

“WE THE PEOPLE”

Go for Broke - Program #3 (Length: 14:35 Min)

Viewers may want to discuss what they're thinking/feeling before & after suggested discussion questions.

Suggestions for Discussion:

1. Would you go to war for a country that took away your civil rights?
2. What were your feelings when you heard Lawson Sakai describe the battle scenes he and his comrades experienced rescuing the Texas Battalion?
3. As an American citizen, what must it have been like when suddenly, having done nothing wrong, you were classified by the government as an enemy alien?
4. What were the reasons why some men in the camps chose not to enter the military?
How were they treated differently?

People to Research:

Military Intelligence Unit
The 100 Battalion
442nd Regimental Combat Team
The Lost Battalion
Lawson Sakai
The “No No” Boys
President Truman

Photos to Discuss:

President Truman holding his hat over his heart reviewing the Japanese American troops of the 442nd, having just returned from rescuing the captured Texas Battalion.
The 100th Battalion

Interviews to Discuss:

Lawson Sakai and Les Ouchida sharing their honest and revealing insights about their experience of internment and Sakai's subsequent US Army service.

Possible Follow-Up Activities:

1. Have students take turns reenacting Japanese Americans trying to enlist in the Army right after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Have one student assume the role of the Army recruiting officer. Have the rest of the class comment on the mini-drama.