

The Greatest Generation

04-30-2012 by Harry Zirkelbach

Tom Brokaw dubbed the men and women who fought in World War II as the greatest generation, then highlighted individuals who were really extraordinary. It was good Salesmanship.

*Hidden in statistics and facts, ninety-eight percent of those serving were Reservists.
Congress and the military leadership decided that the draft was not a funnel to the Regular Army, and in fact, win or lose (never a consideration from the Administration) those forced to enter through the draft would be systematically ejected from the military with victory. So all, Enlisted and Officer, were Reservists, a huge augmentation to the small Reserve for Navy and Army contingents of the 1930s, with little increase in the Regular Armed Forces,*