

A SPRING 3100 RETROSPECTIVE HONORING THE NYPD AND WORLD WAR II



*Prepared for the New York City Police Foundation Annual Gala
June 6, 2024*



"Sometimes a clipping from a hometown paper - like yours - can mean as much as a medal to the morale of a fighting man overseas, whether he's a pilot, mechanic or a clerk."

- Lieutenant General Ira C. Eaker
Commander in Chief
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces
(Spring 3100 February 1945)

Thank You

To the New York City Police Foundation, the members of the NYPD, the Intrepid Museum and all who served and continue to serve.

A MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER



The men and women of the New York City Police Department are some of the most committed public servants in the world. For nearly 180 years, they have dedicated themselves to keeping the people of our city safe – and never has this devotion to others been more evident than during our nation’s involvement in World War II.

This booklet is filled with stories, illustrations, histories, and firsthand accounts of life in New York City during that turbulent and transformative time. Heroism, sacrifice, incomparable resilience – it was all part of a New Yorker’s daily life eight decades ago. And through it all, the men and women of the NYPD were there for them.

During the early-to-mid 1940s, the department took on many challenges related to the war effort. On top of their regular work patrolling the city and fighting crime, NYPD officers were responsible for watching over our city’s ports, enacting components of the City Civil Defense Plan, coordinating and overseeing the Air Raid Protection Service, enforcing mandatory blackouts and dimouts, ensuring compliance with rationing programs, keeping the public informed through community-outreach campaigns and press events, fundraising for war bonds, and more.

To supplement this increased workload, scores of volunteers were recruited to expand the department’s reach and replenish personnel who were called to serve overseas. More than 1,000 NYPD members fought with the Allies in the war – which was nearly 7% of the department’s uniformed headcount at the time – and 24 were killed. These heroes, along with more than 400,000 other Americans, paid the ultimate price to preserve our freedoms. And their tremendous legacy of service continues today.

About 3,250 current members of the NYPD either actively serve in the U.S. armed forces, or are military veterans. It is a special type of person who answers this double-call, and it is no surprise that so many of them are here in our department. Today, and every day, we thank them for their dual service, and for all the ways they better our city and our nation.

New York City continues to be the safest big city in America, and that is a direct result of the hard work, skill, and ingenuity of our NYPD officers. Every day, they prove to the world why they truly are “New York’s Finest” – and it is my great honor to tell their story.

Edward A. Caban
Police Commissioner

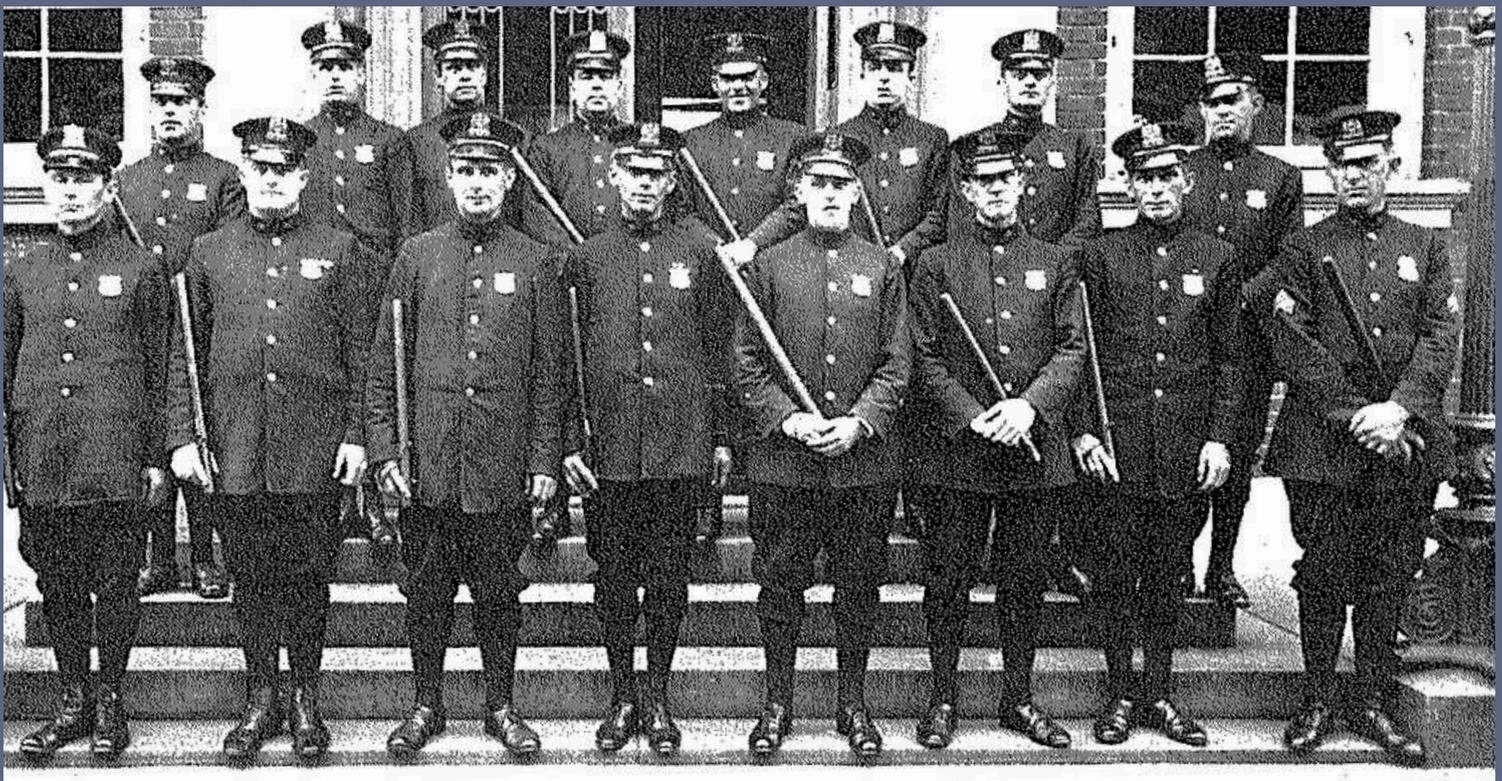
Introduction

On this 80th anniversary of the Allied landing in Normandy, the *Forever the Finest* initiative presents the story of the New York City Police Department during World War II as told through *Spring 3100* front covers and articles.

Created in March 1930, *Spring 3100* is published by and for the NYPD's active and retired uniformed and civilian members. The magazine was named for one of New York City's earliest emergency phone numbers. In times of crisis, the public would dial "SPR3100" (777-3100) to connect to the Spring Street Exchange, then were forwarded by cable to the nearby police headquarters.

In the 1940s, NYPD officers swapped patrol uniforms for those of soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen and were shipped to theaters in the Pacific, North Africa, and Europe. Back at home, their fellow officers took on added responsibilities, such as guarding New York City's ports and airfields, while upholding their solemn vow to fight crime and keep peace across the five boroughs.

Throughout the war, *Spring 3100* continued to be delivered to all of its members, including those stationed abroad. The periodical would eventually find its way to our brave public servants posted in far-flung locales and, hopefully, provide them a respite from the horrors of armed conflict and reassurance that their beloved city and its people remained strong.



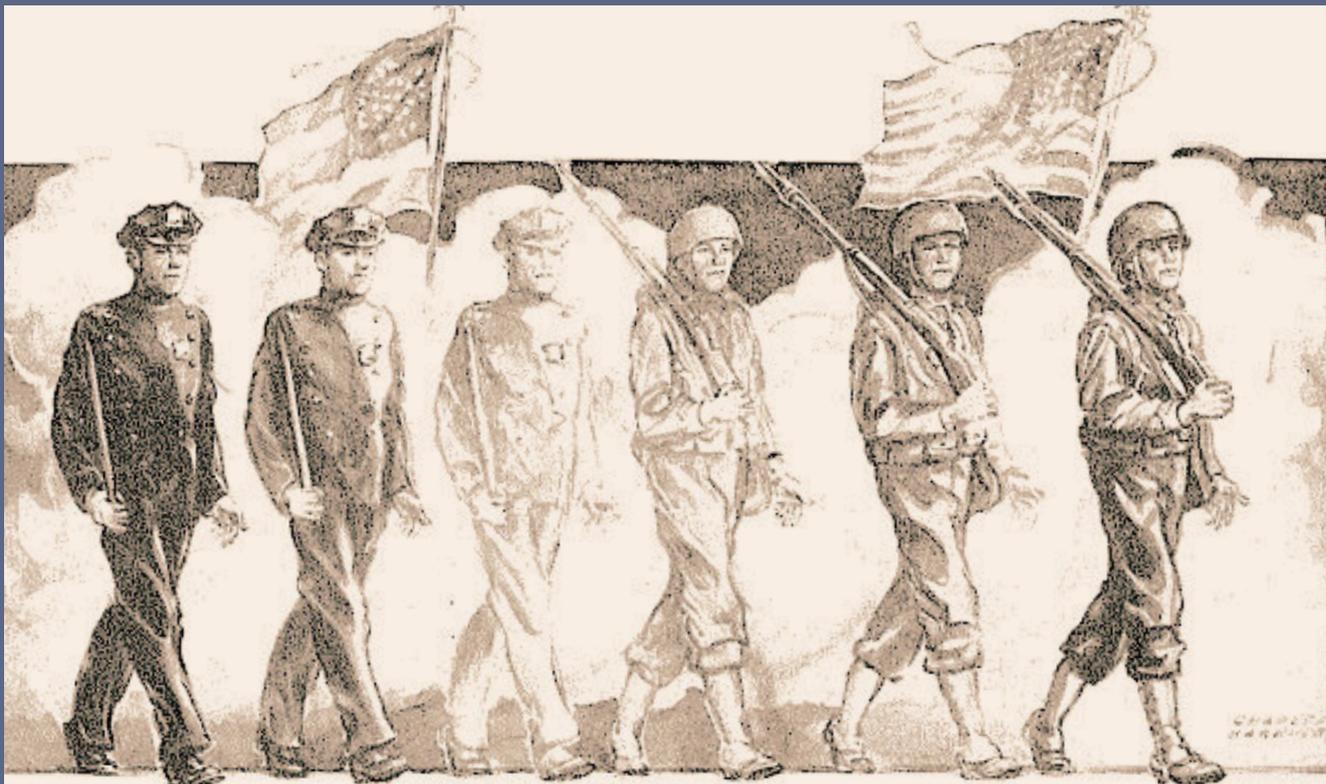
In chronicling the wartime years, *Spring 3100* reminded the men and women of the NYPD – wherever they were – that New Yorkers truly appreciated and supported them, and that their brothers and sisters “on the job” wished them well and prayed for their swift return home.

When perusing this compilation of covers, stories, photographs, and letters sent home – plucked from the 1941 to 1945 editions – it becomes clear that the police department’s rich past is deeply interwoven with the history of New York City and the United States. Patrolman Charles Harold, affectionately known as “the Norman Rockwell of the NYPD,” illustrated nearly every front cover during the magazine’s first 17 years and is responsible for the majority of the artwork featured herein.

One civilian member of the NYPD and 23 officers of various ranks were killed while serving in the armed forces during World War II – the same number of NYPD members who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001. While this booklet is intended to commemorate the legacies of all World War II-era NYPD employees, it also serves as a poignant, timeless reminder of the courage possessed by anyone, from any generation, who chose to serve New York – to live a life of significance.

These are the heroes who stood up, stepped forward, and swore an oath to the people of our great city. And they will never be forgotten.

Fidelis ad mortem, faithful unto death.



NYC PREPARES FOR *War*

While war rages across the globe, the United States remains neutral. However, with bombings of cities all across Europe and Asia, the United States prepares for defense.

In May 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt taps New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia to oversee the City Civil Defense Plan, which recruits and trains volunteers in basic first aid, firefighting, evacuation, and other essential tasks to protect civilians during war-related emergencies.

The new Air Raid Protection Service, coordinated and overseen by the NYPD, was an important component of the Civil Defense Plan. At the height of the war, more than 240,000 volunteers had been transformed into air wardens, establishing air raid shelters and enforcing blackouts and dimouts to minimize visibility in the event of enemy aircraft attacks.

Mayor La Guardia encouraged New Yorkers to volunteer at their local police precincts to help secure the safety of the city. Volunteers served in neighborhoods in which they lived or worked.

Wardens patrolled streets ensuring residents were complying with dimout and blackout conditions, ensuring people knew where to go and what to do in emergencies.



The first to volunteer as air wardens – at the NYPD's 114th Pct. in Queens – were Ms. Jean Stephi and Capt. Ken Meinerd, employees of Transcontinental and Western Air.

Spring 3100

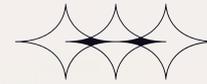
**AIR RAID
PROTECTION
SERVICE**

September, 1941



Copyright
1941

PREPARATION FOR *War*



Air Wardens came from all walks of life. By day, Wardens educated the public about safety, and by night, patrolled the streets enforcing dimouts and readying the city for an attack. They did so in their uniforms, which included a helmet, flashlight, air raid siren, whistle, and fire extinguisher, continuing a proud tradition of uniform volunteerism.

While New York was never attacked during the war, the organization of the Air Wardens and the willingness of volunteers created a sense of community within the city. Throughout the war, New Yorkers were constantly asked to give more, and they always answered the call.



Air Warden Walter Bennet, a chief electrician at La Guardia Field, demonstrates first aid bandaging on TWA hostess Pat Mellon while Police Department officials look on.

Special RAID

PROTECTION SERVICE

October,
1941





Hardle jump by mounted man atop two horses.

Disaster Canteen Service sets up headquarters.



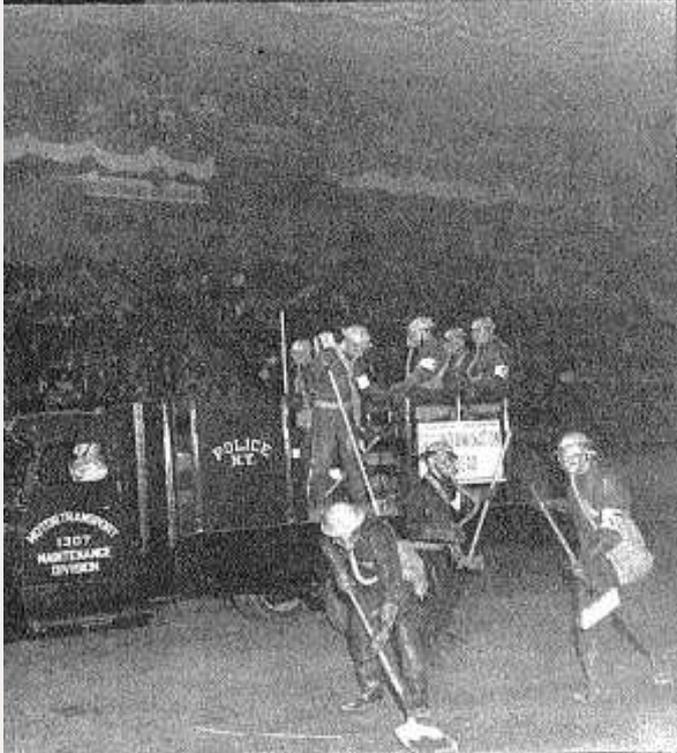
Warden equipped with portable telephone calls Report Center.

Bomb Removal Squad prepares to go into action.



Right: The "All Clear" signal comes at last.

Below: Emergency Service Division members employ power tuelles in rescuing victims trapped in wrecked building.



Doctor and nurse prepare to administer first aid.



A most capable announcer
...
Sergeant Carl Vollmer of the Manhattan Telegraph Bureau.



A final going over by the Decontamination Squad.



Below: Wardens rush victims of explosion to first aid station.



Recruits' School alumni appear in steel helmets and wearing gas masks.

Members of the Air Raid Protection Service put on a demonstration at Madison Square Garden. Pictures from *Spring 3100*, October 1941.

PREPARATION FOR *War*

Mayor La Guardia and Police Commissioner Valentine take a unified stance for public safety, addressing police executives on structure, duties, and enrollment procedures for the City Civil Defense plan. Mayor La Guardia also focuses his attention towards the New York City Council, emphasizing the significance of unity and cooperation while on the precipice of war.



Mayor La Guardia addresses a Police Department promotional ceremony.

Mayor La Guardia served as a combat flyer in World War I, while also serving as a member of Congress, and knew the dangers that aerial warfare could bring.

Under the guidance of Mayor La Guardia, city officials flooded the media outlets with interviews, open letters, murals, demonstrations and flyers to inform residents of all necessary aspects of public safety.

No topic was too large or too trivial for the mayor to publicly address, from encouraging residents to wear white at night so that drivers without headlights could see them, to informing people about the very real threat of bombings, to printing and handing out "What To Do In An Air Raid" posters.



WHAT TO DO *in an* AIR RAID

Read Carefully



Save for Reference

FOR YOUR SAFETY AND YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY

THE ALARM IS A RISING AND FALLING (WARBLING) SOUND OF THE SIREN

OR, SHORT BLASTS OF WHISTLE OR HORN

ACT! BUT ACT CALMLY AND QUICKLY!

- ★ IF AT HOME _____ Do not use the telephone. Turn off stove burners that are lit—not pilot light. Make no attempt to shut off the main gas valve. Leave windows partly open. If after dark, turn out lights visible from outside. Keep radio on so that, if instructions are issued, you will hear them. Keep away from glass.
- ★ IF IN STORE, FACTORY, LIBRARY, PUBLIC OR OFFICE BUILDING _____ Follow orders of air raid wardens in charge.
- ★ IF WALKING ON THE STREET _____ Walk—do not run—into a nearby building. Stay there until the “all-clear” sounds.
- ★ IF IN A MOTOR CAR OR TRUCK _____ Move your car at once to the curb. Do not obstruct fire hydrants, hospitals, police or fire stations, or street intersections. Turn off lights. Remove ignition key. Leave doors unlocked. Go into a nearby building.
- ★ IF IN A PLACE OF WORSHIP, MOVIE, THEATRE, OR PUBLIC MEETING _____ Wait for orders from air raid wardens in charge.
- ★ IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN SCHOOL _____ Stay at home. Your children's teachers are trained to take care of them. Remember, don't telephone.
- ★ IF IN A BUS OR TROLLEY _____ When the vehicle stops, get off and go to a nearby building at once.
- ★ IF IN A SUBWAY _____ The train will go on to the nearest station. You should remain in the train. If on a station platform, remain there.
- ★ IF ON A TRAIN ON AN ELEVATED STRUCTURE _____ The train will go on to the next station. You should get off and go to a nearby building. If on a station platform, leave and go to a nearby building.
- ★ ALWAYS _____ Pay no attention to rumors! Use your common sense! Follow instructions of your air raid warden and other persons in authority!
- ★ NEVER _____ Never shout, scream, or run! If others do, don't you do it! Remember, they may be trying to create a panic—as dangerous as bombs.
- ★ IF BOMBS DROP NEAR YOU _____ If unable to reach a building, lie down and protect back of your head.

THE ALL-CLEAR SIGNAL IS A

CONTINUOUS LONG BLAST

WHEN IT SOUNDS, CARRY ON AS USUAL.

For information, inquire of your Air Raid Warden, Police Station, or at the
MANHATTAN CIVILIAN DEFENSE VOLUNTEER OFFICE
93 PARK AVENUE LEXINGTON 2-2870

War

On December 7, 1941, Americans assigned to the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor were suddenly and deliberately attacked by the naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. That morning, 2,403 Americans were killed and nearly 1,200 were wounded. The following day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt went before a joint session of Congress and, during his declaration of war address, spoke the words synonymous with the event - characterizing it as "a date which will live in infamy."

Following FDR's speech before Congress, the House of Representatives voted to declare war with just one dissent; the Senate was unanimous.

Men and women across the United States began to enlist in the armed forces and other organizations to help the war effort. The Army/Navy Nurses Corps, Women's Army Corps (WAC) and, later, the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services (WAVES) were created to address the country's deep desire to serve.

Hunter College (now Lehman College) in the Bronx was home to a WAVES training center that prepared approximately 81,000 women to serve in the Navy, freeing up positions to allow men to fight.



Spring 3100

January, 1942



YOUR BEST ASSURANCE FOR A
Happy New~Year
BUY U.S. DEFENSE BONDS *NOW!*

Police Commissioner Lewis Joseph Valentine offers a message to the New York City Police Department days after the Pearl Harbor attack in the December 1941 issue of *Spring 3100*.



A MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER

ONCE again it is my privilege — as it has been at Yuletide since my appointment as Police Commissioner in 1934 — to extend to the members of the Department and their families, every good wish for a Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Healthful New Year.

It is needless for me to remind you that these are perilous times; that the year now drawing to a close will go down in history as the most momentous in the annals of our beloved nation.

Modern warfare is no longer a matter of remote battlefields. Today in every embattled land there is the "home front" — newest field of carnage in the prosecution of what we are pleased to term "all out war" — a war which in this case has by treachery and intrigue been foisted upon us by forces which today seek to enslave the world.

Never within human recollection has the Police Department of the world's friendliest city been faced with so grave a responsibility. It is in effect a challenge to our loyalty — to our devotion to duty — a challenge we accept with a pride that is traditional — and a confidence no power on earth can brush aside.

War, blitzkrieg and destruction today shout at us from the front pages of newspapers the world over. We are undergoing a period of frightfulness such as civilization has never before known. The cause for which we must fight is close to the heart of every true American — freedom and justice for all.

We face the problem unafraid. Under the inspired leadership of our commander-in-chief — the President of the United States — we will emerge from this world-crisis strong — and more solidly united than ever before.

The problems which today confront our Department never before loomed more formidable. And never before have I been so absolutely certain that these problems will be met not only with success — but with self-assurance — and confidence — on the part of our members. The people whom we serve have faith in our Department — a faith that we are proud to say is justified. The credit for that faith is shared by every member of our Department.

It is my sincere wish, men and women of our Department, that despite the dark clouds of uncertainty which today beset our horizon, that the year 1942 will be — for each and every one of you — a still greater period of achievement — a period which in the years to come you may look back upon with pride.

LEWIS J. VALENTINE,
Police Commissioner.

King 3100

February
1942



REPPAS

WAR *Bonds*

The financial costs of any war are astronomical. By the summer of 1940, the victories of Nazi Germany against Poland, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Luxembourg brought urgency to the United States' government, which was ill-prepared for America's involvement in the conflict.

Of principle concern were issues surrounding financing the war. Many of FDR's advisors favored a system of tax increases and enforced savings programs, as advocated by British economist John Maynard Keynes. In theory, that would have permitted increased spending while decreasing the risk of inflation. But Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. preferred a voluntary loan system and began planning a national defense bond program in the fall of 1940. The intent was to unite the attractiveness of the baby bonds that had been implemented in the interwar period with the patriotic element of the Liberty Bonds from the First World War.

Known as Defense Bonds prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, War Bonds were sold as a way to fund the war while helping Americans demonstrate their support. Like the baby bonds before them, War Bonds were sold for as little as \$18.75 and matured in 10 years, at which time the U.S. government paid the bondholder \$25. Large denominations of between \$50 and \$1,000 were also made available – all of which, unlike the Liberty Bonds of the previous war – were non-negotiable bonds.



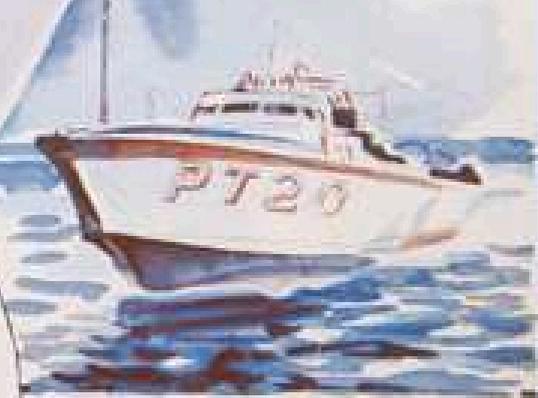
War Bond rally outside of Grand Central Terminal.

For those who found it difficult to purchase an entire bond at once, 10-cent savings stamps could be purchased and collected in Treasury-approved stamp albums until the recipient had accumulated enough stamps for a bond purchase.

Spring 3100

Dollars for
Bonds mean
**WEAPONS TO
WIN!**

MARCH
1942



**FOR
VICTORY**

**BUY
UNITED
STATES
DEFENSE
BONDS
STAMPS**



WAR Bonds

War Bond rallies were a common occurrence through the city at this time. In addition to municipal, state, and federal government entities promoting the War Bond campaign, giant media organizations also pushed the importance of financially supporting the war effort. Animated friends Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and Goofy were presented on movie screens to the public to discuss the investments. And large- and small-scale publications alike, including pamphlets, brochures, the NYPD's *Spring 3100*, and leading newspapers of the day, all published images and information advocating support.

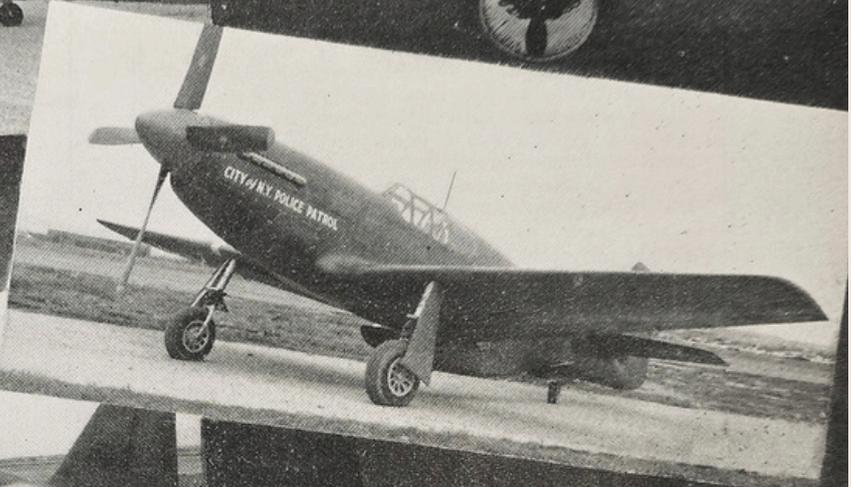
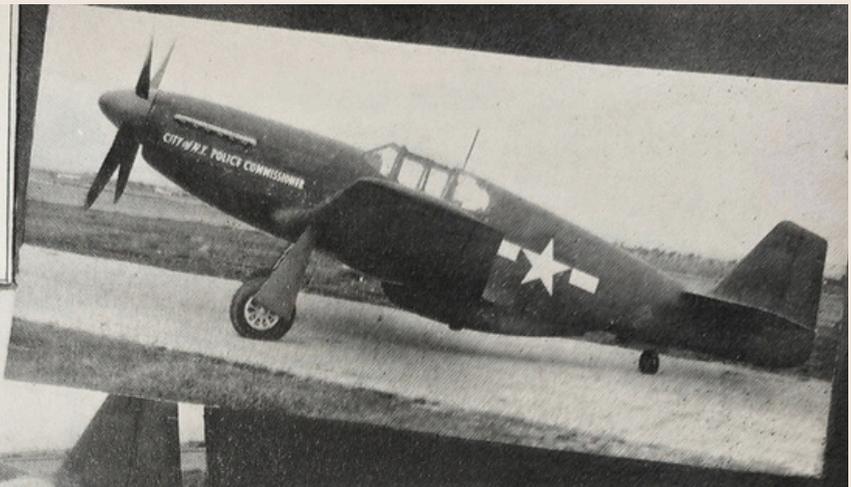


War Bond rally outside of New York Stock Exchange, March 1942.



The NYPD was recognized throughout the war for its success during multiple War Bond drives, which often focused on particular items that the U.S. Department of Defense needed. One such campaign spearheaded by the NYPD raised nearly \$5.2 million and enabled the purchase of 69 fighter aircraft with "City of N.Y." and the names of individual police precincts or units – "Homicide Squad," "Midtown," and even "Police Commissioner" – emblazoned on their sides.

Shown on this page are six of the sixty-nine fighter planes, costing \$75,000 apiece, which today represent the New York City Police Department on battlefronts all over the world.



Purchase of these planes was made possible by the campaign instituted by the Department in connection with the Third War Loan drive, subscriptions to which amounted to \$5,204,808.

JUNE
1942

WAR *Bonds*

Another campaign funded the purchase of two Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses – one to be named “City of New York,” the other to feature an NYPD patrolman’s shield on its fuselage. The American-built, four-engine heavy bombers were fast and high-flying, and used primarily in the European Theater of Operations. They are credited with dropping more bombs than any other aircraft during World War II. Of the 12,731 B-17s built, approximately 4,735 were lost during the war. Afterwards, planes that had flown in combat missions were sent for smelting at aircraft boneyards. Consequently, at the start of 2024, just six of the aircraft remain in flying condition – none of which are the NYPD-associated planes.

Members of the NYPD received a cost-of-living bonus during the war years, and *Spring 3100* asked many what they planned to do with the additional money. To the right are several of the responses, including one from Gertrude Schimmel, who broke gender barriers in the NYPD as one of the first two women to become a sergeant, as well as later becoming the first to be named chief.

When she joined the police department in June 1940, female officers could not be promoted above the entry-level post of policewoman, and they were not allowed to go out on patrol. In 1943, policewomen were issued a black shoulder bag with space for a holster but also a makeup kit. “Use the gun as you would your lipstick,” Mayor La Guardia told them. “Don’t overdo either one.”

**Gertrude D. T. Schimmel, Shield No. 95,
Bur. of Polw.**

I'm planning to buy War Bonds with my bonus. After my hubby comes back from fighting the War, we're going on a second honeymoon to Arizona and Mexico. We were there before the War on our honeymoon and I'm sure that he'd like to go back for another visit when he comes home.



Harry Thimmel, Shield No. 9466.



I'm planning to put a percentage of my bonus in buying more War Bonds and the rest is going to cover the increase in the cost of living. I sold my car and bought War Bonds with the money and I consider it the best investment anyone can make.

Ernest T. Enck, Shield No. 664.

The wife's got it all spent. She's going to buy War Bonds and pay off the taxes and bills due on our house. Costs have been so high, it's been hard to keep up our home. I'm hoping to increase my contributions to the Red Cross and the New York Fund.



Spring 1942

BUY
BOND

MAY
1942



I AM AN AMERICAN

Service

As German and Japanese forces pushed forward in parts of Europe and the Pacific, the number of Americans enlisting in the armed forces increased. The members of the NYPD were no different - at the height of the war, the Department had over a thousand men and women serving in the armed forces and posted all across the world.

In addition to honoring the sons and daughters of NYPD officers serving their country, *Spring 3100* kept a monthly count of those enlisted in the military.

SERVING WITH UNCLE SAM

AS OF NOVEMBER 8, 1944

Captains	1
Acting Captains	3
Lieutenants	7
Sergeants	16
Acting Sergeant	1
Detectives	27
Patrolmen	878
Policewomen	5
	<hr/>
	938
Civilians	112
Total	1050

BUY U.S. BOND

As the number of men and women increased overseas, so did the amount of mail coming home.

Spring 3100 regularly printed mail they received from both members of the police department, as well as their compatriots serving "somewhere" around the world.

Sons and Daughters of Members of the Department Serving With the Armed Forces

IMPRESSIVE indeed are the figures sent in by the various commands in connection with the recent survey showing, as of April 26, sons and daughters of members of the Department, both uniformed force and civilian employees, serving their country with the armed forces.

A recapitulation and breakdown of the figures follow:

UNIFORMED FORCE

	Army	Navy	Marines	Coast Guard	Total	Grand Total
Sons	1324	525	144	72	2065	
Daughters ..	21	12	2	0	35	
						2100

CIVILIAN FORCE

	Army	Navy	Marines	Coast Guard	Total	Grand Total
Sons	83	23	6	2	114	
Daughters ..	0	0	0	0	0	
						114
						2214

UNIFORMED FORCE

Members having—		
1 son in Service		1303
2 sons in Service		292
3 sons in Service		50
4 sons in Service		7
1 daughter in Service		35
1 son and 1 daughter in Service	(8)	
2 sons and 1 daughter in Service	(5)	
		1687

CIVILIAN FORCE

Members having—		
1 son in Service		59
2 sons in Service		15
3 sons in Service		6
4 sons in Service		2
		82
		1769

MEMBERS WITH 3 SONS IN SERVICE

Inspector

Thomas F. Mulligan, 1st Div.

Captain

William P. O'Brien, 48th Pct.

Acting Captains

James C. Pritchard, 6th D.D.; Joseph H. Brink, Tel. Bur.; Jeremiah F. O'Shea, Tel. Bur.; George A. Pattison, Tel. Bur.

Lieutenants

Joseph Warshow, Man. W. Hqrs.; Antone Straussner, 84th Pct.; Thomas J. Egan, Tra. G.; Nicholas P. Sussillo, E. S. D.; Charles H. Haase, J. A. B.; Eugene Young, A.W.S.

Sergeant

William O'Connor, 28th Pct.

Acting Sergeant

James F. Toohey, Motor Transport Division.

Patrolmen

Lawrence Collins, 5th Pct.; John J. Slevin, 5th Pct.; Nelson Haas, 10th Pct.; Walter Curtis, 13th Pct.; Peter Woods, 19th Pct.; Ferdinand Ross, 1st Pct.; Richard Fitzgerald, 18th Pct.; William Mullen, 30th Pct.; James L. Boyle, 72nd Pct.; James E. Favor, 72nd Pct.; Fred Santaniello, 72nd Pct.; Nicholas Pellechia, 76th Pct.; William Young, 75th Pct.; Richard Canter, 80th Pct.; Abraham Cohen, 81st Pct.; James Kennedy, 88th Pct.; Edward F. Ryan, 90th Pct.; Emil Tiedemann, 48th Pct.; William Lynch, 50th Pct.; John Fusi, 110th Pct.; John P. Carroll, 111th Pct.; Thomas Mulvihill, Tra. A; James Hughes, Tra. B; Michael J. Roche, Tra. D; Thomas S. McNicholas, Tra. J; Stephen E. Stadtmuller, Tra. P; James J. Byrne, Mtd. Sqd. 2; William F. Assip, E. S. S. 11; Dominick Ciaffa, Tel. Bur.

Detectives

Martin Monahan, 68th Squad; John Corcoran, 84th Squad; Maurice V. Barry, 42nd Squad; Charles S. Goubeaud, Auto Squad; Archibald J. Woods, Forgery Squad; Anna C. Orr, Pickpocket Squad; Galdwill Knowles, 28th Squad.

Civilians

Laborer Alfred Coffin, 19th Div.; Elev. Oper. Alfred Matthews, 19th Div.; Plumber Harry Rush, Build. & Repair Bur.; Civ. Att. Jacob Pfeffer, 69th Pct.; Civ. Porter Lewis Davis, 42nd Pct.; Hostler Fred Anderson, Mtd. Sqd. 2.

MEMBERS WITH 4 SONS IN SERVICE

Lieutenant

William J. Maloney, Main Desk, Man.

Sergeant

John E. Corbett, Gr. Cent. Pkwy. Pct.

Patrolmen

Charles V. McCullough, 74th Pct.; Francis J. Gorman, 79th Pct.; Frederick Funk, Crim. Ident. Bur.

Detectives

George Murray, 9th Sqd.; William Donovan, 13th Sqd.

Civilians

Laborer Antonio Lorenzo, 19th Div.; Radio Repair Mech. Joseph Calegari, Tel. Bur.

MEMBERS WITH 2 SONS AND 1 DAUGHTER IN SERVICE

Lieutenant

Timothy Tracy, 85th Pct.

Patrolmen

Morris Gaffen, 67th Pct.; Edward Foley, 92nd Pct.; Patrick Eames, Tr. A; Frank P. Malloy, 2nd Dist. Tr.

AWAY FROM *Home*

JUNE
1942

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

October 25, 1944

EDITOR, SPRING 3100:

A mere cub copper when the Army seized me nearly two years ago (lucky Army), you can never guess by the photo what I am grinning at. No, respite from the ordeal of combat or even the presence of friendly mademoiselles is not responsible. It's just that I am thinking of the extra tours I would be doing were I back home on the job now instead of sojourning here in "sunny" France. Thank for SPRING 3100. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!



PFC. BERNARD D. GORDAN
Patrolman, 28th Precinct

PROVOST MARSHAL OFFICE

Ninth Service Command
Fort Winfield Scott, California

October 15, 1945

EDITOR, SPKING 3100:

Enclosed is a photo of our "Boss" with three of his office staff, and we thought that some of his former buddies might like to get a look at him after being away from them for so long.

Captain Fidgeon, on military leave from the 28th Precinct, has done a great job here. He has taught us the way of the New York policeman and because of that teaching our results here have been excellent.

During the World Conference he had two of his buddies out to the post, a Lieutenant Campion and Detective Joe Sullivan who gave us a most welcome talk on police activities in New York.

We are hoping, incidentally, that we out here may get

a peak at the "Boss" in SPRING 3100, when he receives it, as part of his lectures are taken from it.



S/Sgt. EARL LAKE,
Ninth Service Command.

SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA

December 20, 1943

EDITOR, SPRING 3100:

On January 7, 1943, I changed my blue uniform of New York's "Finest" for the khaki of Uncle Sam's Army. Now, almost one year later, I've already completed eight months overseas.

My army assignments have carried me far and carried me fast. I was stationed in four camps in the U.S., have been through about half the states in the Union, and traveled from coast to coast. I've sailed on three oceans, been on four continents, and in six foreign countries, yet SPRING 3100 has never yet failed to come through.

It may have been a little late at times, but over here magazines like that just don't get old. I can say with all sincerity that every issue I have ever received has been most welcome. It has done much to keep me "in touch" with the men and the Department.

Thanks for your efforts on my behalf. Give my regards to my buddies on the home-front - and - keep 'em coming!

PPC. ALBERT A. BRUST,
Patrolman, 7th Precinct.

SOMEWHERE IN THE TROPICS

May 15, 1944

EDITOR, SPRING 3100:

Just received my April issue of SPRING 3100, the second copy to reach me since being stationed down here, and believe you me it sure is swell to be able to read about the boys back in the job. You'd be surprised how SPRING 3100 gets around down here. The men all wait their turn to read it. It is like a letter from home.

Best regards to all the boys at the 40th Precinct and all others in the job that I know.

BARNETT J. KAUFMAN, Sp. (S)3/c,
Patrolman, 40th Precinct.



P.S. Enclosed is a photo of the outgoing platoon of the Netherlands Military Police of Curacao, D.W.I. which Sergeant Major Wauben (at extreme left) was kind enough to have posed for me. In front are shown Edward Walsh, Sp. (S)3/c, formerly of the old 9A Precinct; Private Chapman of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Police, and myself.

HARMON GENERAL HOSPITAL

Longview, Texas

April 14, 1944

EDITOR, SPRING 3100:

Thanks sincerely for SPRING 3100 which since my induction into the armed services has been reaching me regularly.

Do you mind if I take this means to announce, via good old SPRING 3100, my marriage to the "Sweetest Little Girl in the World?" The picture is self explanatory. Lovely, is she not? She is the former Miss Elsie R. Nagy, of 453-32 82nd Place, Elmhurst, L. I., and the ceremony was performed in the post chapel at Camp Livingston, La.

Regards and best wishes to all my friends in the Department.

EMIL J. REICH
2nd Lieutenant, C.M.P.
Patrolman, Police Academy.



SPRING 1942



Silent Night

Christmas
1942



WAR AT *Home*

JUNE
1942

While its sons and daughters served overseas, New York and those at home continued to contribute to the war effort in rewarding ways. The landscape of the city changed, with everyday residents sharing in the sacrifice. In addition to blackouts and dimouts, federal restrictions were placed on leisure travel, and food rationing was implemented throughout the nation to conserve certain food items, such as meat, dairy, sugar, and coffee, for the military overseas.

Rekindling an idea first implemented when President Woodrow Wilson announced in 1917 that “food will win the war” and declared that “everyone who creates or cultivates a garden helps,” the federal government launched a United States Garden Army through the Bureau of Education. The program, funded by the War Department, began in 1943 and saw small plots of land around New York City and elsewhere – including a “Victory Garden” in



Rockefeller Center featuring red cabbage, parsley, broccoli, onions, Swiss chard, carrots, and more – used to alleviate food shortages while boosting morale and fostering a sense of community.

In total, New York City had approximately 400,000 victory gardens across all five boroughs, occupying some 600 acres of private land. They sprouted up in empty lots on Ludlow Street, Upper East Side apartment terraces, and open spaces throughout Queens and Brooklyn.

There was one planted along Park Avenue, while another flourished uptown on Riverside Drive. Yet another sizable garden was located in Midtown Manhattan, spreading its leaves in the shade of the Chrysler Building.



Springtime

MAY, 1944

Bill Pfeiffer



Spring 3100

April, 1941



Spring 3100

May, 1941



Spring 3100

June, 1941



IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME

Spring 3100

July, 1941



The Declaration
of
Independence

The unanimous declaration of the thirteen United States of America, in Congress July 4, 1776.
When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another,

UNITED WE STAND

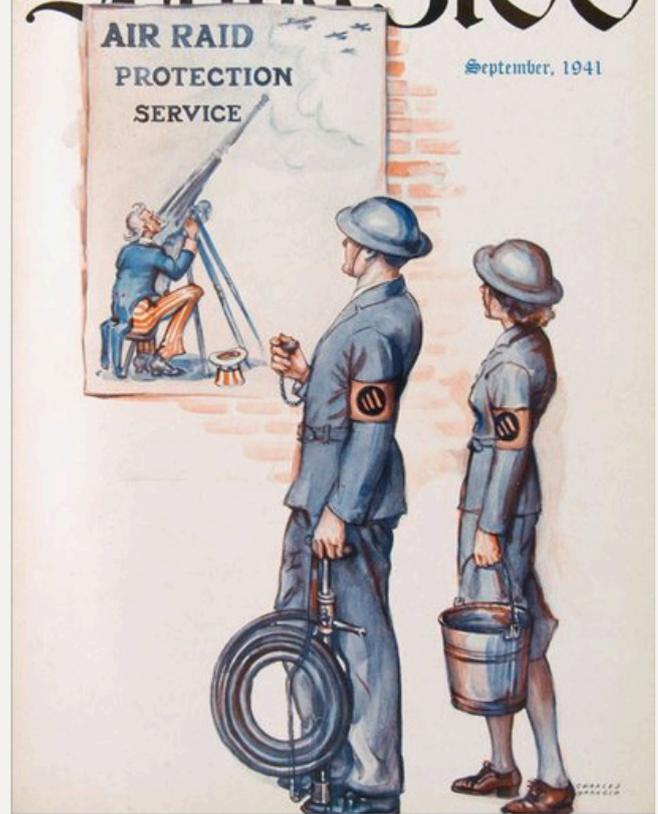
Spring 3100

August, 1941



Spring 3100

September, 1941



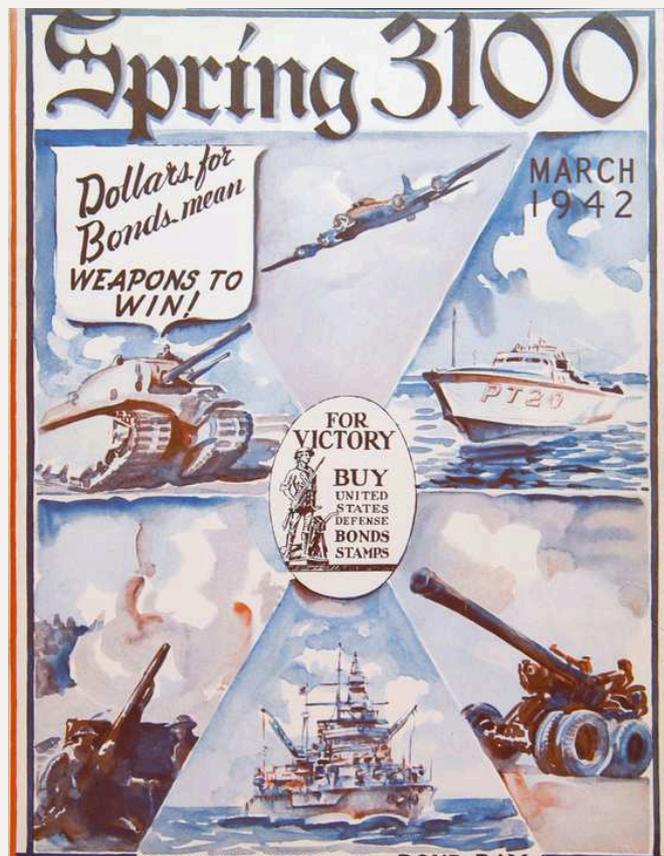
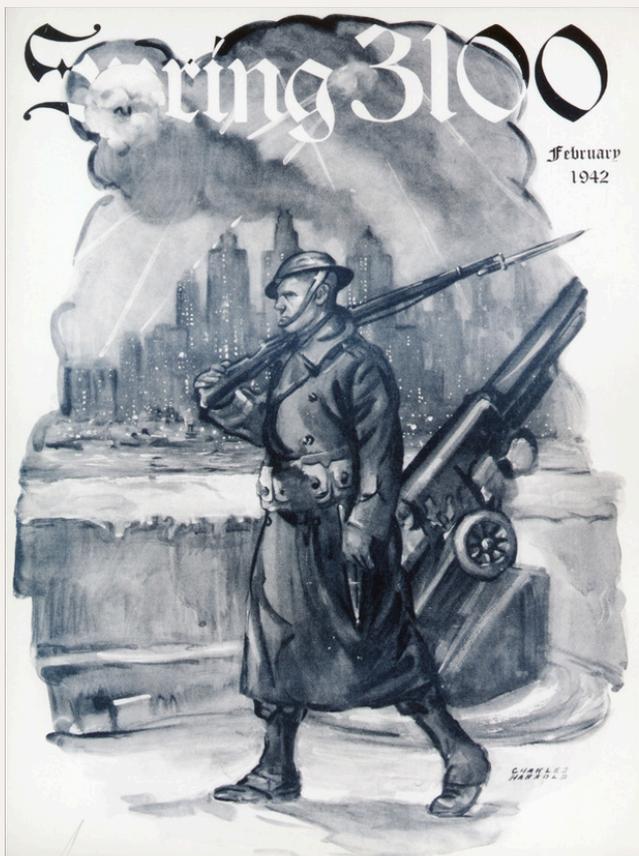
Spring 3100

October, 1941



Spring 3100





Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND



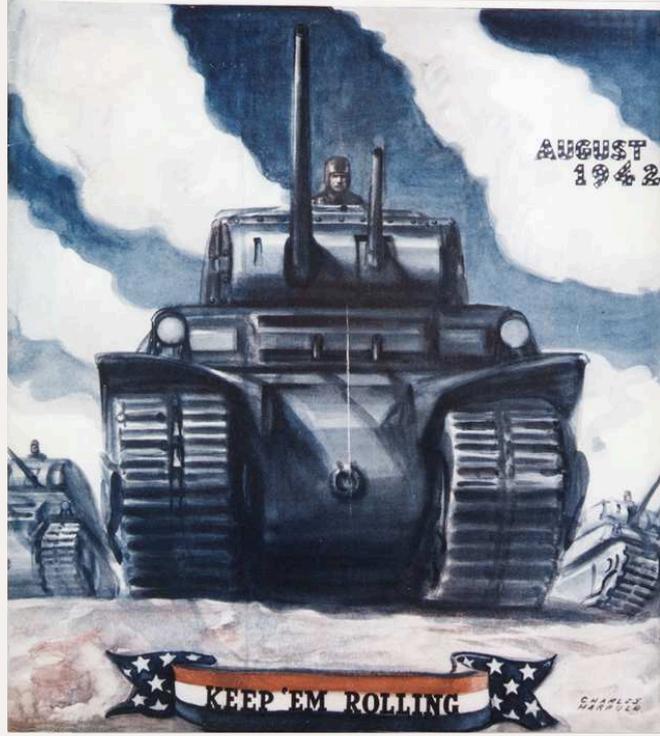
Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

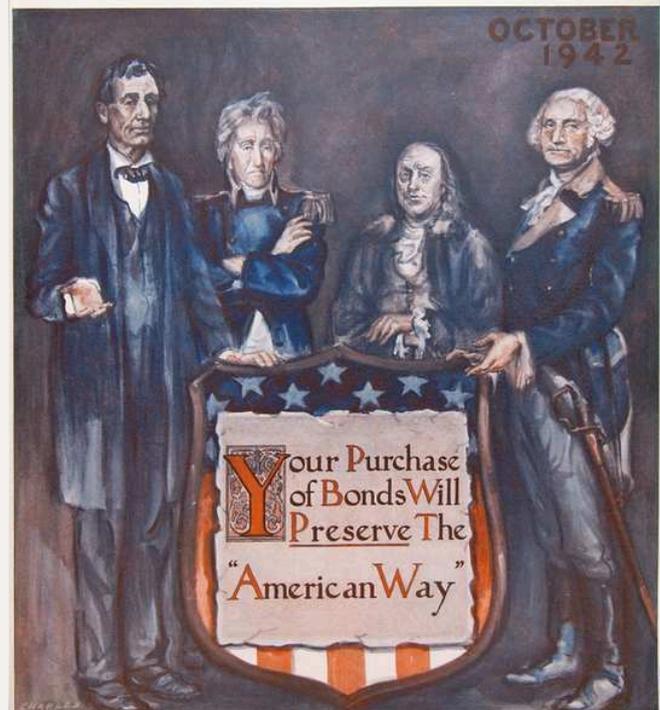
BUY BOND



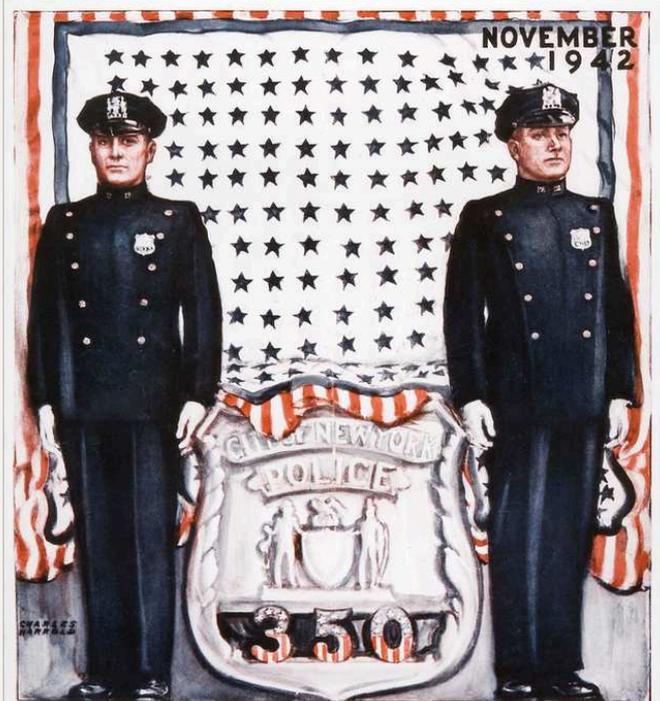
Spring 3100 BUY BOND



Spring 3100 BUY BOND



Spring 3100 BUY BOND



Spring 3100 BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

JUNE 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

JULY 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

AUGUST 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

NOVEMBER, 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

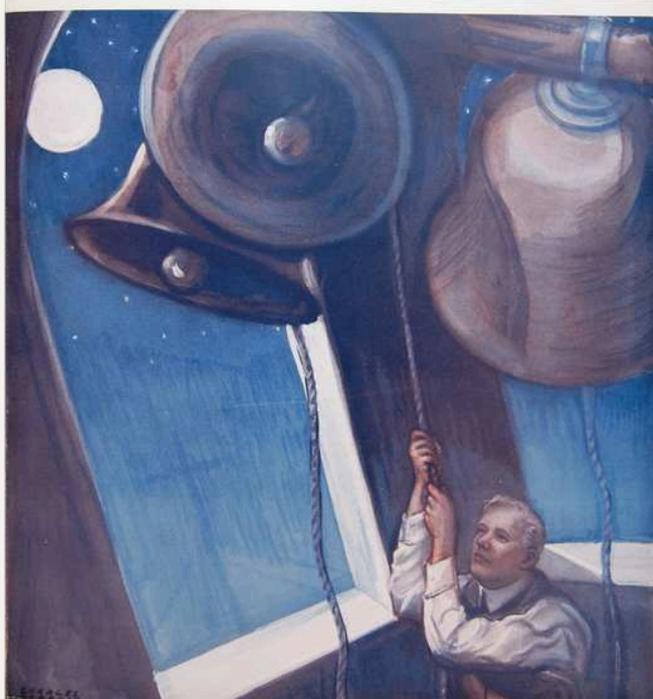
DECEMBER, 1943



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

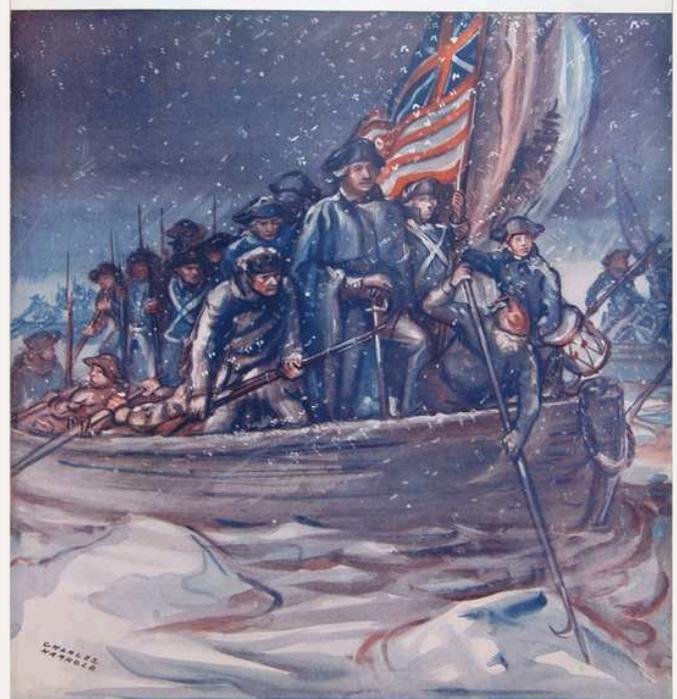
JANUARY, 1944



Spring 3100

BUY BOND

FEBRUARY, 1944



Spring 1944

MARCH, 1944



BLOOD DONOR AWARD
 AMERICAN RED CROSS • NEW YORK CHAPTER TO
 Employees of the Police Department of the City of New York
*For outstanding leadership in the task of maintaining the supply
 of life-saving blood plasma to the armed forces overseas*
 NEW YORK CITY

Spring 1944

APRIL, 1944



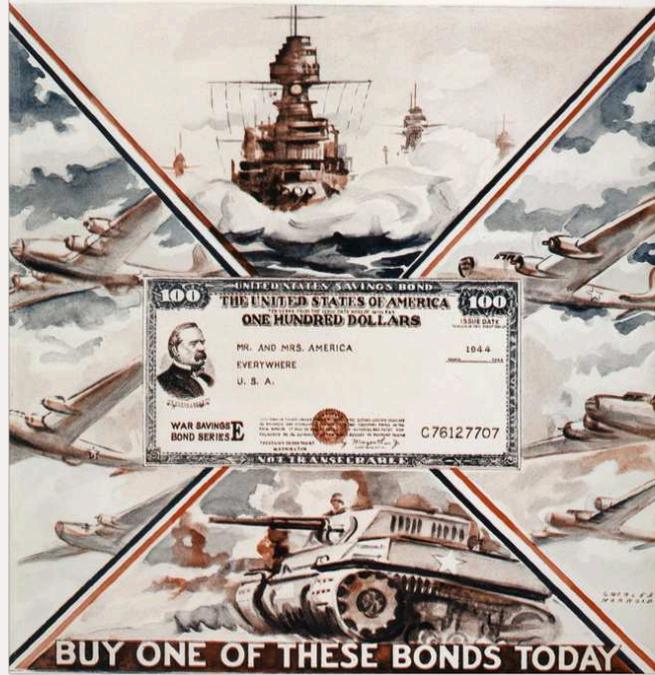
Spring 1944

MAY, 1944 *All Heiffer*



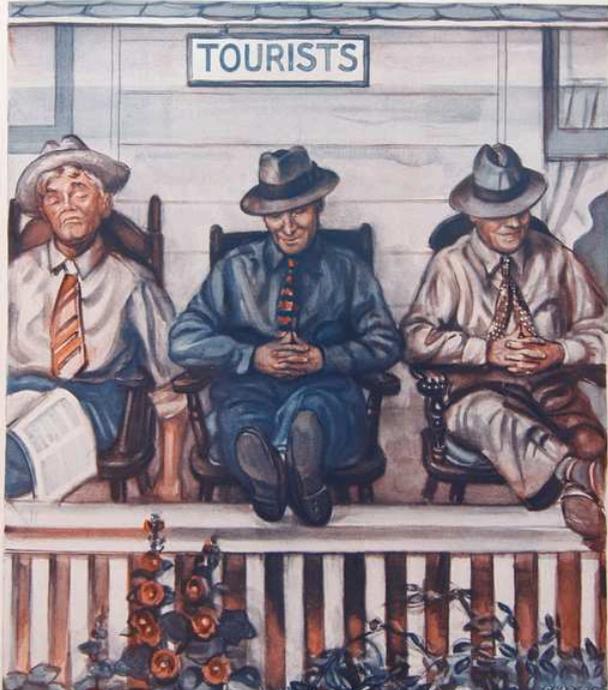
Spring 1944

JUNE, 1944



Springtime

AUGUST, 1944



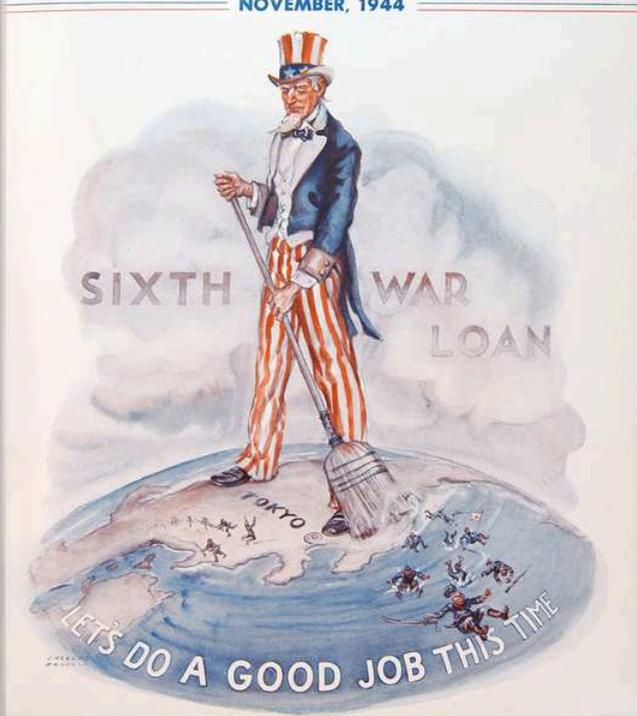
Springtime

SEPT.-OCT., 1944



Springtime

NOVEMBER, 1944



Springtime

CHRISTMAS, 1944



Spring 3100

JANUARY, 1945



Spring 3100

FEBRUARY, 1945



Spring 3100

MARCH, 1945



1930.....15TH ANNIVERSARY NUMBER.....1945

Spring 3100

APRIL, 1945



Springtime

BUY BOND

MAY, 1945



Springtime

BUY BOND

JUNE, 1945



DON'T LET HIM DOWN!
 BUY THOSE EXTRA WAR BONDS TODAY!

Springtime

BUY BOND

JULY, 1945



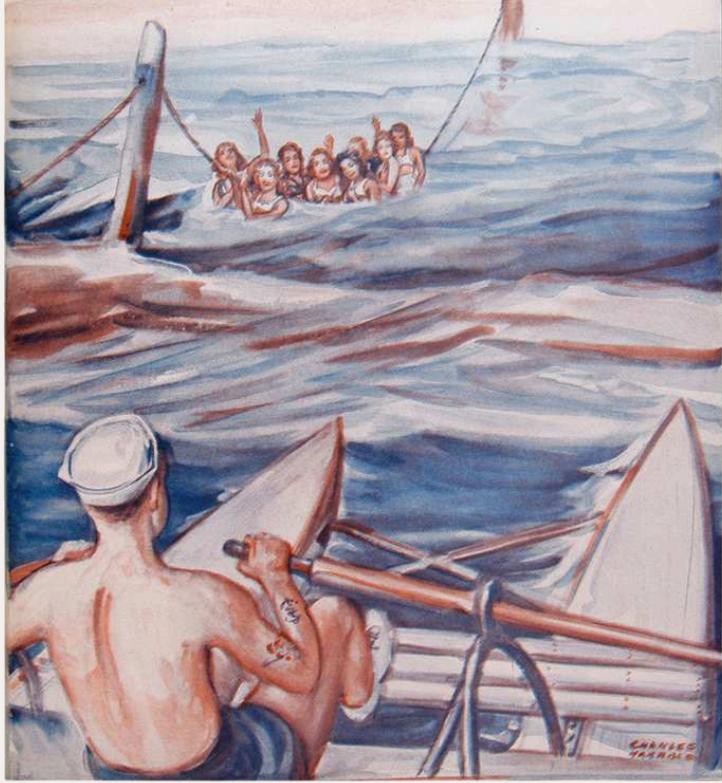
PALS

Dedicated to the Theory That a Friendly and Helping Hand to the Youngster of Today Means a Rich and Abundant Harvest in the Adult of Tomorrow.

Springtime

BUY BOND

AUGUST, 1945



SPRINGTIME

BUY BOND

SEPT.-OCT., 1945



SPRINGTIME

BUY BOND

NOVEMBER, 1945



SPRINGTIME

BUY BOND

DECEMBER, 1945



SPRINGTIME

BUY BOND

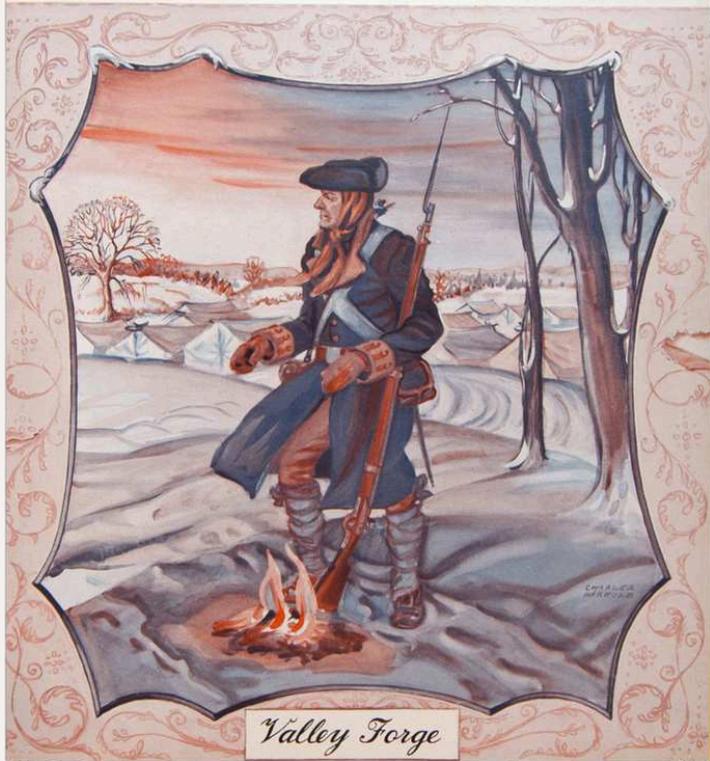
JANUARY, 1946



Springtime

BUY BOND

FEBRUARY 1946



Valley Forge

Springtime

BUY BOND

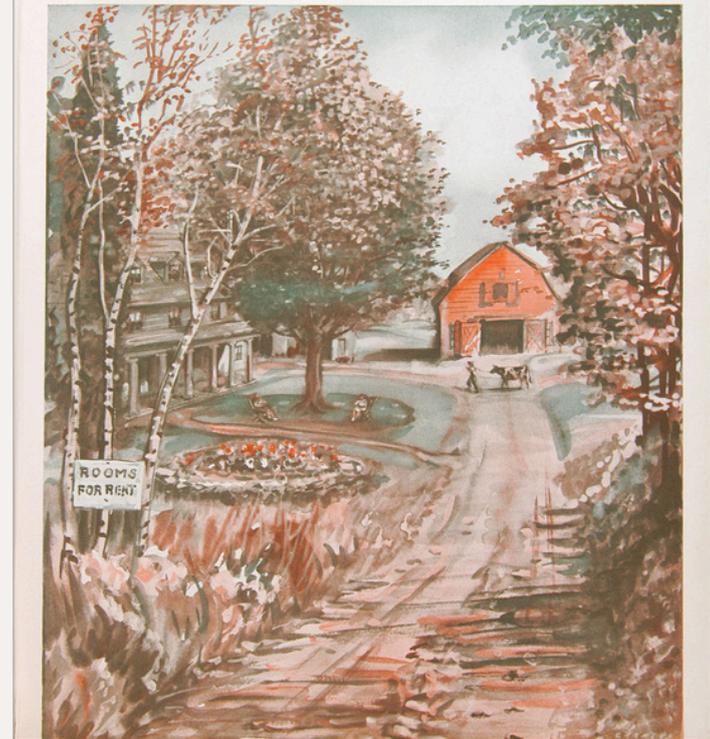
APRIL, 1946



Springtime

BUY BOND

JULY, 1946



Springtime

BUY BOND

AUGUST, 1946



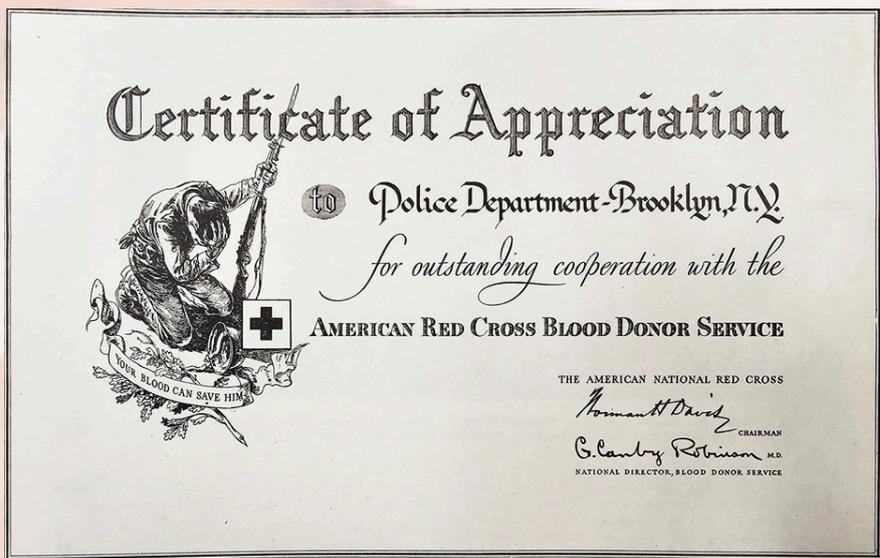
JUNE
1942

RED CROSS



Volunteer services continued to supply our troops with much needed aid. The American Red Cross rose to prominence once again, fulfilling a congressional mandate from 1905 that called for its volunteer force to provide care and support to injured servicemen. It also provided first-aid training, emergency-preparedness education, and assistance to families suffering from loss or coping with wartime separation from loved ones. Cigarettes, food, candy, clothes, and other basic essentials were supplied in care packages. Throughout the war, the Red Cross awarded numerous citations and certificates of appreciation to the NYPD for its support and collaboration, including the organization and facilitation of blood drives.

One such citation (above) was given to the 5th Precinct for a monetary donation of \$20,000. A Certificate of Appreciation (right) was given in recognition of the 1,148 NYPD members who donated blood in Brooklyn from October - May, 1944.



SPRINGTIME

MARCH, 1944



BLOOD DONOR AWARD

AMERICAN RED CROSS • NEW YORK CHAPTER • 711

Employees of the Police Department of the City of New York

*For outstanding leadership in the task of maintaining the supply
of life-saving blood plasma to the armed forces overseas*

Emile Boudin

NEW YORK CITY

Robert E. Davis

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ARTIST

WAR HITS

Home

As fighting across the globe increased, so did its tragic consequences. News of the death of Captain Thomas Abbey came home to his beloved wife, Mary, making him the first uniformed member of the NYPD killed while serving overseas during the war.

Captain Abbey was born in 1899 on an Army base in Plattsburgh, New York. He served in the Navy during World War I and upon conclusion of the war, obtained his pilot's license. He worked as a stunt pilot, barnstorming across the country during the 1920s.

After marrying Mary, he settled down in Queens and became a member of the NYPD in 1927. In 1929, he was assigned to the Brooklyn Motorcycle Unit.

Thomas never stopped flying, and in 1933, was granted a leave of absence to fly to Alaska to conduct a successful search-and-rescue mission for pilot James Mattern, who was attempting to beat the record for circumnavigating the globe in an aircraft.



In 1941, Mayor La Guardia granted Thomas leave for a year to train pilots in the Army Air Corps. In 1943 he returned to service after receiving a telegram from General Hap Arnold.

Captain Abbey was assigned then to a Reconnaissance Unit in South America, where he was tasked with safeguarding the supply chain by establishing airfields for rubber factories.

In early September 1943, Captain Abbey's plane crashed in the jungles of Peru while he was performing a rescue mission for his commanding officer.

Like all members of the NYPD, Thomas Abbey's sacrifice will never be forgotten. In 2022, 82nd Place in Queens was co-named "Capt. Thomas Abbey Place."

JUNE
1942

SPRINGTIME

BUY
BOND

NOVEMBER, 1943



HEROES

The tragic news of loved ones lost coincided with the news of heroic tales, including that of Patrolman Gerald Crosson. The son of retired Patrolman Charles S. Crosson (appointed in 1909, retired in 1934), he was appointed in 1938. Already a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he was quickly assigned to the NYPD Aviation Unit.

Less than 24 hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Crosson was the first NYPD member called up for active duty in the Army, and soon found himself flying combat missions over the Pacific Ocean. He was promoted to the rank of Army captain during his service and flew the most missions in his unit. By the war's end, he had received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star, a Purple Heart, and an Airman's Medal.



Back in New York, Crosson returned to the NYPD Aviation Unit and earned three commendations for helicopter rescues during his career. He was later credited with 105 Medevac helicopter rescues during his service in the Korean War, this time returning home as a highly-decorated lieutenant colonel.



January 1951 Battery Park
Police Commissioner Thomas Murphy and Sgt. Crosson in front of one of the first Bell helicopters.

He retired from the NYPD as a sergeant in 1959 to become a civilian pilot. His son, Gerald J. Crosson Jr., followed his father's lead and became an Air Force pilot, serving during the Vietnam War. Tragically, he was shot down in 1968 and is still listed as missing in action.

SPRINGFIELD

DECEMBER, 1943



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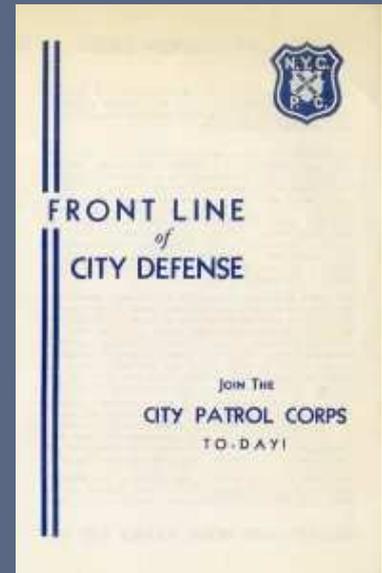
The Dream Come True!

LIFE AT *Home*

NYPD volunteers continued their hard work in New York, taking on myriad roles and responsibilities required to keep the city functioning. But this was not the first time New Yorkers had been called to action.

The Home Defense League was established in 1916, during the First World War, to provide a force of volunteers that could fill the police department's ranks while officers fought overseas. Within months of its creation, approximately 22,000 men had stepped forward to assist. In 1918, the group's name was changed to the New York Reserve Police Force, and about 3,000 women volunteered. Although the "Great War" ended later that year, the volunteer police force had proven successful and was maintained until 1934. Baseball great George Herman "Babe" Ruth, Jr. also joined the reserve police group following his trade to the New York Yankees from the Boston Red Sox in 1920. By 1925, during the height of his playing career, Ruth held the rank of lieutenant.

In 1942, a coordinated service was again required in New York City, and the City Patrol Corps was established. Comprised of more than 4,500 men and women, the cadre of volunteers bravely assisted police officers in their patrol duties. While the formal Patrol Corps was disbanded at World War II's end, the city maintained a volunteer force that would eventually become today's NYPD Auxiliary Section. There are currently 2,989 Auxiliary police officers serving the city on a volunteer basis.



George Herman "Babe" Ruth, a lieutenant in the New York Reserve Police Force, shown in 1925 during the height of his Yankees baseball career.

SPRINGTIME

SEPT.-OCT., 1944



COAST GUARD PATROL

CHARLES HAROLD

JUNE
1942

The City Patrol Corps

By MAJ. GEN. R. M. DANFORD (Retired), Commandant

A voluntary service that is of incalculable value to the work of the Police Department in the nation-wide emergency which since Pearl Harbor has threatened the peace and security of our people.



First public appearance of the NEW YORK CITY PATROL CORPS at the NEW YORK CITY AT WAR PARADE—June 13, 1942.

RECENTLY the Inquiring Photographer from the Long Island Daily Star put to a number of members of the City Patrol Corps the question, "Why did you join the City Patrol Corps?"

To this question, Sergeant William W. Weeks, Company B, Queens Division, replied:

"I joined the Patrol Corps because during the emergency period we need the added police protection which such a group can afford. I feel that we can help protect the wives and families of men overseas in this way. Our boys are giving up everything for us, and the least we can do is help maintain law and order at home to set their minds at ease where their families are concerned."

That, in substance, is the reply which such a question would get from practically all our men. Frequently, some member actually adds, in substance, "I have two sons and a daughter in this war. I was in the last one. I just had to do something to help."

All members of the City Patrol Corps, both men and women, are volunteers, without monetary remuneration. They are doing this work because they conscientiously feel it their duty to do something useful and extra for victory. And this service is more than contributing a name for someone's list. It represents a sacrifice of time, and money, and it means arduous duties as well. After qualifying in drill and instruction, and after providing themselves with certain items of equipment and uniform, it means two four-hour guard tours per week, rain or shine, zero temperature or snow. Since May 18, 1942, the Corps has not missed a single night of guard duty, and approximately 630 tours are being currently served each night.

The Mission of the Corps, as prescribed by the Mayor, is to assist the Police Department in any and every way possible, in the protection of life and property in this great and vital city. Our men and women are devotedly endeavoring to carry out that mission.



Sgt. Evelynne Adduce helps a soldier and a sailor find their way in Central Park.

Briefly, the Corps is organized into a Headquarters Battalion and five Divisions. The Headquarters Battalion assists the Police of the 22nd Precinct in Central Park. The five Divisions operate one in each of the five boroughs. A Division consists of a Headquarters and several companies; thus Bronx has 7 companies, Brooklyn 8, Manhattan 9, Queens 5, and Richmond 4. Under present orders, the posts of duty of our men are selected generally by company commanders in collaboration with police precinct captains. Our present Guard Order includes the following paragraph:

"All echelons of command, but especially the Company Commander and his men, will work in the very greatest harmony and collaboration with the Police. To attain this end, personal contacts are vital."

A few statistics are interesting. Our strength at the present time is 3,854 men and 461 women. From date of initiation of our work, May 18, 1942, to include June 30, 1944, our men have served 477,951 and our women 7,943 four-hour guard (patrol) tours, representing 1,943,580 hours of protective service rendered. Additionally, they have devoted 592,790 hours to drill, instruction, and administration, as well as approximately 500,000 hours more in going to and from their duties. They have used their own private automobiles for posting, inspecting, and relieving the guard, for a total of over 2,240,000 miles, and they have spent for this and other transportation, for items of uniform and equipment, and for various supplies, an average of about \$30.00 per member.

A random spot check of our records indicates that \$48.90 is the average weekly wage of our men.

The above statistics would tend to prove rather conclusively that our men and women are in this service because of a compelling sense of patriotic obligation to country and community, which makes of them a real

"Corps d'Elite."

They are a magnificent cross section of our New York citizens.

It has been found that many of our men work in their offices or factories, or defense plants, as much as 60 hours per week, and then give (counting travelling time) as much as 12 hours per week to meet their Corps duties. Many Corps officers give 5, 6, and even 7 nights per week to keep their units organized, administered, and functioning. As a result, men of all grades take their duties with uncommon seriousness.

Because our men must work to earn a living for their families and themselves, their Guard Duty is of necessity restricted almost wholly to the hours of 4 p.m. to midnight, with the great bulk of the men performing their tours from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Occasionally, when sufficient advance notice is received, details are furnished on the afternoons of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

With reference to details that are frequently furnished on calls from the police, the senior officer or non-commissioned officer with the City Patrol Corps detail is always ordered to report to, and take his orders from the senior police officer present. This holds good even if a Colonel commands the Patrol Corps detail, and a patrolman is the senior police officer present. We do not presume to permit our officers to assume command of policemen. Our function is to *help* the police under the latter's leadership and instructions.

Our men, while on duty, are in uniform. Summer uniform, consisting of khaki shirt and trousers and black tie, must be furnished by the man himself. Winter uniform, consisting of O.D. woolen blouse, trousers, cap, winter cap, and overcoat, is furnished by the City. Our men are armed, provided two conditions are fulfilled. These are, first, that the man who carries a gun must have been sworn in as a Special Patrolman by the Police Department, and second, that he must have qualified in revolver marksmanship with service ammunition. His qualification as marksman is permitted only under the eye of a specially designated and qualified officer. In over 2¼ years service, we have had only one slight accident with a revolver. Parenthetically, we have had one case where a revolver in the hands of a qualified man, put a bullet into, and stopped, a fleeing burglar.

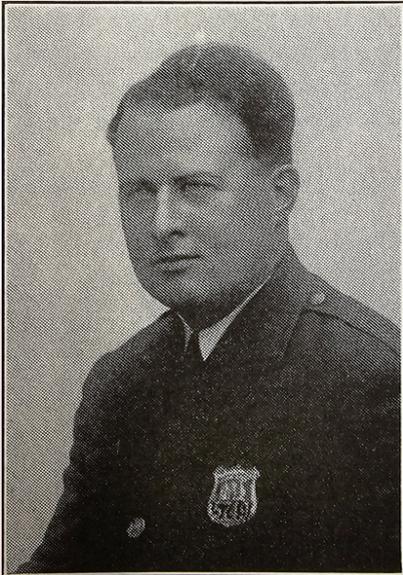
Our men are coached in the feeling that they should take pride in trying to measure up to the standards and traditions of efficiency and courtesy of "New York's Finest." They are required, while on duty, to salute their own officers and are expected and instructed also to salute officers of the armed services, and officers of the Police Department, down to and including sergeants. We teach and expect this as just plain politeness and good manners.



Sgt. Helen Asbury on duty at City Patrol Corps Headquarters.

HEROES

As World War II ended, members of the greatest generation came home and continued to serve their communities.



Patrolman Thomas J. Murray

Thomas Murray was the first member of the NYPD to earn the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army during the War.

He was born in 1908, and prior to joining the NYPD in 1937, worked as an engineer. In 1941, while a 9th Precinct patrolman, he requested and was granted leave for military service with the Army Signal Corps and was promoted to Colonel in December 1943.

When asked about his promotion in a *Spring 3100* interview, Col. Murray says; ***"When I remember all the kidding I used to take 'before the war' about being a lieutenant, I'm almost afraid to come home again!"***

Colonel Murray returned to the NYPD in January 1946, was promoted to Sergeant in September 1946, and to Lieutenant in 1952. He retired in 1957.

Patrolman Roland Soloman

Roland Soloman of the 23rd Precinct, was awarded the Air Medal while serving in the Army Air Force in September 1942.

Staff Sergeant Soloman was a waist gunner on a B-24 Liberator heavy bomber, in addition to radio duties. He recalled one particular mission to *Spring 3100*, ***"We were coming back from a mission deep in Germany and using more gas than a Sunday driver in a traffic jam. About 30 miles from the Italian Coast the gauges registered zero."***

The pilot ordered the crew to bail out, but Staff Sgt. Soloman remained with the pilot to help crash the plane into the Mediterranean Sea.

Staff Sgt. Soloman, his pilot, and the entire crew survived. Soloman continued, ***"I guess I sat on that wing for 25 minutes until a British trawler nosed by to pick us up. Treated us for shock and exposure and that was all!"***



HEROES

For our police department, our city, and our nation, World War II is a story of triumph and tragedy. For countless families – such as the Meehans and the Bradys – life would never be the same.

Twelve-year-old **Joe Meehan**, the son of Patrolman Joseph Meehan, modeled for what became a famous Police Athletic League poster in 1937. Six years later, Joe and fellow model Jean O'Brien were photographed next to the iconic work, alongside a new set of subjects for an updated version.



A year after this group photo was taken in 1943, Joe Meehan was a 19-year-old first class seaman in the U.S. Navy, serving on a gun crew aboard the USS Barr, a destroyer tasked with escorting larger vessels in a convoy.

On May 8, 1944, Joe Meehan was swept away at sea and declared missing in action. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart military decoration.



First Lieutenant Thomas Brady, a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps and a patrolman in the 18th Precinct in Manhattan, was the first NYPD member to be killed in action. The co-pilot of a B-17 Flying Fortress, Brady and his crew were shot down on January 11, 1944, while en route to Germany. Brady was buried in an American cemetery in the Netherlands. He was survived by his wife and 1-year-old son.



Members of the 18th Precinct outside the Sacred Heart Church on news of Patrolman Brady's death.

VICTORY IN *Europe*

JUNE
1942

When news broke on April 30, 1945, that Adolph Hitler was dead – with Hitler’s ally, Benito Mussolini, having been executed by Italian partisans the day before – people the world over erupted in shouts of relief and joy. In May, Germany surrendered. Now, the United States and its allies could focus on a reeling Japan. Victory was imminent, and American troops (and NYPD members) would shortly return home.



Spontaneous celebration at the crossroads of the world on “Victory in Europe Day”

SPRINGTIME

APRIL, 1945



JUNE
1942

VICTORY OVER *Japan*

On the morning of September 2, 1945, formal surrender documents were signed in Tokyo Bay by representatives from the Empire of Japan and the Allied nations during a 23-minute ceremony held on the teak decks of the USS *Missouri*, a battleship built in the Brooklyn Navy Yard in the midst of World War II. The signing ceremony, broadcast throughout the world, designated the day as the official "Victory over Japan Day." In the midst of exultation, however, there was recognition that the true meaning of the day was best represented by those who were not present to celebrate: More than 400,000 Americans – including 24 members of the New York City Police Department – gave their lives to secure our nation's freedom.



SPRINGTIME

SEPT.-OCT., 1945





A MESSAGE FROM HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR

*F*OR the first time in four years we celebrate Christmas in a country at peace. For this Christmas gift we owe our thanks to Almighty God and to the men who fought and died on land, on the sea, and in the air to make it possible.

For the peace abroad we are indebted to the Army, Navy and Air Force, but for the peace in our own City we owe our thanks to you men of the Police Force, who, although shorthanded because of war conditions, and with civilian defense and anti-sabotage responsibilities added to your regular duties, did everything that was demanded of you and maintained a magnificent record for which you can be justly proud.

This is also the last of twelve Christmases in which I can address you as your Mayor. As Mayor let me say that I am proud of you and the City of New York is proud of you. There is no finer police force in the world and none that commands a greater respect from the people it serves. We have come a long way together and I shall miss you.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

F. H. La GUARDIA,
Mayor.



GREETINGS FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER



I AM happy at this time to extend to members of the Police Department and their families my sincere greetings and best wishes for a Joyous Christmas and a Healthful and Happy New Year.

Each and every member is assured of my appreciation for the splendid support given me since my appointment as Police Commissioner, and for the effective manner in which the functions of the Police Department have been carried out.

ARTHUR W. WALLANDER,
Police Commissioner.

EXTRA



DECEMBER, 1945



JUNE
1942

Home

American men and women began returning from foreign service to find a new world waiting to welcome them home. It would be the first winter holiday season celebrated at home, for many of them, in four years.

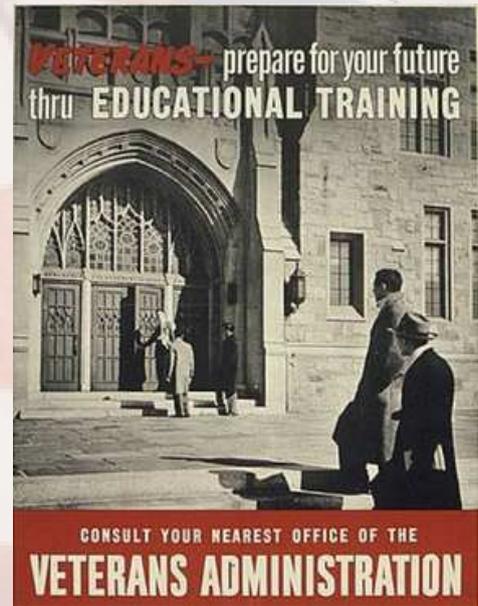
To reduce the possibility of postwar economic depression brought on by widespread unemployment, President Roosevelt signed what became known as the G.I. Bill days after the D-Day invasion of Normandy.

For the 15 million men and women returning home who had served in the armed services, the G.I. Bill now provided World War II veterans with funds for college education, unemployment insurance, and housing. New Yorkers, of course, also benefited from these new services as they reestablished their family lives and resumed their active police responsibilities as patrolmen and policewomen.

Within seven years, nationwide, approximately eight million veterans received education benefits. Under the act, about 2.3 million attended colleges and universities, 3.5 million received school training, and 3.4 million received on the job training.

The number of degrees awarded by U.S. colleges and universities more than doubled between 1940 and 1950, and the percentage of Americans with bachelor degrees or advanced degrees rose from 4.6 percent in 1945 to 25 percent a half-century later.

In New York City, demand for housing was already high across the five boroughs, but particularly among veterans. In response to the growing demands, and to help veterans improve their housing security and transition back to civilian life, city, state, and federal government funding was allocated for Emergency Temporary Housing for Veterans, providing a boom in veterans' housing through New York City. As the housing was viewed as "temporary," the projects situated on large plots of land rented by the city were developed simply and quickly.



JUNE
1942

Home

Bare-bones structures were a vast improvement over previous living situations, and nothing seemed impossible to many young families now surrounded by other veteran families. While the neighborhoods were not perfect -- many lacked paved roads and were not very close to public transportation -- the residents were willing to overlook these inconveniences in exchange for a roof over their heads.

The New York City that emerged from World War II was a dramatically different place than the city that had entered it four years earlier. The change was in large part due to the war itself, which had finally lifted the city out of the Depression and ushered in an era of unparalleled prosperity.

In that short span, the explosion in commercial activity brought on by the war had reignited the city's economic engine, carrying it to a level of economic power and dominance like nothing before or since. By the late 1940s, New York had become the world's largest manufacturing center; the nation's largest wholesaling center, accounting for one-fifth of all wholesale transactions in America; the world's biggest port, handling 40 percent of the nation's waterborne freight; and the world's financial capital.



The Queen Mary returns soldiers home to New York, 1945.

JUNE
1942

Home

By the end of 1946, New York's central economic position had been reinforced by a new role, one which the city had not enjoyed since 1790, when the nascent federal government had departed the city for Philadelphia and, ultimately, Washington, D.C. In December 1946, the United Nations selected New York as the location for its permanent headquarters. Work soon began on a 16-acre site along the East River, where a dazzling new complex would rise over the coming years. "New York is not a state capital or a national capital," the writer E. B. White observed, "but it is by way of becoming the capital of the world."

As the city boldly stepped into a new postwar era, however, the man who had done more than anyone else to ensure its greatness in the preceding decade-and-a-half would not be there to see it. On December 31, 1945, after 12 years in office, Mayor La Guardia finally stepped down. He was worn out by his three terms, and especially his final four years, when the constraints of wartime kept him from completing his visionary plans to reconstruct the city. Already ill with pancreatic cancer, he would live fewer than two years more, passing away on the night of September 20, 1947, at the age of 64.

For 12 long years, La Guardia had struggled to reconcile two competing visions of the city. Planners like Robert Moses had championed a city of tomorrow – beholden to the car and the highway, and to forces beyond the city's borders. An alternate vision embraced the old working city of Walt Whitman, Al Smith, and Emma Lazarus – the city of blocks, neighborhoods, and crowded streets that, however shabby and rundown in appearance, were New York's heartbeat. In the years following the war, as urban planners proposed remaking the city on a breathtaking scale, New York would begin to take leave of the past as never before, and rush headlong into the future.



SPRINGTIME

JANUARY, 1946



"Welcome Home, Son!"

CHARLES
HARRIS



Casualties of War

24 members of the New York City Police Department were killed while serving in the Armed Forces during World War II



**Patrolman
Thomas J. Brady**



**Patrolman
William T. Johnson**



**Patrolman
Edward J. Catalano**



**Patrolman
Ernest Thompson**



**Patrolman
James S. Clinton**



**Patrolman
James J. Freely**



**Patrolman
Harry R. Darde**



**Patrolman
Herbert J. Brauchler**



**Patrolman
William A. Burke**



**Patrolman
James A. McCullogh**



**Patrolman
Peter P. Vergano**



**Patrolman
Joseph F. Myers**



**Patrolman
James B. Doherty**



**Patrolman
John J. Fahy**



**Patrolman
Joseph L.C. Heinrich**



**Maurice M. Berek
Surgeon**



**Patrolman
Thomas G. Abbey**



**Patrolman
Joseph J. Connelly**



**Patrolman
Charles J. Licata**



**Patrolman
William Ronaghan**



**Patrolman
Robert Steinberg**



**Patrolman
James P. Kenny**



**Patrolman
Vincent J. Riemer**



**Patrolman
William H. Russell**

Casualties at Home



From December 1941 to January 1946, 24 police officers were killed in the Line of Duty within New York City.



Patrolman James P. Collins

EOW: November 29, 1941

Patrolman Thomas J. Casey

EOW: December 6, 1941

Patrolman William J. Rooney

EOW: June 20, 1942

Patrolman Joseph W. Swoboda

EOW: June 22, 1942

Patrolman Michael J. Keane

EOW: July 27, 1942

Detective Joseph A. Miccio

EOW: December 8, 1942

Patrolman Christopher J. Hughes

EOW: January 22, 1943

Patrolman Pasquale Venturelli

EOW: January 23, 1943

Patrolman Angelo Dimuro

EOW: February 27, 1943

Patrolman James J. Donovan

EOW: March 19, 1943

Lieutenant Ralph Martin

EOW: July 21, 1943

Sergeant Matthew McCormick

EOW: September 19, 1943

Patrolman Patrick J. Malone

EOW: January 5, 1944

Detective Eugene J. Mahoney

EOW: February 6, 1944

Patrolman Arthur F. Eggers

EOW: March 27, 1944

Sergeant Joseph Curtis

EOW: May 12, 1944

Patrolman Elliot Holmes

EOW: June 15, 1944

Detective Anthony J. McGinley

EOW: December 27, 1944

Patrolman Albert S. Black

EOW: March 1, 1945

Patrolman Jacob Szwedowski

EOW: April 29, 1945

Patrolman Howard H. Hegerich

EOW: July 30, 1945

Detective Frank McGrath

EOW: September 27, 1945

Patrolman James E. Bussey

EOW: October 28, 1945

Patrolman Francis G. McKeon

EOW: November 17, 1945

Fidelis Ad Mortem



Forever the Finest

180 Years

In honor of the NYPD's upcoming 180th anniversary, the police department has launched **Forever the Finest** – a campaign that celebrates, and provides greater visibility of, the department's many achievements.

If you would like to know more about this unique initiative, including the schedule of upcoming events, please use the QR code below to stay in touch.



We look forward to continuing to share the Department's stories.



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Strategic Initiatives Bureau

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