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African Americans and WWI: Voices Silenced

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Abstract: *In this presentation, I will explore the formation, experience, accomplishments, and legacy of African American soldiers in World War I, through the analysis of memoirs, images, videos, and scholarly sources.*

Keywords: *African Americans, World War I, Memoir*

I. Introduction

When The United States entered World War I, African Americans answered the call of duty. However, their experiences and contributions remain largely invisible to mainstream history. My research of their story, as well as, a literary comparison to the account of a British officer reveal unique insight into forgotten American history.

II. Findings

I generally like to focus on the underdogs of history, to tell the story and explain the significance of people and events that aren't so mainstream. While I conducted my research, I was overwhelmed by the content and ashamed that I hadn't been exposed to something so necessary for Black history and culture. I present evidence of the contributions and experiences of African Americans in World War I and their experiences post-war.

References

Little, A. W. (1936). *From Harlem to the Rhine: The Story of New York's Colored Volunteers*. New York: Covici Friede Publishers.