

0. BUY WAR BONDS! - Story Preface

**1. BUY WAR BONDS!**

2. AMERICAN WOMEN AT WAR

3. PRODUCTION SOLDIERS AT HOME

4. GIVE US MORE!

5. WASTE NOTHING

6. KEEP QUIET!

7. WHO WAS JOE DOPE?

8. JENNY ON THE JOB

9. SULLIVAN BROTHERS - DON'T LET ME DOWN



As depicted in this WWII-era poster, the U.S. federal government urged people to set-aside 10% of their income to buy war bonds. Poster-creators often used the theme of sacrifice—particularly the sacrifice made by war-widows—as a theme for war-bond posters. Image online via the U.S. National Archives.

On the day Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, the United States had not fully emerged from the dark days of the Great Depression. Now the country had to finance an expensive war. The federal budget wasn't large enough to fund the all-out effort.

To supplement depleting funds, the government issued war bonds and stamps. Everyone, including overseas military troops, was urged to buy war bonds. They were touted as great Christmas presents. One could feel patriotic with each purchase. People were urged to set aside 10% of their income for them.

Here are a few of the most engaging pleas (including drawings by Norman Rockwell) to buy bonds:

- *Bonds would preserve freedom of worship ...*
- *...And speech*
- *They would provide freedom from want ...*
- *...And freedom from fear;*
- *They would buy a new ship...*
- *...Or a new plane.*
- *...When those dollars could buy tanks...*
- *...And build invasion bombs*

The campaign was remarkably successful. Americans everywhere bought bonds and funded the war.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/BUY-WAR-BONDS-Forgotten-Posters-of-World-War-II)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/BUY-WAR-BONDS-Forgotten-Posters-of-World-War-II>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/BUY-WAR-BONDS-Forgotten-Posters-of-World-War-II)

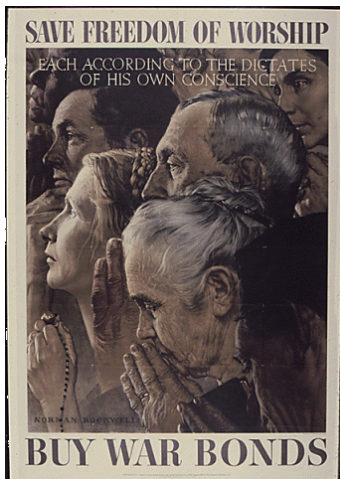
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/BUY-WAR-BONDS-Forgotten-Posters-of-World-War-II>



### WWII Poster - I Gave a Man

U.S. National Archives, U.S. War Office. Public Domain.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/WWII-Poster-I-Gave-a-Man>



### Norman Rockwell - Freedom of Worship

Image of Norman Rockwell painting - "Freedom of Worship" - from the U.S. National Archives. Printed by the Government Printing Office for the Office of War Information; NARA Still Picture Branch; (NWDNS-208-PMP-43).

Quoted passage, [FDR's January 6, 1941 speech](#).

[Quoted passage](#), from the Library of Congress - American Treasures of the Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Norman-Rockwell-Freedom-of-Worship>



### Norman Rockwell - Freedom of Speech

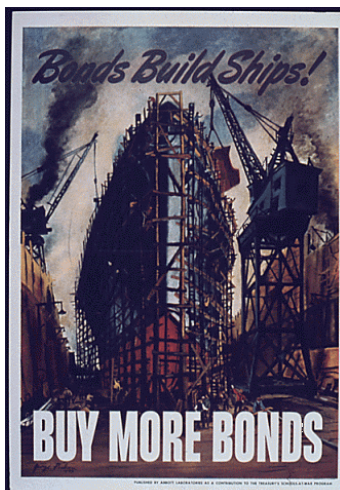
Image of Norman Rockwell painting - "Freedom of Speech" - from the U.S. National Archives. Printed by the Government Printing Office for the Office of War Information; NARA Still Picture Branch; (NWDNS-208-PMP-44).

Quoted passage, [FDR's January 6, 1941 speech](#).

[Quoted passage](#), from the Library of Congress - American Treasures of the Library of Congress.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Norman-Rockwell-Freedom-of-Speech>



### Bonds Build Ships!

Online image, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bonds-Build-Ships->



### WWII Poster - The Sky's The Limit!

Image of WWII-era poster, online via the U.S. National Archives. Public Domain.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/WWII-Poster-The-Sky-s-The-Limit->



### WWII War Bonds Bought Food, Guns, Planes and Tanks

WWII-era poster, advertising for war bonds, online via the U.S. National Archives. Public Domain.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/WWII-War-Bonds-Bought-Food-Guns-Planes-and-Tanks>



### WWII Poster - Buy That Invasion Bond!

WWII-era war-bond poster, online via the U.S. National Archives. Public Domain.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/WWII-Poster-Buy-That-Invasion-Bond->