

I'm Proud of You Folks Too!: World War II Poster  
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where he would be commissioned to be a Lieutenant, Junior Grade in the Navy. He performed various duties, from meager mine-sweeping to something that suited his talent more completely, working for the Public Relations Department in Washington D. C. <sup>2</sup>

In 1944, a poster that states, "I'm proud of you folks too!" was released to the public after its mass production, courtesy of the U.S. Government Printing Office.<sup>3</sup> Though this poster could be included in a small sub-genre consisting only of Whitcomb-created war propaganda, it is still a part of hundreds of American propaganda posters, all coming from various illustrators and governmental divisions. Panoplies of posters were created, each with a different intentions in mind, ranging from those which focused on conserving food and war-valuables to those which blatantly expressed the desire to have more citizens enlist for war. These images inspired citizens and redirected their war-created angst into something more beneficial. It allowed them to assist in the war effort through work within the boundaries of their nation and even at home; now, people did not have to fight overseas to fight in the war.

However, the United States was not the only government seeking to persuade the public mind with its own war effort.

According to Philip M. Taylor, World War II 'witnessed the greatest propaganda battle in the history of warfare.' All the participants employed propaganda on a scale that dwarfed that of other conflicts, including World War I.<sup>4</sup>

America and Great Britain were already competing against Germany in a physical battle, so why not in propaganda as well?

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<sup>2</sup> *Daley Illustrations Art Gallery*. n.d. 25 January 2013 <<http://www.daleyillustrationgallery.com/bio.cfm?id=562>>.

<sup>3</sup>

To decipher the meaning behind this particular poster, the objects in the picture must be examined. The poster illustrates a Navy soldier, who is still in full garb, hardily shaking an elderly factory laborer's hand. There is a young woman, who is also a laborer, excitedly smiling behind the elderly man whilst the greeting is being exchanged. There are no images in the background. However, one can determine that this interaction is taking place in a factory due to a sort of manufacturing equipment in the foreground as well as the man and woman still clad in

