

How Black Men Won the Right to Wear Navy Gold: An Epic Tale of Triumph

A Legacy of Exclusion

The proud and storied history of the United States Navy has been marred by a shameful legacy of racial discrimination. For decades, Black men were denied the opportunity to serve in the Navy's officer corps, relegated to menial roles and excluded from the elite ranks of those who wore the coveted Navy Gold uniform.



The Golden Thirteen: How Black Men Won the Right to Wear Navy Gold by Dan Goldberg

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 14843 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 288 pages

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Photo # 80-G-11741 USS Argonaut crewmembers read mail after returning from the Makin raid, Aug. 1942



The Long Road to Integration

In the wake of World War I, a growing movement for civil rights began to challenge the Navy's discriminatory policies. Black leaders and their allies fought tirelessly to dismantle the barriers that prevented Black men from serving as officers.

One of the key figures in this struggle was Jesse L. Brown, a young African American pilot who refused to be denied his dream of flying for the Navy. In 1948, Brown became the first Black man to graduate from the United

States Naval Academy. His groundbreaking achievement paved the way for the integration of the Navy's officer corps.

The Montford Point Marines

Another important chapter in this story is the Montford Point Marines. This segregated unit of Black Marines was established in 1942 to train Black men for combat roles. Despite facing harsh conditions and discrimination, the Montford Point Marines proved their valor and earned the respect of their white counterparts.



The Montford Point Marines faced discrimination but proved their valor.

Breaking Down Barriers

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy issued Executive Order 11092, which formally ended racial discrimination in the armed forces. This Executive Order paved the way for the full integration of the Navy, including the right for Black men to wear Navy Gold.

The first Black officer to wear Navy Gold was Ensign Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. In 1964, he made history by becoming the first Black man to command a U.S. Navy warship.



A Legacy of Valor and Pride

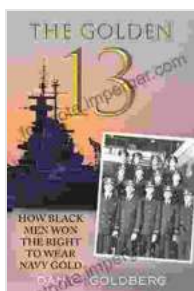
Today, Black men serve with distinction in all branches of the U.S. military, including the Navy. They have fought in every major conflict since World War II, earning medals for valor and sacrifice.

The right to wear Navy Gold is a testament to the courage and determination of Black men who fought to overcome racial discrimination and inequality. It is a symbol of their unwavering commitment to serving their country and a reminder that all citizens deserve the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Unveiling the Untold Stories

How Black Men Won the Right to Wear Navy Gold is a comprehensive and engaging account of this extraordinary chapter in American history. This richly illustrated book draws on extensive research and interviews to tell the stories of the brave men and women who fought for integration.

Through gripping narratives and stunning visuals, this book sheds light on a lesser-known but important aspect of the American civil rights movement. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of race relations, the military, or the indomitable spirit of human perseverance.



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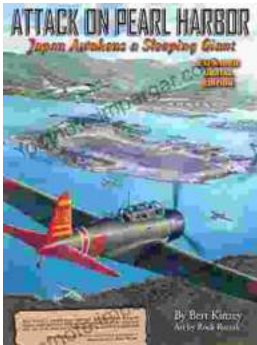
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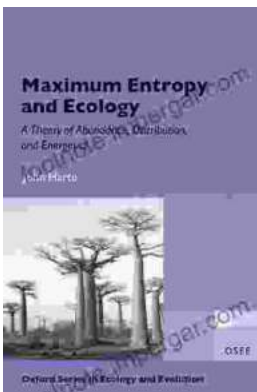
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