

Glory released in 1989 and it has

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Glory is an historical movie Directed by Edward Zwick.

The movie was released in 1989 and it has won three academy awards. The movie is based on the true historical story on 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry as told by the commanding officer, Robert Gould Shaw during the American Civil War in 1862. In 1862, President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation created an opportunity for African Americans to enlist in the Union Army. They started recruiting a great number of African-American men. Some of which were free men but a lot of them were slaves. Robert Gould Shaw was born in a prominent family.

He was just 25 years old. He was a soldier in the Union Army he was offered a position by Governor John A. Andrew of Massachusetts to become the first all African-American regiment commander and he accepted and became the commanding officer of 54th Massachusetts. He started his job by training the African-American recruits at Camp Meigs outside Boston, Massachusetts. The Union soldiers initially respond to 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was very unfriendly and hostile towards them.

We know about racial attitudes in the North still the black soldiers had not only had to fight the war but also deal with their prejudiced fellow white soldiers. The reaction of the Union soldiers was expected because at that period of time African-Americans were never to be seen as equal to a white man. The regiment consisted of African-American enlisted men commanded by white officers. The African-American that enlisted come from different backgrounds some of them were free men and the other were slaves they

perceive each other in different manner some of the African-American who used to be slaves show some hostility towards the free African-Americans.

Initially, sense of cohesion within the unit was very tense but when they get to know one another they become family. The 54th recruits were not fully supplied with the necessary training military uniforms like shoes. One of the 54th recruits resorted to stealing from other companies and he was caught on and they all thought he was deserting and he was to be punished. The punishment for desertion was Colonel Shaw had the deserter, to be flogged in front of the entire regiment.

His choice of punishment was very poorly executed because of the background of the African-Americans. It reminded of them how they were treated as a slave. After the Colonel found out why he deserted he went to the military supplier to demand shoes for his regiment.

The African-American soldiers of the 54th were fought against another injustice too. The U. S.

Army paid black soldiers \$10 a week but white soldiers got \$3 more than the African-American soldiers. To protest against this injustice, the entire soldiers and officers refused to accept their wages until black and white soldiers earned equal pay for equal work. While, the 54th soldiers prepared to head to the battlefields of the South an announcement from the Confederate Congress says that every captured African-American would be sold into slavery and every white officer in command of black troops would be executed.

Despite congresses decision they still finished their training. the 54th regiment was ordered to march to BeaufortSouth Carolina on June, 1863. For sometime they were forced to work manual laborsbefore the were granted to be apart of the Battle. The first battle theyparticipated in Was the Battle of Grimball's Landing they were able defendtheir territory. On Second Battle of Fort Wagner Colonel Shaw asked if the 54thcould lead the next Union charge on the battlefield and he was granted. on July18, 1863, the 54th soldiers executed a frontal assault against FortWagner suffered a great lose.