

HONOR DEFERRED

**African American Medal of Honor
Winners in World War II**

Hollywood vs. History Series

© Student Handouts

Honor Deferred

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This educational video workbook is designed to accompany the History Channel's 2006 documentary film "Honor Deferred."

Pre-viewing Activity: Complete this word search puzzle containing names and terms used in this documentary film.

N G S I A V G T V R W M B Z G
G U U R V T C H E V E J A L N
E Z G Q E A T C X D S B T R W
O N L E R I I A A Y H E T N J
S K E T N P D L C Y I C A A A
N A E M I I O L T K I B L F M
O R M E Y F H U O N R A I R E
S I N O H F D C A S A T O I S
T T H O H F I P A J W T N C D
A M N S O T A R N M D L B A E
W O H L J J Z T E H L E E N D
R I L A R T I L L E R Y H A N
P A T N A E G R E S O X Y M U
C I X G E R M A N Y W F C E O
S R E V I R B A K E R I U R W
T N A N E T U E I L F Q I I A
X O F H G H Z K R I K Y T C C
Z V F F D H Q Z C Z O Q U A J
Z W Y R H O B A T P D I N N E
D G F Y N I P M U B O J N S B

NAMES AND TERMS

African Americans
artillery
attack
Baker
battalion
battle
call of duty
Carter
enemy fire
Fox
Germany
James
Japan
lieutenant
machine gun
Medal of Honor
Pacific
recipient
Rivers
sergeant
ship
soldiers
Thomas
Watson
World War II
wounded

Viewing Activity: Take notes on each Medal of Honor recipient.

John Robert Fox (1915-1944)

Vernon Joseph Baker (1919-2010)

George Watson (1915-1943)

Honor Deferred

Edward A. Carter, Jr. (1916-1963)

Charles L. Thomas (1920-1980)

Willy F. James, Jr. (1920-1945)

Ruben Rivers (1921-1944)

Post-viewing Activity: Answer the following essay questions.

Why were African Americans not recommended for the Medal of Honor during World War II? _____

Which recipient impresses you most deeply? Why? _____

Imagine that you are an African American drafted into the U.S. Army during World War II. Given that the army was at that time segregated, and that African Americans were denied the military's highest honor, would you be willing to sacrifice as these soldiers did? Why or why not? _____
