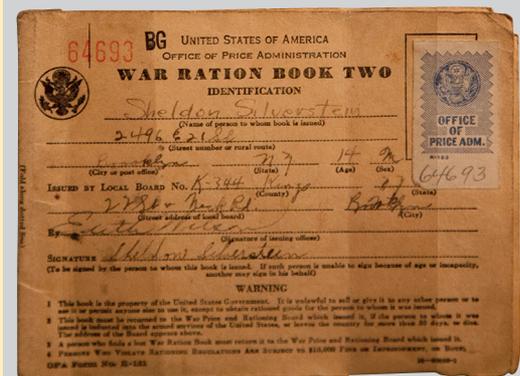


## Primary Sources

# Jean Faulk, Memories of Growing Up During World War II

Jean Faulk was a young girl in St. Petersburg, Florida, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. She would carry the memories of that day and of the war years throughout her life.

▶ A ration book, 1943



Sunday, December 7, 1941 . . . [We were out in the yard] when an uncle and aunt arrived. With a very solemn face he asked my dad what he thought of the news. . . .

That was the way we learned of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Immediately the “grown-ups” . . . went into the house and turned the radio on. The women started crying. The men started talking in hushed tones.

A favorite uncle had recently been released after four years in the U. S. Marine Corps and knew he had to “re-up,” or be drafted. All other draft age relatives immediately started flooding the Draft Boards and on Monday morning our family was well represented with volunteers. The young ex-Marine (age 22) reenlisted, and was later killed in the South Pacific. . . .

Ration books and coins ① were issued to all residents and were necessary for the purchase of butter, meat, sugar, and gasoline. Since my dad worked at night and there was no public transportation, he would mix his gas with kerosene ② to have enough to go back and forth to work six nights a week.

A garden was a necessity. We also had goats for milk, chickens for eggs, and rabbits for additional meat.

Everything that could be used in the “war effort” was collected by the school children. We took great pride in collecting newspapers, rubber bands, and the wrapping from chewing gum ③.

## Analyzing Primary Sources

Cite specific evidence from the document to support your answers.

1. **Identify Cause and Effect** Why were the women crying and the men talking in hushed voices after hearing of the attack?
2. **Analyze Information** How did children contribute to the war effort?

## Reading and Vocabulary Support

- ① The federal Office of Price Administration issued ration books to limit how much of key goods any individual or family could obtain. No one could purchase rationed items, such as butter or beef, without having a ration stamp or coin.
- ② Kerosene is a fuel made from petroleum that was once commonly used for heating and lamps.
- ③ Recycled newspaper and other scrap paper was used for packing armaments. Rubber bands were recycled as tires. Recycled metal foil wrapping from gum, candy, and other products was used in making weapons.