TUSKEGEE AIRMEN
FIGHTING TO FLY

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Before World War II, why were black men not allowed to fly?

2. In what country did Black men prove they could fly during World War I?

3. How many Black men learned to fly at Tuskegee University between 1941 and 1946?

4. What is a squadron?

5. Other than pilots, what other professions made up a squadron?

6. Why was the P-51 Mustang the most famous airplane that the Tuskegee Airmen flew?

7. Why were the planes the Tuskegee Airmen flew called “Red Tails”?

8. Why were the Tuskegee Airmen arrested in 1945?
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9. How did the Tuskegee Airmen compare to White pilots in a 1945 report?

10. Even though the 1945 report asked that more ways be added for Black men and women to serve in the military, what did the report NOT do?

11. In 1948, what did President Harry S. Truman order based on the success of the Tuskegee Airmen in World War II?

12. Identify the statistics of the Tuskegee Airmen that proved they were as good as any pilots during World War II.

13. What fact has been misrepresented about the Tuskegee Airmen over the years? What is the truth?

14. In addition to their contribution in helping the U.S. win the war in Europe, what did the experience of the Tuskegee Airmen help to do?

15. How has the story of the Tuskegee Airmen inspired people?