Name:

Tuskegee Airmen

By Anita Kim Venegas

rom the time English settlers arrived in North America, Black Americans have endured slavery, segregation, and discrimination. They've served in every American battle from the American

prepared
to fight, the United
States needed more pilots. On January 16,
1941, the army announced it would form and
train a unit of Black pilots to become fighter



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The United States entered World War II
after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in
December 1941. Even before this, Americans
knew they may join the war. In order to be



Eight Tuskegee Airmen stand in front of a P-40 fighter aircraft.

years, Black airmen would escort American bomber planes over Italy and Germany. Their squadron was responsible for shooting down over one hundred German fighter planes.

At the end of World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen received many awards for their courage and dedication throughout the war, but they were more than war heroes. Their actions during World War II began to open doors for African Americans in the United States. While the Civil Rights Movement did not officially begin until 1954, the success of the Tuskegee Airmen in defeating Germany challenged Americans to think differently about segregation and discrimination.

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 List three jobs mentioned in the article that Black American soldiers performed during World War I.





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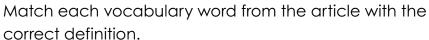
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	What two countries does the article say Tuskegee		
	Airmen helped American bomber planes fly over?		
j.	The article mentions that the Tuskegee Airmen received many awards for their actions in the war. With an adult's permission, use the internet to research what these awards were. List the names of three of them on the lines below.		

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1. ____ endured

a. devotion



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4. _____ squadron

or country

5. ____ deployed

e. went through something difficult

6. _____ territory

f. unjust treatment

7. _____ escort

g. the separation of a race, class, or other group

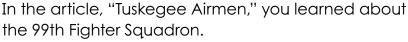
8. ____ dedication

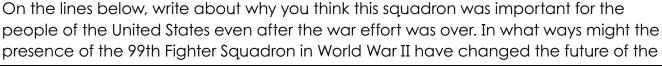
h. accompany

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ANSWER KEY

Tuskegee Airmen



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These awards were, List ti	ne names of infee of the	em on me lines below.

Answers will vary.

ANSWER KEY

Tuskegee Airmen



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7. <u>h.</u> escort

g. the separation of a race, class, or other group

8. <u>a.</u> dedication

h. accompany