Chapter 20 Notes

I Mobilizing for War

A American Industry Gets the Job Done

1. American workers were more productive than German or Japanese workers.

They helped turn the tide in favor of the allies.

Cost-plus system: the gov’t agreed to pay a company whatever it cost to - make a product, plus a guaranteed % of the costs as profit. The more a company produced and the faster it did the work, the more $ it would make.

-Automobile industry began to produce military vehicles, artillery, rifles, mines, helmets, and more. Produced 1/3 of all military equipment. Ford created an assembly line for “the Liberator”

2. Liberty ships: cargo ship, welded instead of riveted, cheap, easy to build, very hard to sink.

B Building an Army

1. Creating an Army: U.S. army increased to 227,000 after the invasion of

Poland. After France surrendered the first peacetime draft was created.

1. A Segregated Army: White recruits did not train alongside African Americans. Separate barracks, latrines, mess halls, recreational facilities. Af. Amer. had their own military units usually commanded by white officers.
2. “Double V”: Even though African Amer. did not have the right to vote, or join labor unions, and lynchings were still taking place many felt that they should contribute to the war effort. President Roosevelt ordered the military to begin recruiting African Amer. and the army to put them into combat.
3. Military bases were integrated in 1943. Fully integrated in 1948
4. Women Join the Armed Forces: The army enlisted women for the first time. Many jobs were administrative and clerical, released men for combat. 68,000 served as nurses. Joined the WAAC, renamed WAC (Women’s Army Corps)