

From *New York Times* bestselling author Molly Guptill Manning comes *The War of Words*, the captivating story of how American troops in World War II wielded pens to tell their own stories as they made history.

At a time when civilian periodicals faced strict censorship, US Army Chief of Staff George Marshall won the support of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to create an expansive troop-newspaper program. Both Marshall and FDR recognized that there was a second struggle taking place outside the battlefields of World War II—the war of words. While Hitler inundated the globe with propaganda, morale across the US Army dwindled. As the Axis blurred the lines between truth and fiction, the best defense was for American troops to bring the truth into focus by writing it down and disseminating it themselves.

By war's end, over 4,600 unique GI publications had been printed around the world. In newsprint, troops made sense of their hardships, losses, and reasons for fighting. These newspapers—by and for the troops—became the heart and soul of a unit.

From Normandy to the shores of Japan, American soldiers exercised a level of free speech the military had never known nor would again. It was an extraordinary chapter in American democracy and military history. In the war for “four freedoms,” it was remarkably fitting that troops fought not only with guns but with their pens.

MOLLY GUPTILL MANNING is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *When Books Went to War* as well as *The Myth of Ephraim Tutt*. She has published articles in the *Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts* and the *Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy*. She was a supervisory staff attorney for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York City and is currently an associate professor at New York Law School.

ELISABETH RODGERS is an actress and AudioFile Earphones Award-winning narrator. After graduating from Princeton University, she completed a two-year program at William Esper Studio. She has recorded dozens of books for a multitude of publishers.

READ BY ELISABETH RODGERS

Running Time: 6½ Hours • Unabridged

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