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All throughout history African Americans have been pushed aside because of their skin color. Even though the United States didn't treat them the same as everyone else, they still fought for our country. Just like pbs.org says, African American soldiers don't get the recognition they deserve.

First, there were some very important African American soldiers. Crispus Attucks, was one of the first casualties of the Boston Massacre. Agrippa Hull was a freed African American that fought in the Revolutionary War for over six years. At the time of war, George Washington said that freed African Americans should no longer be recruited into the army, Agrippa still fought for his country with limited rights. Salem Poor was a Patriot of the American Revolutionary War. He was born into slavery, but then in 1769, when he was 22, he bought his freedom for what would be about \$5,600 today. Another strong black soldier was Thomas Peters. He joined an all-black regiment in the British Army called the Black Pioneers. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant. There were some very important African American soldiers.

Second, there is a lot of history surrounding African-American soldiers. Thousands of African-Americans signed up for WWI. However, military leaders believed that African-Americans did not have the physical, mental or moral character to fight in wars. Most blacks were never in combat. As history.com says black soldiers got paid \$10 a week (minus a clothing allowance, in some cases), while white soldiers got \$3 more (plus a clothing allowance, in some cases). Finally, in 1864 there was a bill passed for equal pay. African American soldiers had a pretty hard time during war.

Lastly, I will talk about African-Americans during one specific war, The Civil war. As most people know this fight was over if slavery should end. The south wanted to keep slaves and the north fought for slaves to be free. The Union; the north, was reluctant to use African-American troops in combat. There were soldiers in the Union who believed that black soldiers were not as skilled or as brave as white soldiers were. They thought that African Americans were better for jobs as carpenters, cooks, guards, scouts and teamsters. In the Union, most black soldiers stayed away from the front lines. By the end of the Civil War, 179,000 black men served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and 19,000 served in the Navy. Over time Black soldiers could serve, but it was tough in the beginning.

To sum it up African American soldiers aren't recognized that much, but did a lot. Their history is interesting, and the civil war was a very hard time for them. Even though there was lots of racism at the time they still protected our country.