

SSUSH: 22



The student will identify dimensions of the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1970.

a. Explain the importance of President Truman's order to integrate the U.S. military and the federal government.

- In 1947 President Truman formed a special task force on civil rights.
- He followed their recommendation to integrate the military and formed a special civil rights division within the Justice Department
- Did not take effect until the Korean War.



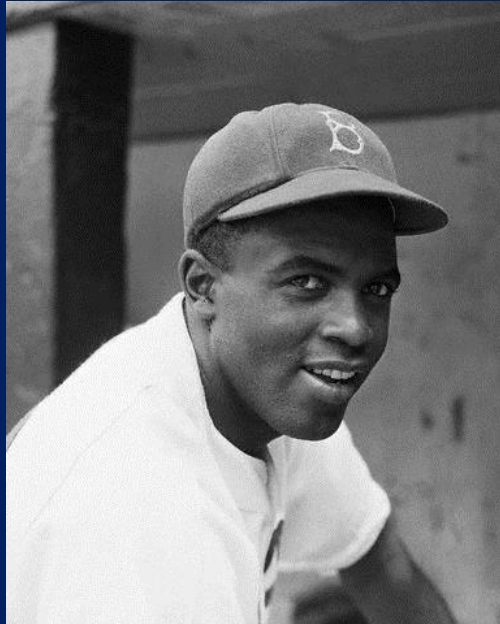
3 Reasons for Integration

1. Growing recognition that segregation contradicts the moral stature of the US during the Cold War
2. Something needed to be done to reduce racial tension in the military
3. The US needed “manpower” during the Korean War

Integration of the Federal Government

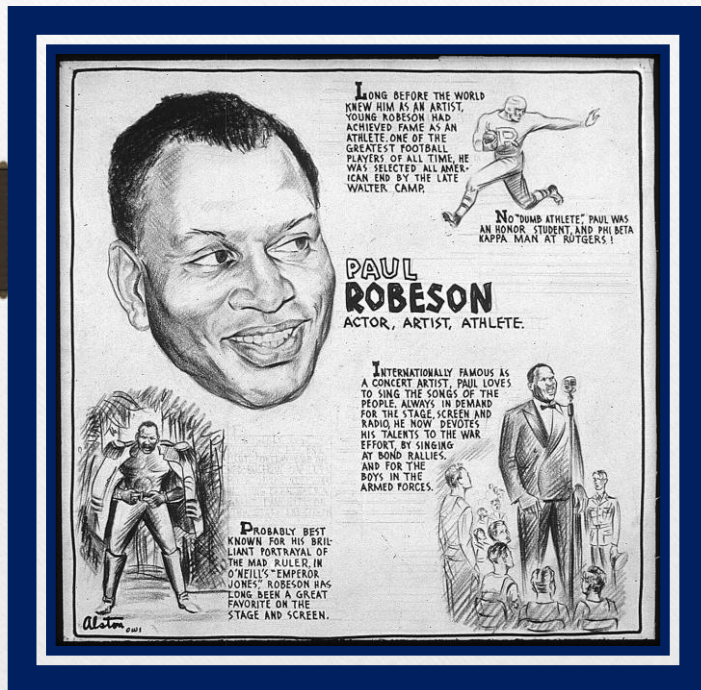
- A. Philip Randolph convince President Roosevelt to issue an executive order in 1941 ending discrimination on federally contracted jobs (minorities were able to gain employment in war industry jobs)—Defense Industries
- President Truman banned racial discrimination in hiring federal employees and ended segregation in the armed forces.
- Eisenhower issued an executive order that required enforcement on non-discrimination in federal jobs
- Johnson's Civil Rights Act of 1964 barred discrimination in any job

b. Identify Jackie Robinson and the integration of baseball.



- Though the majority of Major League Baseball owners were against integration, the Brooklyn Dodgers signed Jackie Robinson to a contract in 1947
- He became the 1st African American to play MLB, went on to win Rookie of the Year and eventually made into the Hall of Fame.
- His #42 was retired in 1997

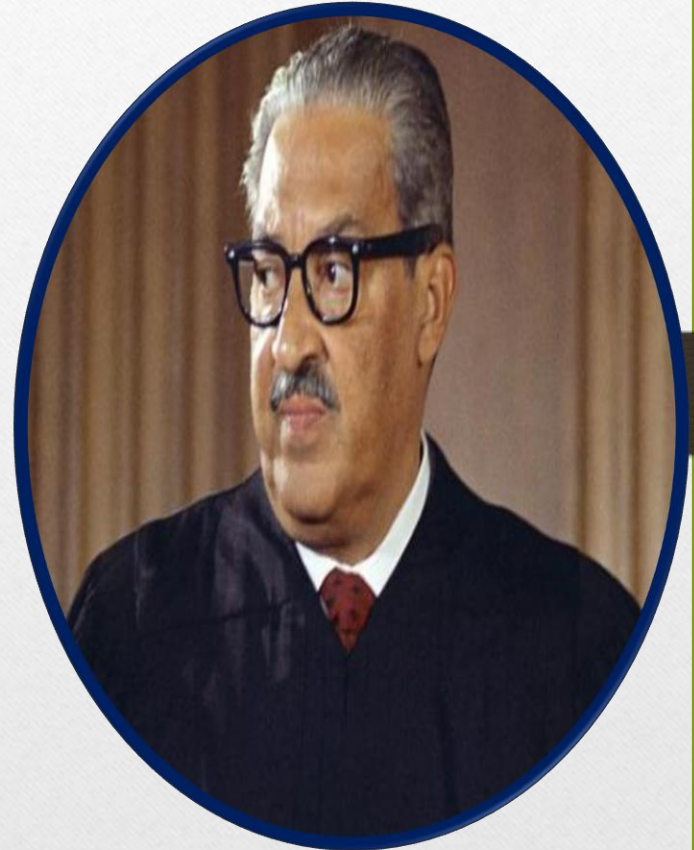
Integrating Baseball



- Paul Robeson urged baseball owners to stop segregation from being a trend national past-time
- Kennesaw Mountain Landis, a segregationist, who was the baseball commissioner passed away
- Branch Rickey, Brooklyn Dodgers wanted to break color lines, recruited GA native Jackie Robinsons
- Opened doors for Satchel Page and Hank Aaron

Integrating Public Schools

- Plessy v. Ferguson: Separate But Equal in public facilities
- NAACP challenged this provision in Brown v. Board of Ed
- Unanimously, the Supreme Court ruled “in field of education, the doctrine of separate but equal has no place.”
- *On your QW sheet, do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why/why not?*



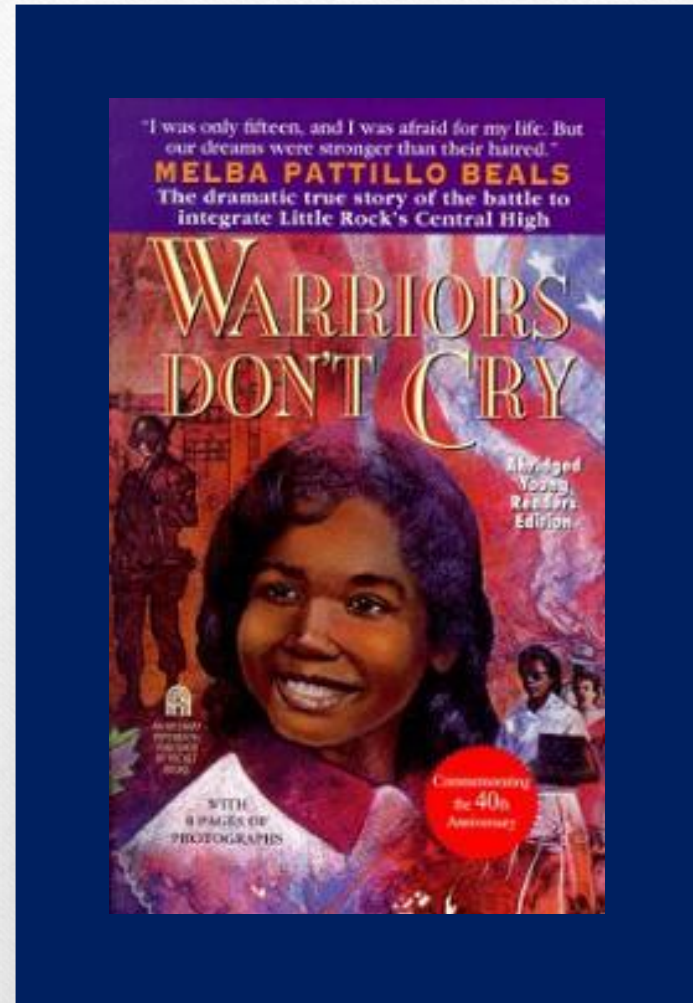
Brown v. Board of Education



- Many states and local school districts resisted desegregation and refused to integrate
- The Court ruling to desegregate was vague enough for schools to resist the order
- *Brown v. Board of Education* began the process of reversing *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)

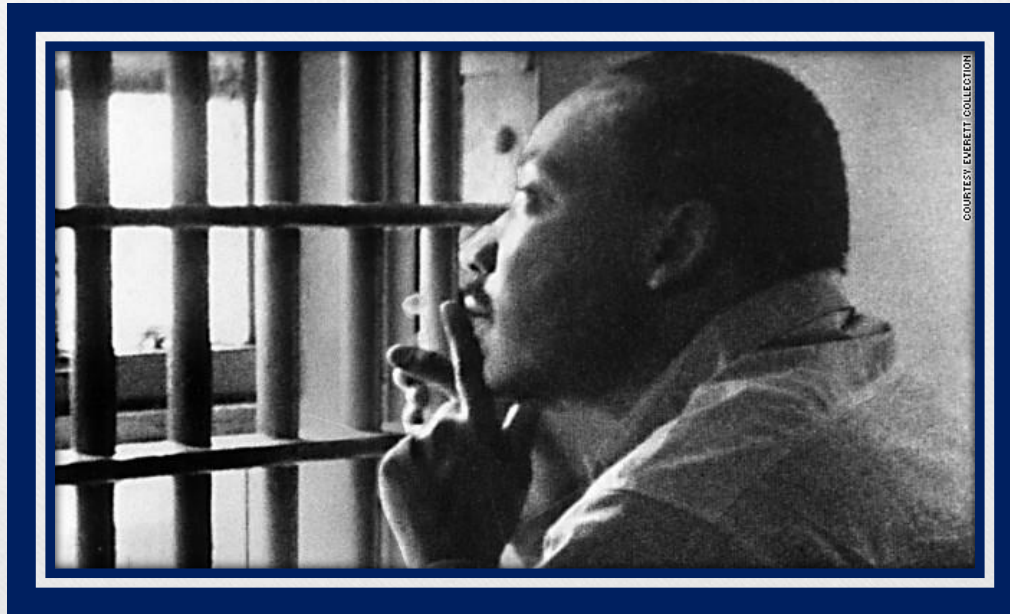
Little Rock Arkansas

- Gov. Orval Faubus ordered his National Guard to keep Central High School from being integrated
- Pres. Eisenhower had to nationalize the guards and call in 101st Airborne to enforce the law.



d. Describe the significance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Letter from a Birmingham Jail and his I Have a Dream Speech.

Letter From a Birmingham Jail



- King believed that the only way Civil Rights would be addressed by the government was if there was disorder

- Written to clergy men in the state
- Explained the hopes of the nonviolent protest
- The actions in Birmingham led President Kennedy to push Congress for a major civil rights bill: Kennedy went on TV to announce his plans for a civil rights bill (June 1963)
- Knowing that the bill would struggle to get passed by Congress, King helped organize a major protest march in Washington D.C.

March on Washington

- In August 1963, over 200,000 protesters marched on Washington to push for the passage of the civil rights bill Kennedy proposed



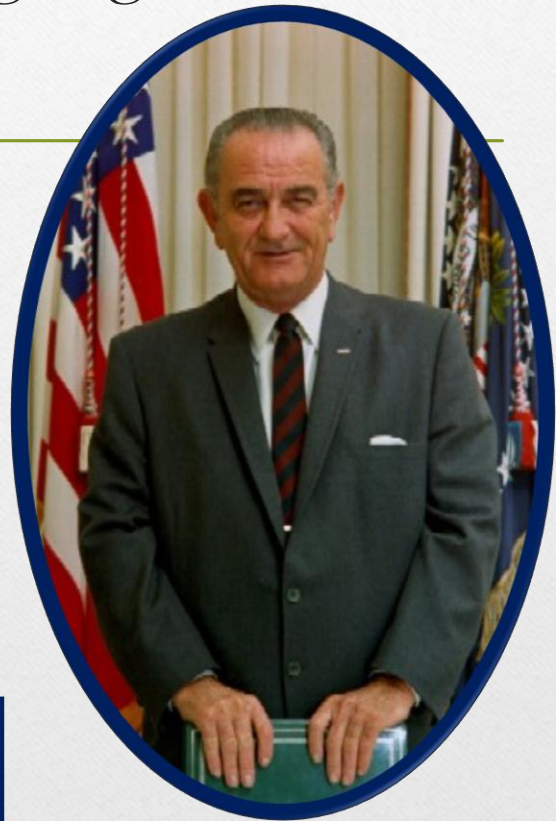
QW Continues

- How did the Letter from Birmingham Jail and the “I Have a Dream” speech aid to the causes of the Civil Rights Movement? (2mins)



e. Describe the causes and consequences of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

- President Kennedy was assassinated in November of 1963, and many worried that the push for a civil rights bill would die with him
- Vice-President Lyndon Johnson, from Texas (a Southern state) was sworn in as President



QW Continues:

Why would civil right leaders be concerned that Southern President wouldn't help their cause?

Civil Rights Act of 1964

- The Act was eventually signed into law in July 1964, after a 75 day filibuster in the Senate
- It was the most sweeping civil rights reform since Reconstruction: The Civil Rights Act of 1964:
 - outlawed discrimination in public places
 - established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
 - withheld federal funds from segregated public programs

Edmund Pettus Bridge



Bloody Sunday leads to the Voting Rights Act of 1965

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- The Civil Rights Act of 1964 addressed mainly working conditions and segregation issues but did little to promote equal voting rights
- To promote the lack of voting rights, Dr. King led protest marches in Selma, AL, where African Americans were being prevented from registering to vote
- The local police attacked the marchers and beat them
- King then led the marchers from Selma to Montgomery, the capital of Alabama

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- As the marchers were leaving Selma they were again attacked, in full view of television cameras-
This was known as “Bloody Sunday”
- In response to the violence, President Johnson helped push through the Voting Rights Act of 1965
- The Act:
 - suspended discriminatory practices such as literacy tests
 - sent federal troops to help register African Americans

QW Continues:

How did television impact the Civil Rights Movement?

