



Primary Source Information

Title: Negro Marines prepare for action...

Creator(s): Smith, Roger, photographer

Date Created/Published: 1943 Mar.

Notes: Farm Security Administration - Office of War Information Photograph Collection.

Call Number: LC-USW3- 022973-C [P&P]

URL: <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/owi2001024282/PP/>

Information about the Source from the Library of Congress

Negro Marines prepare for action. Breaking a tradition of 167 years, the U.S. Marine Corps started enlisting Negroes on June 1, 1942. The first class of 1,200 Negro volunteers began their training three months later as members of the 51st Composite Defense Battalion at Montford Point, a section of the 200 square mile Marine Base, Camp Lejeune, at New River, North Carolina. Evidence of the lack of racial friction may be seen in the sports program at the camp. On the baseball team Negro enlistees and white non-com officers are teammates. Camp Lejeune has its own baseball league, with the Montford Point team a strong contender for championship honors.

