

# Propaganda

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines propaganda as: The manipulation of information to influence public opinion. A person living in the United States during World War II would have been exposed to many examples of propaganda on a day-to-day basis.

## **Think about:**

- What groups were responsible for making these posters?
- Why were these posters created?
- How do these posters show propaganda?
- How do you think Americans at the time felt about the posters?



WARNING! Our Homes Are in Danger Now!

Produced by the General Motors Corporation, 1942  
NARA Still Picture Branch  
(NWDNS-44-PA-2314)

[http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/warning/warning.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/warning/warning.html)



**Title:** Waiting for the signal from home...

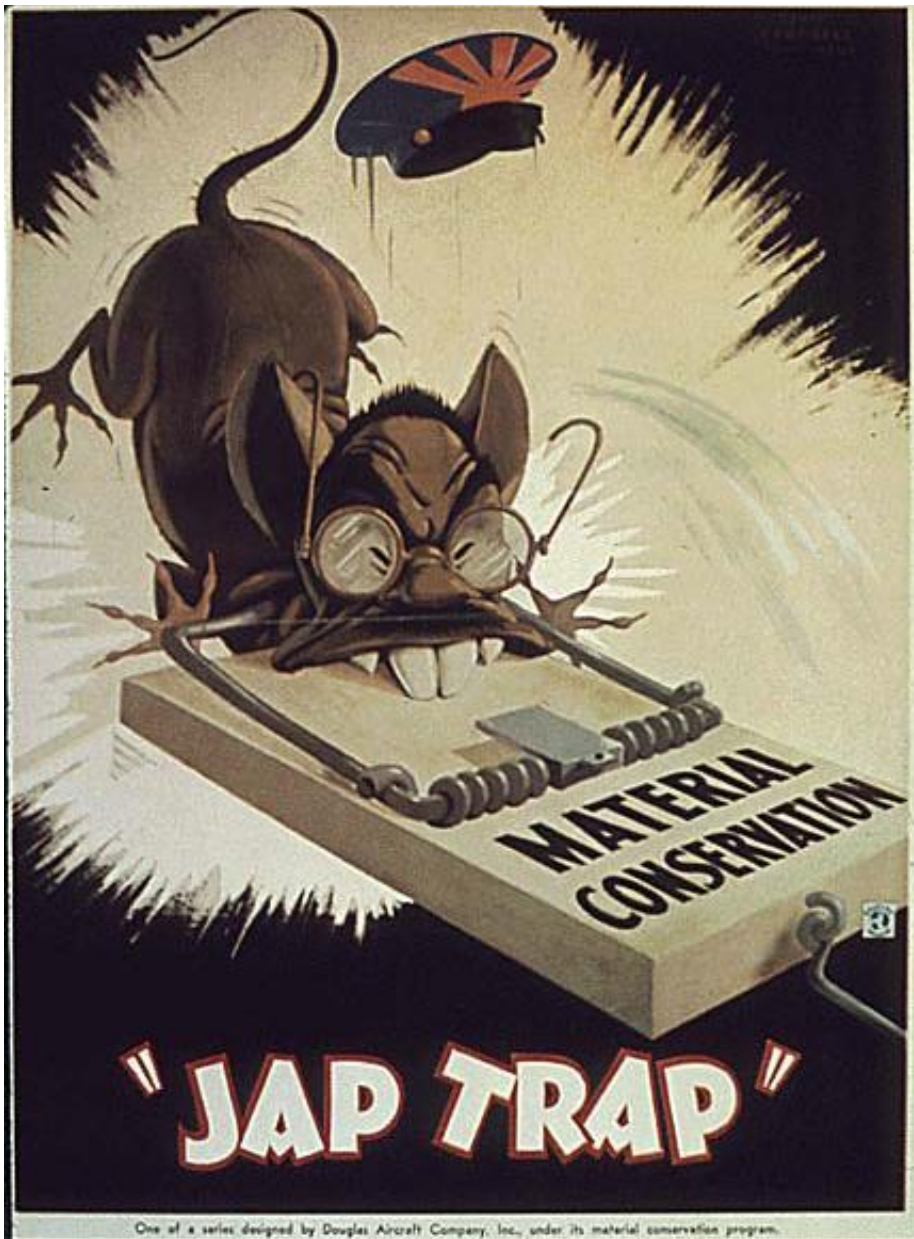
**Creator:** Seuss, Dr., 1904-1991

Geisel, Theodor Seuss, 1904-1991

**Publisher:** PM Magazine

**Date:** February 13, 1942

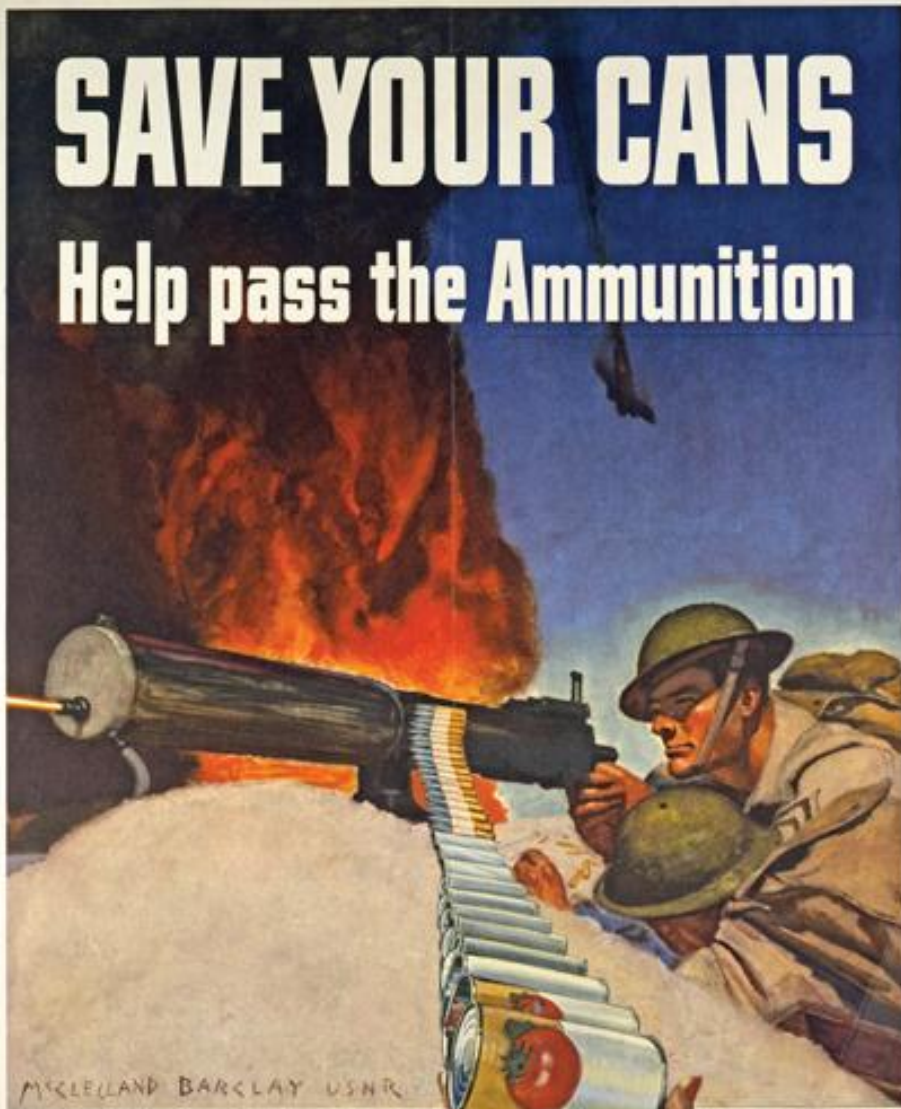
**Cite As:** Waiting for the signal from home..., published by PM Magazine on February 13, 1942, Dr. Seuss Collection, MSS 230. Mandeville Special Collections Library, UC San Diego



Source: "Jap Trap," World War II propaganda poster, United States Information Service, 1941–45. From Densho Digital Archive, <http://www.densho.org/>. Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration (Ctrl.#: NWDNS-44-PA-2156; Office of Government Reports. United States Information Service. Division of Public Inquiry. Bureau of Special Services, OWI), denshopd-i37-00498 (accessed October 14, 2009).



"I pay no more than top legal prices" sticker  
Private Collection



**PREPARE YOUR TIN CANS  
FOR WAR**

- 1 REMOVE TOPS AND BOTTOMS
- 2 TAKE OFF PAPER LABELS
- 3 WASH THOROUGHLY
- 4 FLATTEN FIRMLY



EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN, 1942, PRODUCTION NUMBER

“Save Your Cans” poster  
Office of Price Administration  
National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

**"This is a people's war, and to win it the people should know as much about it as they can. This Office will do its best to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, both at home and abroad.**

**Military information that will aid the enemy must be withheld; but within that limitation we shall try to give the people a clear, complete and accurate picture."**

*July 10, 1942*

*Elmer Davis*  
*Director*

"This is a people's war..." poster (July 10, 1942)  
Office of War Information  
National Archives and Records Administration

## "United We Win"

This 1943 government poster offers an image of racial solidarity among wartime workers under the slogan "United We Win."



**Source** | Alexander Liberman (photographer), "United We Win," poster (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office for the War Manpower Commission, 1943); from National Archives, "Powers of Persuasion: Poster Art from World War II," [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers\\_of\\_persuasion/united\\_we\\_win/images\\_html/united\\_we\\_win.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/powers_of_persuasion/united_we_win/images_html/united_we_win.html). **Creator** | Alexander Liberman/War Manpower Commission **Item Type** | Poster/Print **Cite This document** | Alexander Liberman/War Manpower Commission, "'United We Win'," *HERB: Resources for Teachers*, accessed November 29, 2012, <http://herb.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/1216>.