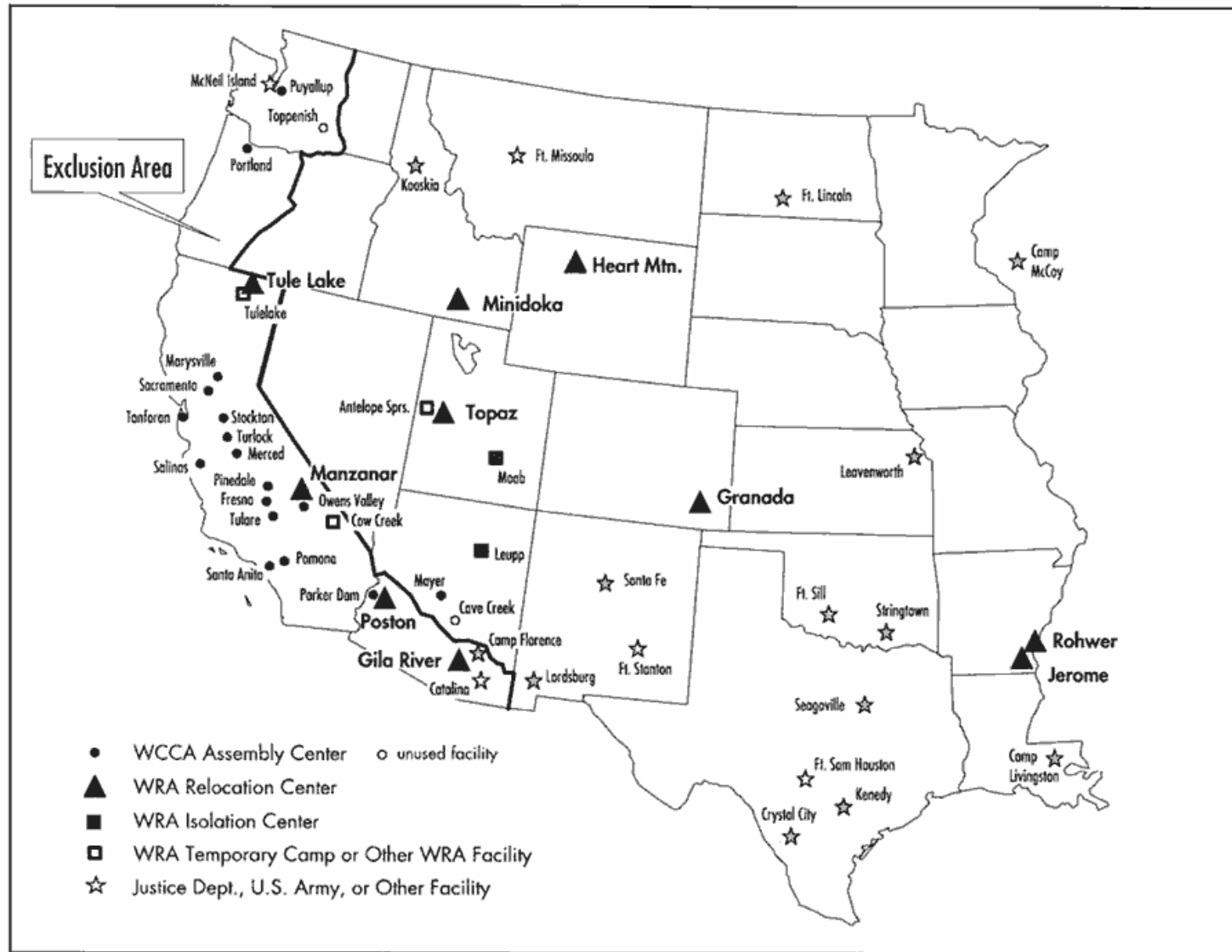


Figure 1.1. Sites in the western U.S. associated with the relocation of Japanese Americans during World War II.

- **Military Segregation:**

- Black and White troops did not serve together

- African-Americans were asked to defend the freedom of individuals in other countries while being denied freedom in their own country.

- How do you think this impacted their attitudes toward America?

- **Zoot Suit Riots:**

- Naval Sailors in Southern California started fights with young Mexican-American males who wore “Zoot Suits”. They were singled out for looking different and “Un-American”.



Zoot Suit Riots

