



# AIRMEN WHO BROKE BARRIERS

**A**viation captivated young men before World War II, regardless of their skin color. But few Black enthusiasts had access, means or opportunity until the Civil Pilot Training program. Lincoln University of Missouri and the old Jefferson Airfield offered the only program west of the Mississippi River exclusively for Black pilots. Fulfilling the dream of the school's founders, many successful Lincolmites joined the Tuskegee Airmen, the first U.S. military aviation units. Wendell Pruitt's aerial acrobatics were legendary, and Wilbur Long was one of twenty-two to survive Nazi POW camps. Clovis Bordeaux went on to be one of the first Black rocket scientists, and Charles Anderson became a pioneer in satellite meteorology. Michelle Brooks explores Lincoln's men and moments in their pursuit of Double Victory.



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THE JEFFERSON CITY CIVIL PILOTS



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*From Lincoln University to Tuskegee Airmen*

MICHELLE BROOKS

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