

Week One Project Assignment 1

We know that there is more to war than can be described in a single definition and throughout history as a nation we have encountered firsthand the impact of such actions. Looking beyond the façade of war time definitions and delving into the history through provided sources and documentation. Providing supporting evidence in relation to the importance the people back home playing a major role in war time efforts, more specifically in World War II.

For the first part of this project Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" can be used. In this musical based motion picture the audience gets a sense of uncomfortable distance between characters. From the seemingly incomparable stature of a war time General to everyone else, the characters mention his title after the fact as a sign of respect and honor. Yet at the same time it is clear in parts of the clips that the former General would much rather "try to keep the General part out" in a moral contrast to put behind what had been in hope to moving forward and living the life that he is currently living (the clips present time). With this almost obvious contrast in characters it can also be compared metaphorically to a non-serviced individual back at home looking towards all ranks whom had served (in place of the General). A wide range of respect was prominent throughout the World War II war times as well as long after. With this came the G.I. bill allowing for those who had served the ability to find employment at an easier/faster pace. Nearing the end of the clip service men from the 151st Division whom were under Major General Tom Waverly would gather at what seemed to be a gala and march in uniform one more time for old times' sake, as a gift to him. This two minutes of the clip easily captures the unwavering support and respect given to those who served. Respect not only from one service member to another but from wives, families, sons and daughters, with the roaring of the applause to the tears in Waverly's eyes it is clear that the war was far from over after being over.

Moving to a more concrete attribute to the support provided by the home front, can come in many forms. WWII Specials, Democracy at home _ Abroad, this series of radio broadcasts are an amazing set filled with reports of national news to guests speakers like Harry Truman at the White house during his presidency. These broadcasts were meant to simultaneously fill both sides in and to bring both sides to a common ground although seemingly worlds apart. Truman stating that democracy, the understanding and functionality was the greatest power. In doing so he asked that as a nation "...in all our resources, in all our skill" would help support. Truman's use of the word "our" implying that not only is this a testament to those overseas or in service but as a nation in total to provide help and unity in any way possible. Also seen in cartoons, the ever popular Bugs Bunny and his endorsement of War Bonds "Get your Bonds today, invest in freedom and the USA."

It is clear to see that the impact of the war was more impactful and more wholly supported by a nation then individuals then meets the eye. It is clear through many means of media of the time from Musicals, radio, and even Cartoons. With the war came the importance of the home front and their support.

- I Pledge (600)

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