The Homefront in World War II
• What are key symbols in this visual?

• What is the meaning of the text in this visual?

• What does this visual tell you about the Homefront during WW II?
Converting industry to war production

- 1942 Roosevelt created War Production Board
- purpose was to convert domestic industries to war production
- factories switched from producing cars and consumer goods to uniforms, bombs, tanks, and aircraft.
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Women move into factory work

- over 15 million Americans entered military
- women took over factory jobs left by men
- “Rosie the Riveter”
- big increase in African-American women working in shipyards and defense plants
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Financing the war and controlling prices

- 40% of war effort paid by taxes - federal income tax established

- remainder of war was financed through selling government bonds

- government also sought to control rising prices (inflation) through Office of Price Administration
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Planting Victory Gardens

- 1941 government asked Americans to grow their own vegetables
- Farmers were busy feeding troops
- “Victory gardens” eventually produced 40% of all vegetables grown during war
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Conserving raw materials

- citizens volunteered to collect newspaper, rubber, scrap metal, aluminum, tin cans etc.

- these materials were used by the government to provide war materials
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Rationing food and gasoline

- Office of Price Administration rationed goods for citizens

- each family given ration coupons for meat, butter, and gasoline

- ration stamps were based on the number of people in each family
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Visuals from google.com image search
slideshow and text by Dave Forrest - 2004