



## **For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots**

### **Part 1 Overview**

The first man to die in the cause that would become the American Revolution was black. Crispus Attucks, and others like him made the ultimate sacrifice to insure that their people would one day enjoy the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Four generations later most African Americans were still slaves. Yet black men were willing to fight and die to save a nation that wouldn't even allow them the right to vote. As the country grew west, Buffalo Soldiers were there to keep the peace and at the Battle of San Juan Hill, Teddy Roosevelt's Roughriders owed their lives to the men of the 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry. In the War to End all Wars, the Harlem Hellfighters spent more time in front line trenches than any other American unit, yet a white naval officer refused to allow black combat veterans to board his ship. In America, racism was rampant and during World War Two, the United States military was no different.

### **Part 2 Overview**

As World War Two rages more than one million two hundred thousand African Americans fight for victory. Despite the heroic actions of countless black soldiers and sailors, none are awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. It takes a war in Korea before the military recognizes black men and women to be the equal of their white counterparts and a war in Vietnam before African Americans begin to receive that same respect at home. As the 20<sup>th</sup> century comes to a close, the United States Armed Forces are under the command of a black general who leads the nation to its greatest military achievement since the Second World War. When terrorists attack the homeland, America once again finds itself at war in a distant land. For African Americans back home, the struggle for equality is far from over, yet in 2009 the nation inaugurates its first Black Commander In Chief.

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