

The buffalo soldiers in world war ii



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Teacher The Buffalo Soldiers in World War II The Buffalo soldiers were actually formed way back in September 21, 1866 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas through the act of Congress. The Buffalo soldiers were composed of 9th, 10th cavalry, 38th, 39th, 40th and 41st infantry regiments. They were eventually given the moniker “ Negro Cavalry” with their bravery and the term became synonymous with African-American regiments in the Army and the name were probably given due to their hair that resembles the buffalo, their bravery and their thick coats made from buffalo during winter. Their original mission was to protect the settlers moving to the west and to build the infrastructure for the westward expansion. As expected, they were discriminated during their service in the army. Many officers did not wanted to command them including George Armstrong Custer. Their role eventually dwindled due to discrimination as their participation in World War I was limited.

The idea of the Buffalo soldiers in 1866 was carried on to the Second World War when the 92nd Infantry Division which were composed of African American soldiers under the command of Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond. They adapted the insignia of the Buffalo soldiers and were hence nicknamed the “ Buffalo Soldiers Division”. This division fought in Europe in the Second World War particularly in Italy from 1944 until the war ended. Unlike in World War I where their role was diminished, the Buffalo soldier fought at the front line in the European Campaign with the tankers of the U. S. 1st Armored division and fought until the war ended.

Works Cited

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