

## Annotated Bibliography

### Primary Sources

*African American Stevedores*. Photograph. National Park Service. Accessed March 3, 2021.  
<https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?pg=21928&id=F43C40BA-155D-4519-3E65DCCAA9DF3210>.

This photo gallery shows African-American sailors working on the port and loading munitions which helps prove how they loaded hundreds of tons of munitions dangerously without any proper safety procedures, risking their lives everyday by loading these munitions unsafely.

Bond-Nelms, Cheryl. "Boycotts, Movements and Marches." AARP. Last modified February 9, 2018. Accessed March 3, 2021.  
<https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/history/info-2018/civil-rights-events-fd.html>.

This photograph of a peaceful march showed me how millions of African-Americans were coming together to protest discrimination against blacks. It showed thousands of Africans boycotting public transportation and walking due to segregation on public buses and their protests such as this one would eventually cause the banning of segregation of blacks on buses.

Colarossi, Natalie. "25 Vintage Photos Show How Desperate and Desolate America Looked during the Great Depression, the Last Time the Unemployment Rate Was as High as It Is Today." Insider. Last modified May 11, 2020. Accessed March 3, 2021.  
<https://www.insider.com/great-depression-photos-of-america-unemployment-2020-5#african-americans-and-mexican-americans-were-hit-hardest-during-the-depression-in-1930-half-of-black-workers-were-unemployed-that-same-year-70-of-the-black-population-in-charleston-south-carolina-was-unemployed-and-75-of-black-workers-in-memphis-lost-their-jobs-18>.

This photograph directly showed how severely African-Americans were hit by the Great Depression causing many to be launched into a state of severe poverty such as the family in this photograph.

"Executive Order 8802: Prohibition of Discrimination in the Defense Industry (1941)." OurDocuments. Last modified June 25, 1941. Accessed January 20, 2021.  
<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false&doc=72>.

This was a primary document of Executive Order 8802, passed by President Roosevelt which was an order banning discrimination in the military but was unsuccessful in that discrimination and segregation still persisted in the military. This was released in response to A. Philip Randolph's protests against discrimination in the military to silence the protests and fix the problem in the military though it was not effective.

Hallissy, Erin. "Freddie Meeks -- Pardoned in Port Chicago Mutiny." SF Gate. Last modified January 18, 2012. Accessed March 3, 2021.

<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Freddie-Meeks-pardoned-in-Port-Chicago-mutiny-2607630.php>.

This photograph showed an image of Freddie Meeks, the only man who was pardoned in 1999 by President Bill Clinton. The Port Chicago 50 all had to live with the charges and still today are not exonerated with Meeks being the only person to be pardoned of the charges.

*Mutiny? The Real Story of How the Navy Branded 50 Fearshocked Sailors as Mutineers*. 1945. Accessed January 27, 2021.

<https://abmceducation.org/sites/default/files/Jocz-Pamphlet-Mutiny.pdf>.

This pamphlet was created by NAACP to spread awareness of the Port Chicago disaster and trial of the Port Chicago 50 during a time period where the event was very surprisingly little known about. This primary source was valuable as I could read information from around the time the explosion and trial occurred giving me information which was useful in understanding how unjust the trial was.

New Wave Media. "Port Chicago Mutiny." Maritime Logistics Professional. Accessed March 3, 2021. <https://www.maritimeprofessional.com/blogs/post/port-chicago-mutiny-13597>.

This image of the newspaper from the time period of the mutiny shows how this mutiny trial was widely shown around the country as it was the first time 50 people were being tried for mutiny at the same time.

Niekerken, Bill Van. "Port Chicago Disaster: Unpublished Photos of a World War II Tragedy in Bay Area." San Francisco. Last modified July 17, 2019. Accessed January 21, 2021. [https://www.sfchronicle.com/chronicle\\_vault/article/Port-Chicago-disaster-Unpublished-photos-of-a-14099503.php](https://www.sfchronicle.com/chronicle_vault/article/Port-Chicago-disaster-Unpublished-photos-of-a-14099503.php).

This source provides me with a multitude of new images and articles that were unreleased to other sources. The images showed the mutiny trial, with the African American Chicago 50 in contrast to the all white jury. The articles from the time period explain the progress of the trial and information about the explosion, demonstrating its power and also how much the town of Port Chicago was impacted as well.

"Port Chicago Disaster." *National Park Service*, 2021, [www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?id=F40E9D90-155D-4519-3E886B704FAC971D](http://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?id=F40E9D90-155D-4519-3E886B704FAC971D). Accessed 20 Jan. 2021.

This gallery of photos showed the intense magnitude of the bombs by showing how the extreme damage that occurred because of the bombs on the ship. It gave a clear understanding of how powerful the explosion was considering it completely destroyed the two ships and base.

"The Port Chicago Disaster: 75 Years Later." Video. YouTube. Posted by NBC Bay Area, July 17, 2019. Accessed March 2, 2021. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_t0FvLHzJw8&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_t0FvLHzJw8&feature=youtu.be).

This video included a multitude of experts such as Robert E. Allen who wrote a book on Port Chicago, a son of a survivor of the explosion, and most important a survivor of the blast. Through these different experts I received a variety of information, most

important the interview of the survivor because I learned the first hand experience of a survivor who had lived through the blast and the events of Port Chicago.

Roosevelt, Eleanor. Letter to Walter White, "Letter, Eleanor Roosevelt to Walter White Detailing the First Lady's Lobbying Efforts for Federal Action against Lynchings," March 19, 1936. Accessed February 28, 2021.

[http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mcc&fileName=015/page.db&recNum=0&itemLink=r?ammem/mcc:@field\(DOCID+@lit\(mcc/015\)\)](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=mcc&fileName=015/page.db&recNum=0&itemLink=r?ammem/mcc:@field(DOCID+@lit(mcc/015))).

This letter showed how this First Lady was significantly involved in different matters of the country to solve issues and problems around the United States. In this letter I read how she supported an anti-lynching bill directly helping African-Americans and how she was in support of it to solve the important issue of lynching against African-American people.

Rosato, Joe, Jr. "One of the Last Port Chicago Survivors Tells Harrowing Story of Blast." NBC Bay Area. Last modified July 16, 2019. Accessed January 27, 2021.

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/one-of-the-last-port-chicago-survivors-tells-harrowing-story-of-blast/96016/>.

This article helped me understand the opinion of the survivor of the explosion and his reasoning for why he didn't join the Port Chicago 50 to understand how some people accepted their crucial part in the Armed Forces no matter the danger that loomed in the unsafe conditions of loading munitions.

Rothstein, Arthur. *Canning Plant Employees Grading Beans. Dania, Florida. Many of These Workers Are Migrants*. January 1937. Photograph. Accessed February 28, 2021.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017761335/>.

This image, shot during the Great Depression, helps me understand how African-Americans had to work a great deal to earn money through different jobs as they were hit harder than their white counterparts by the Depression.

"Sit-In Movement." African American Civil Rights Movement. Accessed March 3, 2021.

<http://www.african-american-civil-rights.org/sit-in-movement/>.

This is an impactful photograph demonstrating the harsh treatment African-Americans had to go through during their peaceful protests against the segregation that existed in America. This protest which was a sit-in at an all-white cafe showed how African-Americans had to endure harassment and difficulties to gain equal rights.

Small, Joe, Jack Crittenden, Freddie Meeks, Percy Robinson, Robert Routh, Cyril Sheppard, and Edward Waldrop. "Port Chicago." Interview by Robert L. Allen. Berkeley Library University of California. Accessed January 20, 2021.

<https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center/projects/poch>.

This perhaps was my most crucial source as it provided me with a wide array of interviews to listen to, to completely understand the experiences of the sailors who worked at Port Chicago and went through the trial. These different interviews gave me an understanding of how the sailors felt and their first hand descriptions of the events that

took place. These interviews explained what the sailors felt, went through, and their accounts of what exactly occurred.

"320 Americans Killed in WWII Naval Magazine Accident." National Park Service. Last modified November 18, 2020. Accessed January 20, 2021.  
<https://www.nps.gov/poch/learn/historyculture/people.htm>.

This photograph showed the Port Chicago sailors and how they stopped working. It shows how numerous sailors went on a work-stoppage to protest and communicate to the nation of the segregation and unsafe working conditions in the Armed Forces.

## Secondary Sources

Allen, Robert L. *The Port Chicago Mutiny: The Story of the Largest Mass Mutiny Trial in U.S. Naval History*. Berkeley: Heyday Books, 2006.

This book was extremely significant as it was a book with a plethora of important and detailed information such as the descriptions of the explosion, the events that took place after it and the experiences of the men at the disaster. It also included detailed information about the trial and the discrimination that occurred during the trials.

"An Ammunition Ship Explodes in the Port Chicago Disaster." History. Last modified July 15, 2020. Accessed November 17, 2020.  
<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/port-chicago-disaster>.

This website provided me with basic knowledge about the Port Chicago disaster and gave me some detailed information about the situation of the African Americans working at Port Chicago.

Andrews, Evan. "Port Chicago Disaster Stuns the Nation, 70 Years Ago." History. Last modified August 30, 2018. Accessed January 19, 2021.  
<https://www.history.com/news/port-chicago-disaster-stuns-the-nation-70-years-ago>.

This website was used to get some important first information about the explosion and how it was significant as it caused 15% of all African American deaths. The website also provided some detailed knowledge about the trial and its following events about how they were quietly released from prison and that the Port Chicago 50's work stoppage would lead to the desegregation of the military.

"Black Military History Month: Executive Order 9981 - Abolishing Military Discrimination." Video. YouTube. Posted by Military Times, February 1, 2018. Accessed March 2, 2021.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aKMhbdzEE54&feature=youtu.be>.

This short video which was about Executive Order 9981 and how this greatly impacted the military forever, by completing integrating it, allowing African-Americans to finally have equal opportunities in the military. It also included primary videos of President Truman speaking and explaining the purpose of the order which helped me understand its greater significance.

Cantrell, Casey. "Remembering the Bay Area's Port Chicago 50." *Carquinez Magazine*. Accessed January 20, 2021. <https://www.carquinezmagazine.com/port-chicago-50>.

This website was very useful in providing in-depth information about the different parts about the Port Chicago event. It especially helped in understanding the mutiny trial and also the racism at Port Chicago which would allow the greater understanding of the terrible conditions the sailors worked in everyday.

Clarke, Alexis. "Black Americans Who Served in WWII Faced Segregation Abroad and at Home." *History*. Last modified August 20, 2020. Accessed January 20, 2021. <https://www.history.com/news/black-soldiers-world-war-ii-discrimination>.

Through this website I was able to understand about the racial tension after the ending of World War II as African-Americans who risked their lives abroad came back home to find out they were still being discriminated against. I understood through this about how it led to fuel the Civil Rights Movement which would soon begin in the 50's and how the anger of African-Americans would millions to protest the segregation and discrimination they faced everyday resulting in African-Americans soon receiving equal rights to white Americans.

Marshall, Thurgood, Jr., and John A. Lawrence. "The Port Chicago 50 at 76: Time for Exoneration." *The National WWII Museum*. Last modified July 17, 2020. Accessed January 19, 2021. <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/port-chicago-exoneration-thurgood-marshall-jr-john-lawrence>.

This article gave some basic information about the explosion and the different impacts that arose from the work-stoppage of the the Port Chicago 50 such as the passing of an executive banning discrimination and segregation in the military, communicating to the nation of the racism in the Armed Forces, and the most recent attempt at exonerating the Port Chicago 50 of the charges.

McDermott, Annette. "Did World War II Launch the Civil Rights Movement?" *History*, 22 May 2018, [www.history.com/news/did-world-war-ii-launch-the-civil-rights-movement](http://www.history.com/news/did-world-war-ii-launch-the-civil-rights-movement). Accessed 20 Jan. 2021.

This gave further understanding about how World War II led to the Civil Rights Movement of African Americans protesting segregation and discrimination to get equal rights to white people.

McMains, Doug. "Into Forgetfulness." Video. National Park Service. Accessed March 3, 2021. <https://www.nps.gov/poch/learn/photosmultimedia/multimedia.htm>.

This video provided me with primary and archival photos and short clips providing me imperative information about how devastating the explosion was.

"Port Chicago Disaster: Leadership Lessons Learned." *Naval History and Heritage Command*, 2021, [www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/wars-conflicts-and-operations/world-war-ii/1944/port-chicago/port-chicago-lessons-learned.html](http://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/wars-conflicts-and-operations/world-war-ii/1944/port-chicago/port-chicago-lessons-learned.html). Accessed 20 Jan. 2021.

This was a very detailed website through which I gathered different information about Port Chicago such as the importance of safe working conditions and how the unsafe procedures and regulations led to the accidental explosion.

Public Affairs. "'This Base Is Going to Blow Sky High.' Port Chicago, 75 Years Later." *Berkeley News*, 17 July 2019, [news.berkeley.edu/2019/07/17/this-base-is-going-to-blow-sky-high-port-chicago-75-years-later/](https://news.berkeley.edu/2019/07/17/this-base-is-going-to-blow-sky-high-port-chicago-75-years-later/). Accessed 20 Jan. 2021.

This website provided me with secondary and primary resources which proved to be beneficial such as quotes, audio recordings, and primary photos. The included audio was an interview with a member of the Port Chicago 50, Joe Small, through which I was able to gain the first hand experience of a sailor who lived through the explosion. The photos too showed the base and how the explosion dramatically changed it, explaining how significant that explosion was, and the quotes which helped me understand the perspectives of other people.

"Race Relations in the 1930s and 1940s." Library of Congress. Accessed January 20, 2021. <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/great-depression-and-world-war-ii-1929-1945/race-relations-in-1930s-and-1940s/>.

The website was beneficial to understand the alarming times African-Americans were facing during the Great Depression and the 30s, by being hit hardest by it which would cause hundreds of thousands of blacks to be launched into a state of extreme poverty. It also gave information about the racial tensions among whites and blacks, including about how racial violence against blacks dramatically increased, especially lynchings.

"Remembering Port Chicago." Video. YouTube. Posted by US Department of Veterans Affairs, February 2, 2018. Accessed March 2, 2021. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdoMjk\\_CIHs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdoMjk_CIHs).

This video featured the President of the Port Chicago Memorial and the author of the book *Port Chicago Mutiny*, Robert E. Allen who are both experts on this topic. In addition, the video further showed primary clips and images from Port Chicago which were very informative.

"Segregation." *Gale U.S. History Online Collection*, Gale, 2020. *Gale In Context: U.S. History*, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/XERRBQ906371478/UHIC?u=nysl\\_li\\_wheat&sid=UHIC&xid=bb863704](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/XERRBQ906371478/UHIC?u=nysl_li_wheat&sid=UHIC&xid=bb863704). Accessed 7 Feb. 2021.

This database provided information about the history of African Americans and the racism they had to face throughout the history of America. It especially provided information about Jim Crow laws which allowed me to understand how they were created to make African Americans into second class citizens.

Shane, Leo. White Nationalism Remains a Problem for the Military, Poll Suggests. *Military Times*. Last modified February 18, 2019. Accessed January 27, 2021. <https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2019/02/28/white-nationalism-remains-a-problem-for-the-military-poll-shows/>.

This article gave information about how even though African Americans were officially integrated in 1948, racism was still persevering in the military and minorities had to face racism everyday in the military. It also explained how white people still had more opportunities and the majority of African Americans believed that racism was still a problem in the military.

Sheinkin, Steve. *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights*. New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2014.

This book provided a plethora of quotes and first hand experiences of the people at Port Chicago. This was extremely useful as I could understand how the sailors felt and could expand on the information found in the book.

Stewart, Phil, M.B. Pell, and Joshua Schneyer. "U.S. Troops Battling Racism Report High Barrier to Justice." Edited by Ronnie Greene. Reuters Investigates. Last modified September 15, 2020. Accessed March 2, 2021.

<https://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/usa-military-civilrights/>.

This webpage provided me with profound information about segregation and discrimination that still exists today in the military though it was completely integrated in 1948 by President Truman. I learned how people of color and minorities still have to face harassment in the military and how white people are still being favored to minorities. This authors of this document explained me understand how segregation is still something that isn't completely solved in the military and though the Port Chicago 50's work stoppage had led to the integration of the military and helped the country understand of the racism in it through the stoppage, there's still plenty needing to be done to achieve full equality in the Armed Forces.

Stolp-Smith, Micheal. "Port Chicago Mutiny (1944)." Blackpast. Last modified March 27, 2011. Accessed January 19, 2021.

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/port-chicago-mutiny-0/>.

I used this website to get a basic understanding of my topic and get some basic knowledge which I could expand upon.

"Take a Closer Look: America Goes to War." National WWII Museum. Accessed January 20, 2021.

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/students-teachers/student-resources/research-starters/america-goes-war-take-closer-look>.

This article was profound for gathering knowledge about World War II to understand why the United States had to join the war and the impacts of the decision on the country. It provided quotes from people such as President Roosevelt which was beneficial to understand what the Americans felt after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Not only that, but the website gave information about how America geared up for the war and the different tasks the country had to perform to be prepared.

Urofsky, Melvin. "Jim Crow Law | History, Facts, & Examples | Britannica." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2021, [www.britannica.com/event/Jim-Crow-law](http://www.britannica.com/event/Jim-Crow-law). Accessed 20 Jan. 2021.

Through this website I gathered information about the Jim Crow laws which were created to make blacks into second class citizens by segregating them in almost every aspect of life.