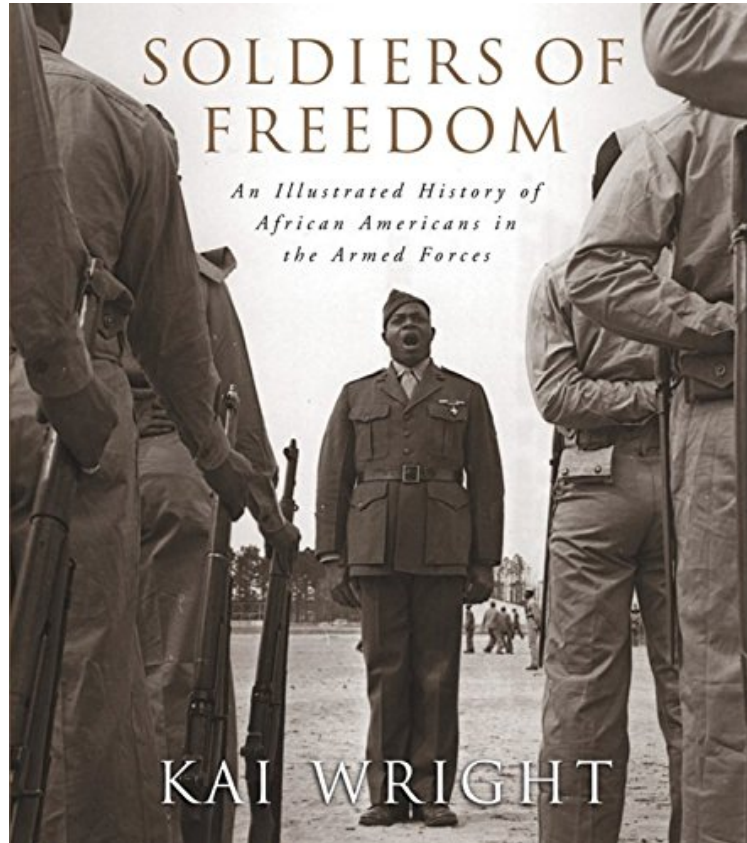


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## Soldiers of Freedom: An Illustrated History of African Americans in the Armed Forces

*Kai Wright*

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#2550932 in Books Black Dog n Leventhal Publishers 2002-09-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.34 x .97 x 9.36l, #File Name: 1579122531304 pages | File size: 79.Mb

**Kai Wright : Soldiers of Freedom: An Illustrated History of African Americans in the Armed Forces** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Soldiers of Freedom: An Illustrated History of African Americans in the Armed Forces:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. OutstandingBy Robert I. WilliamsI purchased this book because I was looking for information on the World War II era involment of Black Americans and this book provided that and much more. I recommend it highly not only for the content but also for the many photographs. it is very difficult to find photos of Black Ameericans in uniform prior to Vietnam. The one thing I wish that there was more of was information about black women during WW II and the period between the war and Vietnam.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy avidreaderzphibWe gave this book to a dear friend who currently serves in the US Army. He really enjoyed the information and displays it proudly on his coffee table for others to enjoy as well.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy MTMy father enjoys reading it take again.

Spanning from the American Revolution to the war in Afghanistan, this long-overdue, comprehensive history covers

the full scope of African Americans' involvement in the armed forces during war and peacetime. Accompanying the informative text are 300 photographs and illustrations, most of them rare, some never before published. Highlights include accounts of: - The Rhode Island 1st Regiment, the first all-black regiment in the U.S. Army. - The New Orleans Battalion of Free Men of Color. - The Battle for Richmond, which resulted in the largest loss of black life in the Civil War. - The 1863 New York City Draft Riot. - The 1919 lynchings of black war vets. - The Navy's reluctant integration during World War II. - The dramatic story of the Tuskegee Airmen. - The war against terrorism in Afghanistan, and much more. The book also features portraits of famous and lesser-known soldiers, including Crispus Attucks, Salem Poor, John Brown, Sergeant William Carney, Dorie Miller and Colin Powell. This dramatic visual history is a moving tribute to the essential and often unsung contributions of African-American soldiers through every generation. AUTHORBIO: KAI WRIGHT is a freelance journalist based in Washington, D.C. His work on social and political issues relevant to communities of color around the world has appeared in the Chicago Tribune, The Village Voice and The Progressive, among other publications. He is the author of *The African-American Archive: The History of the Black Experience Through documents*.

From Library Journal Offering homage to African Americans who have shouldered arms in defense of the United States from its War of Independence (1775-83) to the advent of the war on terrorism in 2001, freelance journalist Wright profiles the precarious balance historically maintained by blacks in the U.S. military. Using primarily military photos from the National Archives and the Library of Congress, Wright depicts African Americans' range of service, from the routine to the heroic, as they fought a two-front war: from within against America's bigoted practices and from without for America's birthright principles. The images more than the text articulate the saga of the military as the front line of the nation's race war as blacks, ambivalent about being simultaneously rebuffed and desperately encouraged to serve, risked their lives to assert their humanity and enjoy full citizenship in their unwavering defense of the United States. This story complements works such as Gail Lumet Buckley's *American Patriots: The Story of Blacks in the Military from the Revolution to Desert Storm*. For collections on blacks and the military. Thomas J. Davis, Arizona State Univ., Tempe Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Wright offers a compelling look at the contributions African Americans have made to military engagements from the American Revolution through the Vietnam War up to the current war on terrorism, with a wealth of photographs and illustrations highlighting the changes in the image and involvement of black soldiers and sailors. Although the participation of blacks in early conflicts was as much about procuring their own freedom as serving the nation, accounts and illustrations denied and de-emphasized their participation or relegated them primarily to roles as servants and slaves. African Americans also battled against an image of cowardice, bans on blacks in the military, and gross discrimination within the military and society at large, to finally achieve wide participation and grudging recognition. Wright sets the record straight with illustrations and accounts, from Salem Poor pictured in the famous 1786 painting *Battle of Bunker Hill* through photos of the Tuskegee Airmen and Colin Powell. Readers interested in African American and military history will appreciate this well-documented and -illustrated resource. Vanessa Bush Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved ".... well documented and -illustrated resource....An excellent history reference for teens." -- Booklist