

# Tuskegee Airmen

Have you ever heard of the redtails? The planes of the 332nd were painted red, which led to the group's nickname, the "Red Tails. They were also known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Their primary missions were to escort bombers striking targets in Southern Europe. In paper I will describe the Tuskegee Airmen and their six guiding principles that led to their success.

President Roosevelt ordered the Air Corp to teach and train black pilots. They were trained first with black instructors who called them names to prepare them for their white instructors who did not want them. Plessy vs. Ferguson was a Supreme Court case that stated it is legal for blacks and whites to be separate as long as facilities were equal. Hence, it was at the time illegal to have an integrated military.[1]

The Tuskegee Airmen were Trained at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama, they flew more than 15,000 individual sorties in Europe and North Africa during World War II. In 1944, black bomber pilots were trained at Freeman, and it was the scene of a racial incident that outraged many Americans and led to the military re-evaluating its racial policies.[2]

With Red paint on the tails of their fighter aircraft, these men lived by six guiding principles: Aim High, Believe in Yourself, Use Your Brain, Be Ready to Go, Never Quit and Expect to Win. Tuskegee Airman Frank Macon "shares his memories". The Tuskegee airman taught me to never give up even when I fail. I have a chance to accomplish a goal.

## Work Cited

[1]"Tuskegee Airmen: Legacy of Courage." *History.com*, A&E Television Networks, [www.history.com/specials/tuskegee-airmen-legacy-of-courage](http://www.history.com/specials/tuskegee-airmen-legacy-of-courage).

[2]"Tuskegee Airmen History." *CAF RISE ABOVE*, 15 Apr. 2020, [cafriseabove.org/the-tuskegee-airmen/tuskegee-airmen-history/](http://cafriseabove.org/the-tuskegee-airmen/tuskegee-airmen-history/).