



Sergeant French L. Vineyard, welder George Woolslayer, and aviation-radio chief John Marshall Evans pose before the poster that made their faces known nationally and brought them together.

# A POSTER COMES TO LIFE

By Brian Butko, Director of Publications





In 1941, the Office of War Information sent Alfred Palmer to photograph men who would serve as models for a patriotic poster. An artist selected three: Sgt. French L. Vineyard, U.S. Army; aviation-radio chief John Marshall Evans, U.S. Navy; and George Woolslayer, a welder at Allegheny Ludlum steel mill, 20 miles northeast of Pittsburgh in Brackenridge. The result was “Men Working Together,” a poster showing that everyone contributed to the war effort in their own way.

Once the poster was out, Woolslayer wrote to the OWI to ask about his two colleagues: “I want to tell you that it makes me quite proud to be part of a war poster. Can you let me have the name of the soldier and sailor in the poster. I feel I’d like to know them, and would like to write to them.”

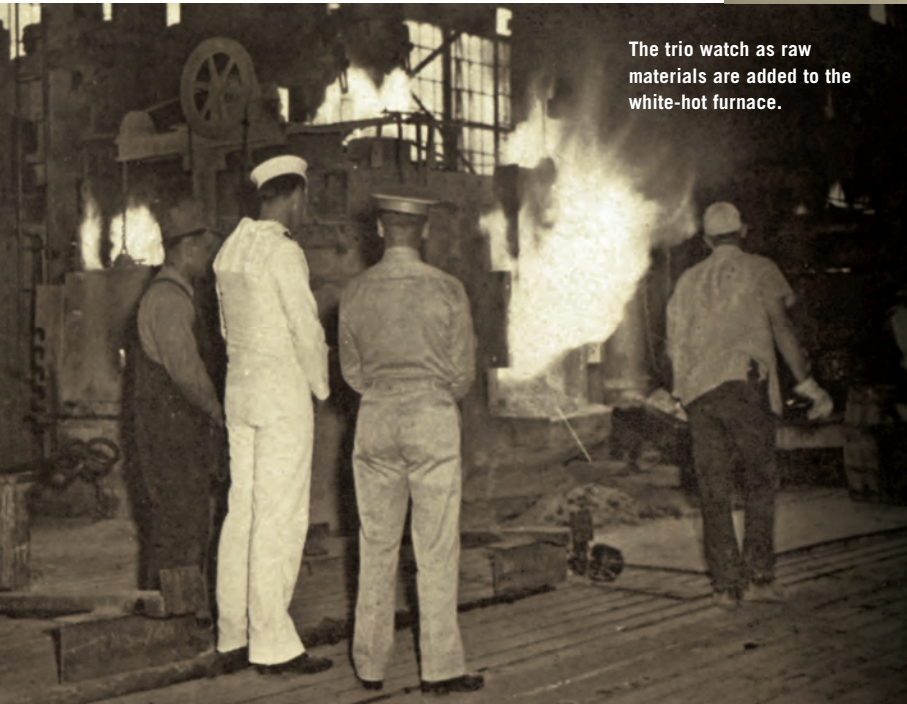
The OWI went a step further by arranging for the men to visit each other at work and home. The first meeting was at Allegheny Ludlum. Speaking to a crowd of steelworkers, Navy man Evans told them, “I know now where we get the stuff for battleships and guns—and even radio parts. And with men like you producing this stuff we need and backing us up, we can’t lose this war.”

The three meetings were profiled in a 1942 magazine produced by Allegheny Ludlum, *Steel Horizons*. Most of the photos plus many others are now cared for by the Library of Congress.

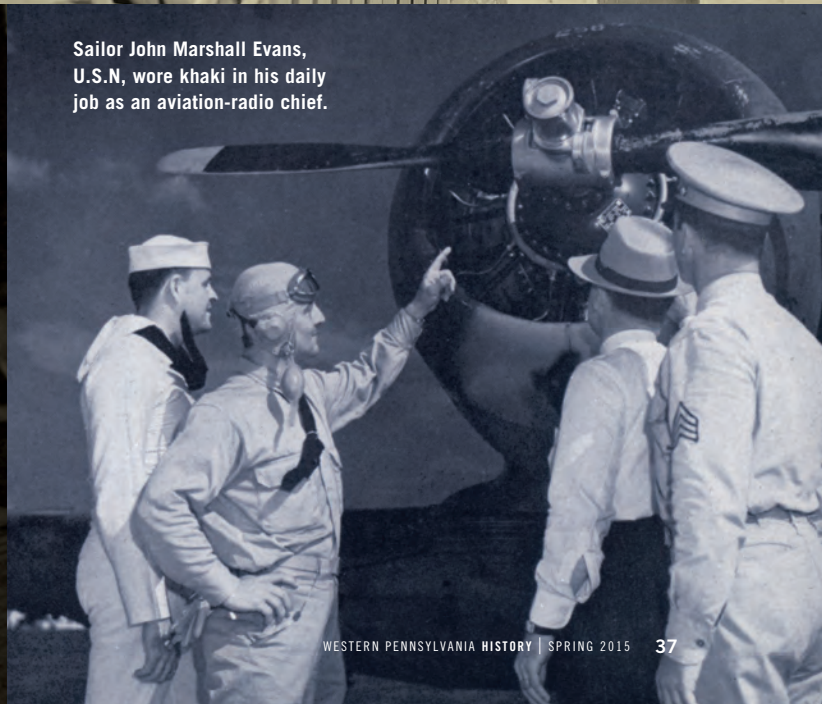
“Never got so close to one of these babies before” said Woolslayer (right) when he was shown an army jeep at the post where Vineyard (center) was stationed.



In November 1941, an OWI artist pieced together photos of the soldier, sailor and welder on the first rough layout of “Men Working Together.”  
All LoC LOT 1895.



The trio watch as raw materials are added to the white-hot furnace.



Sailor John Marshall Evans, U.S.N. wore khaki in his daily job as an aviation-radio chief.