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## Colonel Johnson's Newspaper History of the World War II, Vol I

Scott Baker

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# MOORLAND-SPINGARN RESEARCH CENTER

Howard University. Washington, D.C. 20059



COLONEL JOHNSONS' NEWSPAPER  
HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II

Scott W. Aker

NOVEMBER 15, 1985

VOLUME ONE, BOOK A



SERVED 51 YEARS IN THE ARMY THROUGH 4 WARS, FROM 1917-1968

# Campbell Johnson Dies, Senior Colonel in Army

Campbell C. Johnson, 72, the senior colonel on active duty in the Army and assistant director of Selective Service, died Thursday at his home, 800 4th St. SW, apparently from a heart attack.

A District native, he attended elementary school in Alexandria as well as in the District, and was graduated from the M Street High School here.

He was attending Howard University when World War I broke out, and he volunteered for Army service. He was commissioned in 1917 and assigned to the 350th Field Artillery at Camp Dix, N.J., where he organized and commanded the war's first battery of field artillery composed of Negro troops.

He was transferred here later to assist in organizing the Students Army Training Corps Instructors Camp at Howard and also to serve as senior military instructor of the unit.

He organized the ROTC unit at the university in 1919, and became the school's first professor of military science and tactics.

He later received a bachelor's degree from Howard, and a doctor of laws degree cum laude from its law school.

## Discharged in 1919

He was discharged from service in 1919 and was employed at the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, which is now in the Veterans Administration. In 1923 he became executive secretary of the 12th Street Branch of the YMCA.

In 1940 President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed him executive assistant to the Selective Service director. Col. Johnson had remained active in the Army Reserve from his discharge until he was recalled to active duty in 1941. He then was assigned to his civilian Selective Service job as a member of the Army.

In 1948 he became assistant to the director of Selective Service, and four years ago was named assistant director. In his position he supervised the administrative functions of the system.

Active in community affairs here, he served on the first board of trustees of the Washington Community Chest, and also with the National Capital Housing Authority; Southeast, Northwest and Southwest Community Houses; and the YMCA's Camp Lichtman for Negro boys.

For more than 20 years he was a member of the District's Board of Parole, and for 15 years taught sociology in the Howard University School of Religion.

Col. Johnson received Howard's first Annual Alumni Award for Distinguished Post



COL. CAMPBELL C. JOHNSON

Graduate Achievement in 1942. Other citations include the Washington Federation of Churches award for the outstanding layman in the District for 1944-45.

## Received Distinguished Medal

In 1946, when he was presented the Distinguished Service Medal, he was only the second Negro soldier to receive it. He also was awarded the Army Commendation Medal and received two citations from the District Board of Commissioners.

Col. Johnson was a member of the National Council and Board of the YMCA, the board of the Industrial Bank of Washington, and of Friendship House. He also belonged to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Washington Committee of CARE, the national USO, and the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church.

He served on the Commissioners Committee of Award for Valor in the District police and fire departments, and was a member of the Washington Commission on Mental Retardation; Government Services, Inc.; the Commission on Interracial Policies and Programs of the national YMCA and was a former Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi.

Besides his wife, the former Ruby A. Murray, he leaves a son, Campbell Jr. of Sacramento, Calif., and five grandchildren. His sister, Mrs. Eudora Winters of 530 N St. SW, is principal of the Lewis School.

Friends may call from 3 to 9 p.m. tomorrow at the McGuire Funeral Home, 1820 9th St. NW, and from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, 19th and I Streets NW, where services will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday.

Burial will be in Arlington Cemetery.

THE EVENING STAR  
Washington, D. C.  
Saturday, August 24, 1968

REFERENCE NOTES: MUSEUM FILE, WWII

Influential white people in  
World War II Policy.

For Black People

Lt. GEN. John C. H. Lee  
GEN. Eisenhower  
ADM. Charles Snyder  
Addison Walker  
President Roosevelt  
LCDR Armstrong  
Paul McNutt  
ADM King  
ADlai Stevenson  
LCDR Chris Sargent  
Sec Nav James Forrestal  
CAP. Mildred McAFEE  
GEN. Gerald Thomas, USMC  
GEN. Vandegift, USMC  
ADM. Nimitz

Against Black People

GEN. Omar Bradley  
GEN Walter Smith  
Sec Nav Frank Knox  
GEN. G. C. Marshall  
GEN. Henry "Hap" Arnold  
GEN. Holcomb, USMC  
ADM. Jacobs  
Sec War Stimson  
GEN. Lucian Truscott.

MOORLAND-SPINGARN RESEARCH CENTER

Howard University Washington, D.C. 20059

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DICTIONARY  
OF AMERICAN  
NEGRO  
BIOGRAPHY

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*Edited by*

RAYFORD W. LOGAN

MICHAEL R. WINSTON

**JOHNSON, CAMPBELL CARRINGTON** (1895–1968), army officer and social worker. He was born in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 30, 1895, the son of the Rev. William Henry and Ellen Berry (Lee) Johnson. His father served at different periods as pastor of Israel Baptist Church in Washington, and Beulah and Liberty Bap-

tist Churches in Alexandria, Va. The young Johnson received his education in those cities. Following his graduation from Washington's M Street High School in 1913, he worked at various jobs to earn college tuition, enrolling in Howard University in the fall of that year. When he was forced by lack of funds to withdraw before the school year was over, he returned to work, but reentered Howard in 1915. His education was interrupted once again in 1917 by World War I. He volunteered, and entered the Officers Training Corps at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, receiving his commission as first lieutenant of infantry on Oct. 15, 1917. He was assigned to the 350th Field Artillery at Camp Dix, N.J., where he organized and commanded Battery A, the war's first battery of field artillery composed of Negro troops. He served as commander until 1918 when all Negro officers in the regiment were relieved of command. The organization left for overseas duty under white officers who had been attached to the regiment for several weeks and had trained under its Negro officers. He was transferred to Washington to assist in the organization of the Student Army Training Corps Instructors' Camp at Howard University, where he served as senior military instructor until the unit's demobilization on Dec. 21, 1918. In November of that year he married Ruby Etta Murray, of Alexandria, Va., by whom he had one son, Campbell Carrington Jr. After the Armistice he received orders to assist in the organization of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit at Howard University. The organization was completed on Feb. 3, 1919, and with the rank of captain he taught military science and tactics there. Following his discharge from the service later that year, he was appointed to the section in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance (now the Veterans Administration) which handled insurance and compensation claims of Negro veterans. He was later made chief of this section and served until he resigned in 1923.

In 1920 he received a B.S. degree from Howard University's College of Liberal Arts and in 1922 an LL.B. degree *cum laude* from its School of Law. He was admitted to practice before the North Carolina and District of Columbia bars in 1922, and during the years 1922 to 1926 he maintained a limited law practice in the District of Columbia.

In 1923 he became executive secretary of the Twelfth Street (later the Anthony Bowen) Branch of the YMCA of Washington, a position he held for seventeen years. It was during his administration that this institution showed steadily increasing progress in every department. His success resulted in his being made director of a training institute for Negro YMCA secretaries held at Bordentown, N.J. During this period he was also active in community organization and race relations in Washington. He was one of the first to see the advantages of the Community Chest method of fundraising campaigns. He assisted in the organization of the district's Community Chest, and as a member of its original Board of Trustees, obtained from this body a formal statement of policy that it would operate without discrimination as to race or color. He helped organize neighborhood settlement houses sustained by the chest

in the southeast, southwest, and northwest sections of the city. Concerned about their lack of recreational facilities, in the summer of 1932 he established a camp for Negro boys of Washington. He operated it for one season with voluntary contributions. The following year he persuaded A. E. Lichtman, a Washington theater owner; to donate funds to establish an improved facility to be known as Camp Lichtman. Through his efforts this camp was later moved to a more desirable site provided by the Interior Department. He spoke throughout the city advocating the admission of Negro churches to the Washington Federation of Churches (later the Council of Churches). After first turning down the proposal, the federation not only agreed to admit them, but later became one of the strongest factors in desegregation in the city. From 1939 to 1960 he was a member of the Board of Parole of the District of Columbia, serving as chairman for the last fourteen years. From 1932 to 1947 he served as instructor in social science in the School of Religion at Howard University. Although interested in many phases of social welfare, housing was his principal and continuing interest. He considered adequate housing basic to the solution of some of the most serious social problems. He was one of the organizers of the Washington Housing Association which dealt, in an advisory capacity, with problems of public housing in the district.

In 1940 Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed him executive assistant to Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, the director of Selective Service, National Headquarters, Washington. He was assigned to this civilian Selective Service job as a member of the army since he had remained active in the U.S. Army Reserve from the time of his discharge in 1919 until this recall to duty. By 1943 he had attained the rank of colonel. His duties with Selective Service included interpreting the system to persons affected by it. His many speeches and public statements directed to Negro veterans showed his concern for their successful readjustment to civilian life. He was an effective member of the Committee on the Participation of Negroes in the National Defense Program (1940–1942), which persuaded President Roosevelt to assign eligible Negro reserve officers to new Negro regiments and to give Negroes an opportunity to earn reserve commissions, if officer candidate schools were established for selectees (Franklin D. Roosevelt to Rayford W. Logan, chairman, Nov. 7, 1940, Roosevelt Papers, Hyde Park, N.Y.).

In March 1946 he was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon; in May of that year he was awarded the Army Distinguished Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious service in carrying out his military assignment. In the citation accompanying the award, he was declared responsible for the solution of problems pertaining to the rights, privileges, and obligations of minority racial groups affected by the Selective Training and Service Act, approved Sept. 16, 1940. In 1947 he was assigned as executive assistant to the director, Office of Selective Service Records. In 1948, at the time of the reorganization of the National Headquarters, he was assigned as assistant to the director, Selective Service System.



In June 1950 he was appointed by President Truman as a member of the National Capital Housing Authority and later was elected its vice-chairman. He secured from this body the passage of a resolution ending official segregation in public housing in the District of Columbia.

In 1964 he was assigned as assistant director of the Selective Service System. His duties consisted of supervision of the administrative functions of the system, including organization, management, personnel, incentive awards, supplies, printing, statistics, and race relations. At the time of his death he held this position with the rank of a senior colonel on active duty in the U.S. Army. His death at his home in Washington on Aug. 22, 1968, followed a heart attack. Buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery, he was survived by his widow, his son, Campbell Jr., his sister Eudora H. Winters, five grandchildren, and other relatives.

In 1968 a posthumous Legion of Merit and Distinguished Service Award was presented to his widow and son. He was cited for inspiring leadership, for contributing significantly to the successful mission of the Selective Service System, and was lauded as a pioneer in equal opportunity for minorities.

His papers contain a wealth of information and his personal views on a large number of vital issues. For instance, he stated on June 7, 1950, with respect to the Negroes at the Officers Training Camp, Fort Des Moines, Iowa (1917), that "the Government was still undecided whether to commission those Negroes who had now fulfilled all the necessary training requirements." If the trainees desired to remain another month, by that time the army would have made up its mind. Some good men, many of whom had left jobs and families, quit in disgust. By the end of the additional month the War Department "did determine that it would use a certain number of Negro officers in a separate division." In a memorandum of March 4, 1941, he had suggested that specially trained Negro reserve officers might be utilized in the new Negro units. A few weeks later (March 21, 1941) he criticized the lack of opportunities for Negroes to attend West Point and Annapolis—none had graduated from the Naval Academy and none between Charles Young in 1889 and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., in 1936, from West Point.

Johnson pointed out on Aug. 28, 1942, that the high degree of illiteracy among Negro selectees could be reduced by utilizing Negro educators in the South—yet he was the only Negro present at a meeting to discuss the subject. He further emphasized that federal funds would have to be used since states could not be depended on to help reduce illiteracy.

At least as early as February 1944 he was concerned about the postwar world. Young people did not want to be subjected to a "way of life where honor, decency and fair play are unknown." A year later he stated that discrimination by manufacturers, labor unions, and individuals had not disappeared "as though by magic." Even so, "we must not let this fact deter us from our duty, nor weaken our loyalty" but should "continue to press for the removal of all" disabilities. Achievement

of this goal "may be one of the significant factors in determining whether America actually won the war!" He pointed out in November 1944 that Negroes in service units had learned skills which would be helpful after the war was over, whereas those in combat training had "been taught skills in killing and maiming which, it is hoped, they will speedily forget upon their return."

Two of Johnson's other major interests included housing and home rule for the District of Columbia. With respect to housing, he stated on Feb. 1, 1951, as a member of the National Capital Housing Authority, that the question in Washington was not whether there should be integration, but how it should be done. On Nov. 14, 1952, he wrote that "there are no sound reasons against permitting the residents of the District of Columbia to govern themselves."

Johnson was a man of great intellectual integrity, with high standards of conduct for all, himself included. In his personal relations he was invariably charming and amiable. The functions he performed were both difficult and controversial because he stood between those too slow to change and those who seemed too much in a hurry for change. From both groups he gained respect and concessions which brought change where there had been little before. He was a man of dynamic energy whose activities within his community were numerous and varied. Forty-eight civic, social welfare, educational, and religious organizations with which he had been affiliated presented him with a scroll in recognition of twenty-five years of distinguished service to the Washington community.

Sources of information include materials provided by his son and his sister, Eudora H. Winters. A major portion of his voluminous papers is in the Moorland-Spin-garn Research Center, Howard University, and contains an informal, unfinished autobiography, copies of his speeches, published articles, and numerous clippings about his career. See also *Who's Who in America* (1966-1967), Rayford W. Logan's *Howard University: The First Hundred Years, 1867-1967* (1969), and the *Howard University Record* (vol. 13, May 1919).

—CHARLOTTE S. PRICE





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SMITH, JOHN WELLMAN.

"Eyes" comes from Kentucky. Tau Delta Sigma. He attended Hampton Institute. Also Ohio State University. During the war was Regimental Sergeant Major, 8th Ill. Candidate for Officers' Training School. "Aim high." Will practice law in Ohio.

JOHNSON, CAMPBELL CARRINGTON.

District of Columbia. Omega Psi Phi. Graduated from Dunbar High School; also Howard University, B. S. Degree. Member of American Legion. Veteran Relief Officer. Member of Negro American Veterans of the World War, National Vice Chairman. Commissioned First Lieutenant, O. R. C., Des Moines, Iowa, 1917. Battery Commander, Battery A, 350th Field Artillery. Senior Military Instructor, S. A. T. C., Howard University. Commissioned Captain, Infantry, U. S. A. Member of the Stylus Kappa Sigma Debating Society, Alpha Phi Literary Society. "Viam reperiam an faciam." Has not determined where he will practice law.

SYKES, HORATIO C.

Hails from Virginia. Tau Delta Sigma. Attended public schools of Virginia. Also graduated from Norfolk Mission. Was Associate Justice, Tau Delta Sigma. Member of Masonic Lodge. Was employed in the Dupont Powder Plant during the recent war. Motto: "Nothing but the best is good enough." Will practice law in Virginia.

# Promote Major Johnson To Lieutenant Colonel In Army

WASHINGTON—The War Department announced this week the promotion on May 13, 1942, of Major Campbell C. Johnson to Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, to rank from February 1, 1942.

Colonel Johnson, executive assistant to Major General Lewis B. Hershey, director of the Selective Service System, will continue for the present in that position, the War Department said.



JOHNSON

## COMMISSIONED IN '17

Commissioned a first lieutenant October 15, 1917, during World War 1, Colonel Johnson was promoted to the rank of Captain a year later. In 1919 he was detailed to organize the reserve officers training corps at Howard University, and became the first

professor of military science and tactics at that institution.

September 11, 1929, he was appointed a major in the organized reserve corps, U. S. Army, which rank he had held until his present promotion.

Colonel Johnson was, at the time of his appointment as executive assistant to the Selective Service director, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street YMCA here.

## BAR MEMBER

He is a member of the bar of the District of Columbia and North Carolina; member of the Board of Indeterminate Sentence and Parole of the District of Columbia; national director of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Achievement Project, and a member of numerous civic and public welfare organizations.

His appointment as executive assistant to Major General Hershey in October, 1940, was widely acclaimed. Appointed to his position before the first draft registration, Colonel Johnson was instrumental in seeing to it that Negroes got in on the ground

floor of the Selective Service System.

## HELPED RACE

Through his influence and recommendations, Negroes occupy positions in the Selective Service System as government appeal agents, draft board members and chairman, medical examiners, and in all other capacities for which they are qualified.

It is thought that the activity of Colonel Johnson has been the reason why the Selective Service System has been practically void of racial discrimination in any part of the country.

Norfolk  
Journal  
and  
Guide

MAY 23, 1942

## Campbell Johnson Made A Colonel

WASHINGTON. — (ANP)—Promoted to a full colonelcy, Campbell Johnson, executive assistant to Maj. Gen. Hershey of the selective service system, assumed his new rank last week with no other changes in his duties noted. Col. Johnson, long known for his splendid record in civic work and in social work in this city, was appointed to his post early in the war and retained his title of major

Chicago  
DEFENDER

OCTOBER  
2,  
1943



Col. Campbell O. Johnson, one of few Negroes to be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, is congratulated by Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service. Johnson, an executive assistant to Hershey, was cited for his "exceptionally meritorious service to the solution of problems pertaining to the rights, privileges and obligations of minority racial groups affected by the Selective Service Act."

PM  
NEWSPAPER  
MAY 21, 1946



LT.-COL. JOHNSON

## Draft Aide Promoted To Lieut.-Colonel

WASHINGTON—The War Department has announced the promotion of Major Campbell C. Johnson to Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, to rank from February 1, 1942.

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—A Colored Judge—

Washington  
Afro-American  
February 9,  
12,  
1942

# *Protecting The WWII Black Press*

**A QUESTION OF SEDITION  
The Federal Government's  
Investigation of the Black  
Press During World War II**

By Patrick S. Washburn  
Oxford University Press. 296 pp.  
\$19.95.

By Alan Gropman

America has called upon its black citizens to fight in all its wars, but whenever this country was actually fighting, it also demanded that blacks be silent about the discrimination they suffer. White leaders have persistently considered blacks disloyal or worse for airing their abundant grievances in wartime. Patrick S. Washburn examines this depressing phenomenon in his new book, "A Question of Sedition."

Fast paced, well written and intensively researched and documented, this solid history should gain wide popularity.

Washburn's hero is Francis Biddle, attorney general during World War II, who was determined that the intolerance of dissent that marked American entry into World War I would not be repeated. His villains are a legion of agents and agencies determined to undermine all those who spoke out against discrimination. Biddle found himself taking on his own subordinate, J. Edgar Hoover, as well as his boss, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was suspicious of all the press (and especially black newspapers), in addition to Postmaster General Frank Walker and numerous other government agencies. All tried to manage and, in the case of Hoover and Walker, silence the black press.

Biddle gave censors no sanction. He came into office in the troubled summer of 1941 and announced: "The most important job an attorney general can do in a time of emergency is to protect civil liberties." His World War I counterpart, A. Mitchell Palmer, had

sponsored and overenforced the Espionage Act of 1917 and the Sedition Act of 1918, which made it all but illegal to criticize the government during wartime. Biddle, however, said he intended to use his office "to see that civil liberties in this country are protected, that we do not again fall into the disgraceful hysteria of witch hunts, strike breakings and minority persecutions which were such a dark chapter in our record of the last World War."

Biddle did more than talk. He actively opposed the evacuation of West Coast Japanese-Americans as "ill-advised, unnecessary and unnecessarily cruel." He also desegregated the cafeteria in the Justice Department at a time when the only place in Washington where blacks could eat with whites was the railroad station restaurant.

His most tireless opponent, Hoover, was intolerant of blacks (Washburn calls him "a well-known racist"). His record of suspicion of the black press went back to the "red scare" days following World War I. Hoover's monitoring of blacks and their press continued in the '20s and '30s and heightened during World War II. He called on Biddle numerous times to suppress the black press for its attacks on bigotry and racism. Each time Hoover called for indictment of the black press, Biddle refused on the basis that reporting discrimination and editorializing against it were not sedition.

It was much the same with Postmaster General Walker. Throughout the war the Post Office tried to bar the mailing of black newspapers on the grounds that they were seditious, but Walker was afraid to act without the blessings of Biddle, which he never received.

Biddle deserves great credit for holding back the tide of discrimination during World War II. We hear almost nothing of him in the 1980s, but "A Question of Sedition" should change that.

*The reviewer is the author of "The Air Force Integrates: 1945-1964."*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1986



*This Clipping From*  
**PHILADELPHIA, PA.**  
**EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER**  
**OCT 26 1940**

## **New General**



**COLONEL BENJAMIN Q. DAVIS**

### **3 Negro Leaders Take Defense Posts**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—(UP)  
—Three Negro leaders today took over important defense posts. All were appointed yesterday.

First, President Roosevelt promoted Colonel Benjamin O. Davis to become brigadier general—the first Negro to hold that rank in the army's history.

Then, Clarence A. Dykstra, national selective service director, announced he had named Major Campbell Johnson, Negro educator and former professor of sociology at Howard University here, as an executive assistant.

A few minutes before midnight, the War Department said that Mr. Roosevelt had appointed Judge William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School, as civilian aide to the Secretary of War. Hastie, Harvard Law School graduate, will be "concerned with the development and administration of policies looking to the fair and effective utilization of Negroes in all branches of the military service."

November 15, 1982

# the Capstone

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Vol. 3, No. 32

## Vietnam Veterans Reflect on War

Last Thursday, Nov. 11, may have been just another day off from work for many people. But for at least two university faculty members, both veterans of the Vietnam War, it was a time to pay tribute as well as to count blessings.

Army Col. Welton E. Hamilton and Air Force Col. Norman A. McDaniel this past week reflected on their experiences in Vietnam as they prepared to lead Howard ROTC cadets in the official ceremony dedicating the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the Mall.

Hamilton, who previewed the memorial last week, says, "It was one of the few times I realized that my name could have been listed up there with

them (the dead and soldiers missing in action) rather than my standing here in good health viewing it."

Hamilton served in combat during two tours in Vietnam. He says it was there that he witnessed death for the first time.

McDaniel, who was a prisoner of war for seven years, says of the experience: "It helped me to realize more my strengths and weaknesses. In a lot of areas I found I was stronger than I thought I was. McDaniels was kept in solitary confinement in and around Hanoi for 10 months. He also endured the pain inflicted by the North Vietnamese guards as well as the psychological pain of being separated from his family.

For both Hamilton and McDaniel, Veterans Day is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by fellow veterans in the defense of America.



By Harlee Little

Col. Welton E. Hamilton and Col. Norman A. McDaniel discuss Veterans Day celebration plans.

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# ERONYM



## THE BLACK SOLDIER

Special  
Issue

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# **THE NEGRO OFFICER**

**Limited numbers spotlight  
tokenism in the military**

**BY ALEX POINSETT**

## SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS



**Brigadier General Frederic E. Davison**

As deputy commanding officer of the 199th Infantry Brigade in Vietnam, Davison (center), then a colonel, briefs Gen. Creighton Abrams (l.) and Lt. Col. William C. Carper. Davison is the highest ranked of 35 Negro senior officers in the Army of whom 23 are pictured on this page. He is slated for reassignment to the States.



**Col. Benjamin W. Johnson**



**Col. Campbell C. Johnson**



**Col. Van E. Collins**



**Col. William D. Brooks Jr.**



**Col. James R. Hillard**



**Col. Lee A. Cousin**



**Col. Joel G. Adams**



**Col. Oliver W. Dillard**



**Col. Stanford R. Hicks**



**Col. Luther Evans Jr.**



**Col. James Buchanan, Jr.**



**Col. Joseph Bailey**



**Col. John W. Handy Jr.**



**Col. Ernest L. Hunter**



**Col. Willard C. Stewart**



**Col. Roy W. Burley**



**Col. R. C. Cartwright**



**Col. Edward Greer**



**Col. Clarence M. Davenport, Jr.**



**Col. Herbert F. Smith**



**Col. Nelson S. Brooks**



**Col. John R. Maxwell**

## ARMY CADETS EXCEL AT SUMMER CAMP

Sixteen senior cadets received Distinguished Military Student Awards as a result of their outstanding work in ROTC Summer Camp. These presentations gave Howard the highest percentage of Distinguished Military Students of all schools in the First United States Army Area.

Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Sheppard and his staff have used the experiences gained at Summer Camp to inject new leadership into the Corps. Leadership laboratory has been changed greatly, allowing the cadets to plan and conduct all training and cover a diversified number of subjects.

In addition to the normal functions of the Corps of Cadets, there are many component units that conduct extracurricular training. These include the Counter Guerrilla Detachment, the Scabbard and Blade, the National ROTC Fraternity, the ROTC Band, the Rifle team and the George F. Welch Memorial Drill team. The Band, Drill team, and Rifle team have displayed their skill and ability repeatedly.



Col. DeWitt Cook, Prof. of Military Science, talks to a group cadets.

## Lt. Col. Sets ROTC Goals

Lieutenant Colonel Maurice Williams, who joined the Howard community in September is bringing new action into the Army ROTC program with the goal of getting credit hours for it and making it more relevant to Howard students and the community at large. A course in Revolution and Theories is being offered, and military history is peppered with Black faces. Guerrilla warfare is being studied by an auxiliary group. Moving into the community the Corps has adopted the N.W. Settlement House where they tutor and work with pre-teens in projects that encourage leadership and group effort.





*Brigadier General Benjamin L. Hunton*



*Colonel Hampson H. Fields*



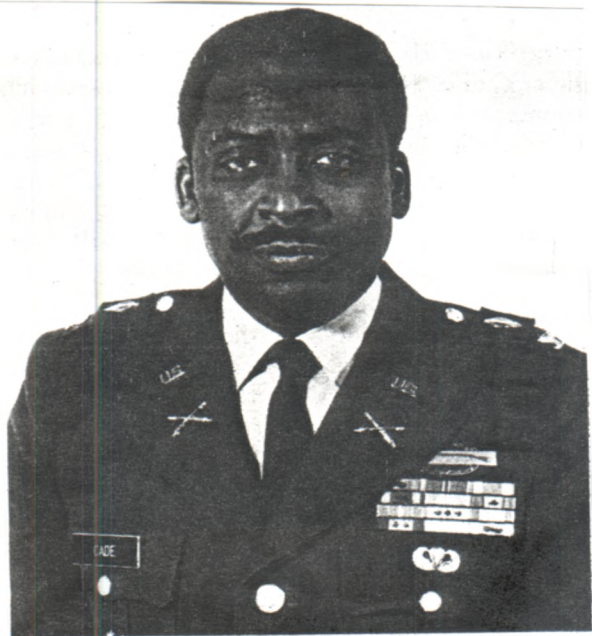
*Colonel  
John Thomas Martin*





*Colonel Albert B. Kilby*

*Colonel James H. Robinson*



*Colonel Alfred J. Cade*





**Col. Daniel  
James, Jr.**



**Col. Louis D.  
Hill**



**Col. Elmer D.  
Jones**



**Col. William A.  
Campbell**



**Col. George J.  
Iles**



**Col. Edward E.  
Gleed**

---

*Colonel George S. Roberts*



# SENIOR AIR FORCE OFFICERS



**Lt. Gen. Benjamin  
O. Davis Jr.**



**Col. Joseph A.  
Christmas**



**Col. Ernest J.  
Davis Jr.**



**Col. Lucius  
Theus**



**Col. Fitzroy  
Newsom**



**Col. Raymond E.  
Tinsley**



**Col. Claude M.  
Dixon**



**Col. Clarence B.  
Lester Jr.**



**Col. Mason D.  
Cloyd**



**Col. Henry L.  
Hines**



**Col. Hannabel M.  
Cox Jr.**



**Col. Earl N.  
Franklin**



**Col. Vernon V.  
Haywood**



**Col. Arthur F.  
Williams**



**Col. Dean B.  
Mohr**



**Col. George D.  
Evans Jr.**



**Col. Harry A.  
Sheppard**



**Col. Dudley W.  
Stevenson**



**Col. Thomas J.  
Money**

# TOP NEGRO MARINES



**Lt. Col. Kenneth H. Berthoud, Jr.**



**Lt. Col. Frank E. Petersen**



*Colonel Herbert L. Brewer*

## SENIOR NAVAL OFFICERS



Capt. Samuel L. Gravelly



Capt. Paul S. Green



Capt. Thomas D. Parham, Jr.



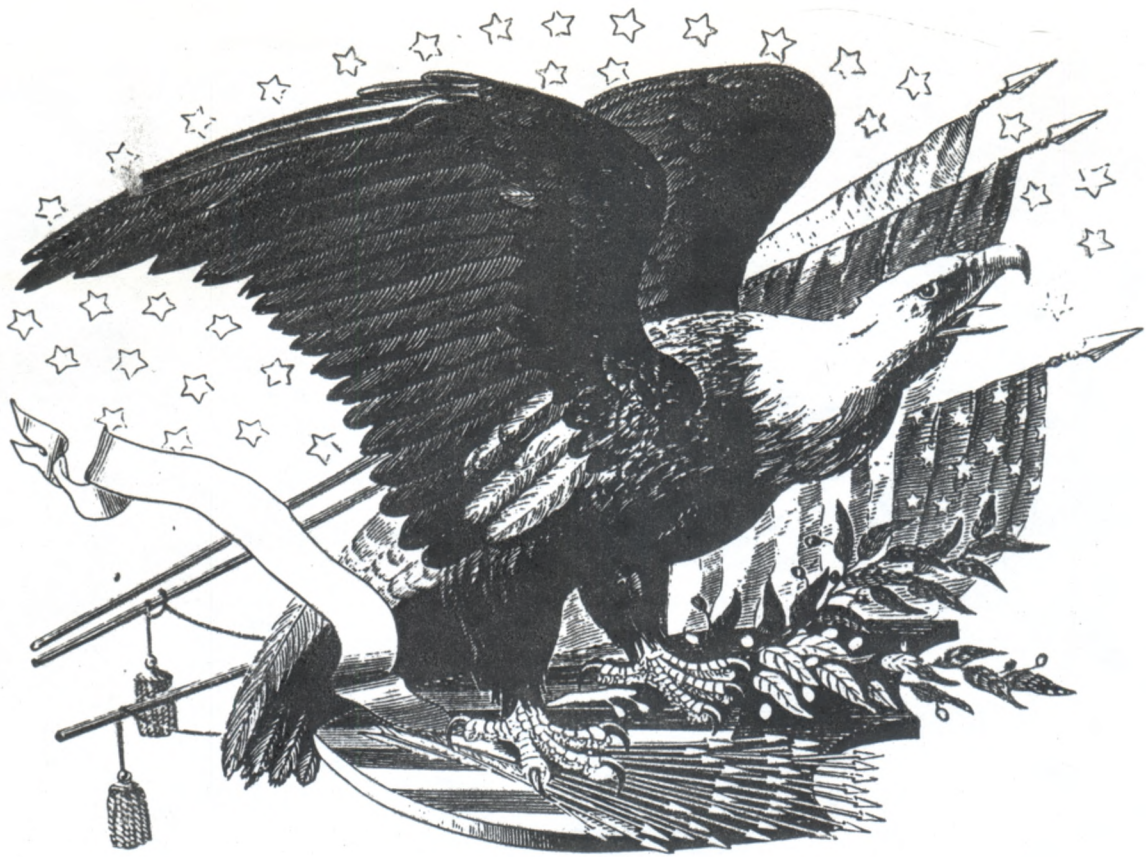
Captain Wayman G. Caliman Jr.

Wayman G. Caliman Jr.

Captain, U.S. Navy.

Wayman Caliman was born in New York City and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in October, 1950, as a seaman recruit. His first shipboard duty was on the *USS Cascade*, a destroyer tender, and his last tour of sea duty before reporting in 1972 as ma-

terial department director of the Oakland, California, Naval Supply Center, was as supply officer of the *Cascade*. Caliman was commissioned in 1952 after attending Officer Candidate School and is the sixth known black American to attain the rank of captain in the U.S. Navy.<sup>18</sup>



PRESENTING, COLONEL JOHNSONS' NEWSPAPER HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II



# 92nd Inf. Division Won Fame in World War I

WASHINGTON

The Ninety-second Infantry Division, second fully organized all-colored division now in training at Fort McClelland, Ala., is the "Buffalo Division" of World War I fame which distinguished itself in the Muese-Argonne offensive.

The "Buffaloes" were organized November 29, 1917, from the first contingent of colored draftees arriving at the various camps and

cantonments throughout the United States. The first unit embarked at Hoboken, N.J., and established headquarters at Bour-bonne-les-Baines, France, on June 19, 1918.

### Fought Honorably

In August of the same year, they took up positions in the St. Die sector where they received their first contact with the enemy and their baptism of fire.

At Viorette, Wood, Pagny, Bois Frehaut and many other engagements on the Muese-Argonne front, the division fought vigorously and with honor. Individually and collectively, the Ninety-second received innumerable citations and awards for distinguished conduct on the battlefields.

### Saved French Unit

On November 10, 1918, an attack was made on Pagny, a German stronghold opposite the Metz forts. Two battalions of the French Fifty-sixth Infantry, hopelessly entangled in the enemy wire entanglements, were being slaughtered until the 367th Infantry of the Ninety-second came to the rescue and held the position until reinforcements arrived.

General John J. Pershing said just before the division returned to the United States on February 5, 1919:

"The Ninety-second Division has been, without a doubt, a great success, and I desire to commend both the officers and men for the high state of discipline and the excellent morale which has existed in this command during its entire stay in France."

**NOW YOU CAN GET YOUR OVERSEAS STORE ON A BUCK**



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MARRIERS—HEAVY  
PRICE ONLY \$7.95  
FEDERAL TAX INCL.**

**Wedding Souvenir Pin  
ONLY \$ 7.95  
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**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY BACK**  
Send no money—Pay Through Retail for buttons \$1.00, or \$1.25 for Navy pin (shown). You'll receive, plus postage, 10 pins and every inch of metal. If the quality, color, name, design, or size does not please you, return the buttons for refund in five days if not delighted. **Immediate Delivery**

**THEY'RE'S, Dept. E-1, Bank of Rhode Island, Boston, Ill.**

April 13, 1917  
World War I

THE COURIER.

## NEGROES LOYAL TO "OLD GLORY"

Speakers of Race Arouse En-  
thusiasm At Meeting.

Will Live Up To Splendid War  
Record of the Past.

PATRIOTIC CLIMAX STAGED

Unswerving loyalty to America, and a plea for all able-bodied negroes to enlist under the colors, were outstanding features of speeches by widely known negroes of Louisville at a patriotic meeting which brought out the sentiment of the race in Louisville and Kentucky last night at Asbury Chapel, 446 South Ninth street. More than 500 attended the meeting. The following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the President and Congress of the United States, now in session, saw the necessity of declaring that a state of war existed between the American Government and the Imperial German Government; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting here and now assembled, representing largely the sentiment of the negroes of Louisville and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, that we pledge full support to President Wilson and Congress in their patriotic effort to protect the life, property and honor of American citizens and the flag. Be it further

Resolved, That we pledge and offer the manhood of the race for enlistment in both the army and the navy, and request that the opportunity of enlistment in these departments of our Government be opened to all male citizens eligible to serve our country in time of war, without regard to race, color or restriction.

### Repudiate False Rumors.

"Be it further resolved, that we repudiate all rumors and reports of newspapers to the effect that the negro is in sympathy with Germany or any other enemy endangering the peace and security of America as false, unwarranted and without foundation; that the negro is loyal to the Stars and Stripes first, last and always; that his allegiance to the American Constitution stands above reproach and has never been challenged; and that a committee composed of Dr. A. C. McIntyre, Roscoe Conkling Simmons, Dr. Wilson Ballard, William Warley, Prof. A. E. Meyzeek, the Rev. W. J. Walls, A. A. Andrews, Dr. W. T. Merchant, John A. Wheatley, Dr. J. A. C. Lattimore, Dr. W. H. Pickett, the Rev. C. H. Parrish, Eli Bowen, Joseph Bowles and F. M. Hoffman, be requested to act in any way they deem necessary to perfect the expressed purposes of these resolutions.

"WM. WARLEY,  
"JOHN BOWLES,  
"DR. ROBERT B. SCOTT,  
"Chairman."

The speech which resulted in the most ardent flow of patriotism came from the lips of the Rev. J. Ward, 72 years old, who fought under the Stars and Stripes during the Civil War.

\*\*\*

### Cannot Forget Flag.

"In those times," he said, "Kentucky furnished more negro soldiers than any other State in the Union. Certainly in the present critical times no real patriotic negro will forget the flag that gave him freedom."

Advising the younger men to enlist and fight, the minister said he was ready even now "to get out his old musket and fight."

"There is no ground of compromise in the present fight to preserve civilization," the Rev. W. J. Walls said during his speech. "One is either a patriot or a traitor. Negroes now will live up to their splendid war records of the past. You will find that all negroes of a sensible mind will believe that it is a privilege to fight for the flag and much easier, in the long run, to fight in war with the hurrah of millions behind the soldier than fighting the life battles that must fall to the lot of those left behind when our army goes out to fight."

Dr. Wilson Ballard, who served in previous military campaigns, said "the spirit of the negroes from the Revolution to Carrizal will cry out from the Great Beyond in repudiation of the report that the men of the black race will not do their bit." "They will do a man's part," he said, "and will expect a man's reward."

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### Will Do Duty.

Prof. Mayzeek, of the Colored Normal School, said that it is the negro's duty to stand firm and fight for the United States and "they will not be found wanting when the time for fighting comes."

Others who made addresses were Prof. S. A. Cotter, the Rev. William Johnson, Dr. C. A. McIntyre, who presided at the meeting, and Joseph Bowles.

Four men, whose ages ranged upward of 70 years, who had served under the Stars and Stripes in the Civil War, were called to the pulpit at the close of the meeting. They saluted the flag while the audience thundered "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The hall was decorated with the American colors.

## COLORED MEN, DESPITE THEIR WRONGS, WILL RALLY TO FLAG

Editor Post: There is some question as to what attitude the colored man in the United States would take toward the government in case of war with a foreign nation. The question is a little curious, in the light of history and in view of the well-established loyalty of the colored man. The asking of such a question arouses interest and some little surprise. Does it arise from the fact that the colored man has been so treated in this country as to lead some to think that possibly he would not be a loyal American citizen in case of hostilities with a foreign power? It is an undeniable fact that the treatment of the colored man, manifesting itself in lynching, disfranchisement and abominable "Jim crow car" accommodations, is inconsistent with what is due loyal citizens; and, while there is no question in the colored man's mind as to his loyalty, it is barely possible that the source of the question in some white people's minds can be attributed to a conviction that loyalty is not due from this class of citizens.

The consensus of opinion, and that overwhelmingly, among colored people is that this is their country, notwithstanding persecution; that this is the land of their fathers, and where they died; that their inheritance is inalienable, and that this doctrine is accepted by all colored men, and that we will not allow any class of people to rob us of our inalienable rights without our protest. And, while we expect to protest until things are righted, we propose to be loyal to our country and to stand by the government as strongly as any other class of people, and deny any man the right to treat us other than as citizens entitled to all the rights and immunities as such. The colored man yields to no man in his spirit of patriotism and consecration in defense of the United States. His vision of the future is as strong as his convictions of the past. That we are not treated better is a shame—and a howling shame. But we will not be robbed of our birthright by persecution or otherwise. In war Old Glory will not touch the ground because of lack of patriotism on the part of the colored standard-bearer, and when from his hands she falls her folds will cover his prostrate form. All ye doubters, remember Carrizal, Fort Wagner and State street, Boston.

GEORGE WILLIAM COOK,  
Howard University.



# SECRETARY BAKER *Secretary* UPHOLDS BRAVERY OF NEGRO TROOPS

*Wash. Star*  
Explains That Battalion of  
368th Got Wrong Orders  
*Sept. 5, 1918*  
From "Runners."

According to Secretary Baker, the failure of the 3d Battalion of the 368th United States Infantry to function properly under French command in the Meuse-Argonne offensive in September, 1918, was due mainly to the fact that the battalion received unauthorized orders from "runners" to withdraw from the front.

The 368th Infantry was organized at Camp Meade, Md., and its membership included drafted men from the District of Columbia and nearby states. In the Meuse-Argonne campaign it was part of a mixed brigade commanded by a French officer. Its field and staff officers were white and its company officers and enlisted personnel were colored.

## Thorough Investigation.

The inspector general of the Army made a thorough investigation of published criticisms against the regiment for its failure to hold its position at the German front.

Allegations were made that the morale of the regiment had been broken by race discrimination, that the white officers fell short of their duty and that the troops were not properly equipped.

"The ground over which the 368th Infantry advanced," said the inspector general, "was extremely difficult. Originally it was largely a dense forest. This forest had been blasted away by four years of fighting and the undergrowth which had grown up made it in many places a dense jungle. Throughout this jungle were masses of wire entanglements of all kinds and numerous trenches. All of this made advance and control of troops most difficult. The action in which the regiment was engaged developed at times intense shell, machine gun and rifle fire and subjected these troops to a severe test. The regiment was not fully supplied with wire cutters, maps and signaling devices."

## Secretary Baker's Comment.

Continuing on the report, Secretary Baker said:

"It is clear that the incidents arose in the midst of the battle in which the 3d Battalion was advancing under most unusual conditions, and where the judgment of officers untried in battle, however well trained, might easily err; and as to the two withdrawals, there is strongly supported evidence that orders from some quarter were carried forward by runners directing the withdrawals, although orders had been given after the noon withdrawal on the 28th that no withdrawal order not in writing and signed by the battalion commander should be obeyed. The investigation showed that no such written order had been issued.

"The circumstances disclosed by a detailed study of the situation do not justify many of the highly colored accounts which have been given of the behavior of the troops in this action, and they afford no basis at all for any of the general assumptions with regard to the action of colored troops in this battle or elsewhere in France. On the contrary, it is to be noted that many colored officers, and particularly three in the very battalion here under discussion, were decorated with distinguished service crosses for extraordinary heroism under fire.

"I authorize the publication of this statement in order that justice may be done to the officers, white and colored, and to the men of this regiment, and in the hope that a recital of the facts may make prejudice and distorted discussion impossible in the future."

## The Soldier Hit Back.

From the New York World.

Col. Alexander S. Bacon and J. Douglas Wetmore, counsel for the Afro-American Council, have been employed by the soldiers of Company B, C, and D, of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, who were ordered dishonorably discharged by President Roosevelt, to take steps to have them reinstated and to learn their rights against the effect of the recent order which debar them from future employment in the government service.

Many citizens, both white and colored, have agreed to bear the expense of legal action.

The lawyers believe the soldiers who have been in the service for twenty years and contributed to the support of the Soldiers' Home cannot be deprived of their rights to enter the home.

Mr. Wetmore, acting for the Afro-American Council, will have introduced in Congress two bills, one taking away from the President and Secretary of War the power to discharge soldiers without trial, and another to reinstate the men of the Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Meetings of the Ministerial Association of Colored Preachers, the Baptist Ministers, and the Clerical Union of Long Island, will be held on Monday to take action on the President's conduct in disbanding the battalion of negro troops.

# 369th Officers Laud Negroes' Part in War

*Herald*

**Capt. L. Edward Shaw Says  
if Conflict Should Arise  
To-morrow He'd Try to  
Go With Colored Troops**  
6-14-1925

**Outwater Tells of Bravery**

**Negro Private Charges His  
Race Was Discriminated  
Against While in France**

Arguments both supporting and opposing Major-General Robert Lee Bullard's criticism of the conduct of Negro troops in France were contained in letters received yesterday by The Herald Tribune. The letters were provoked by assertions made by General Bullard in his series of articles published in this newspaper.

L. Edward Shaw, of Veitch, Shaw & Remsen, 45 John Street, who was a captain in the 369th Infantry, wrote: "I have read with much interest and appreciation General Bullard's Memoirs. His comments on the colored soldier, and Major Hamilton Fish's letter in The Herald Tribune of June 12 in reply, stir me to add my humble comment to this most interesting controversy.

"I was one of the original officers in Colonel Hayward's 15th N. Y. Infantry—369th U. S. Infantry—and served continuously with that regiment during the war. I have since the war been constantly engaged in welfare work among the veterans of the regiment and the colored people of Harlem generally. I believe that I understand the American Negro, and my experience with him under the most trying conditions has made me a staunch supporter of his race.

**Prefers to Serve With Negroes**

"Since the war I have been answering constantly one question: 'What do you really think of the colored soldier?' My answer has always been, and still is, 'If there were another war to-morrow I should try to go with the colored troops.'

The 369th Infantry, the writer's regiment, could and did hold under the worst shellfire. Contrary to Major Hamilton Fish's statement in his letter in The Herald Tribune, this was not always true of the French Negro troops. Often after severe shelling on several occasions our French General Le Buc and his staff of the 161st French Division, 4th French Army, were astounded at this quality in our regiment and repeatedly stated that they dared not risk their colored soldiers as holding troops under bombardment. We saw this to be true in relieving one of the famous Moroccan regiments in the Champagne in July under heavy shelling. They 'had the wind up' so much that they literally knocked our men down in their haste to get out of their positions when our reliefs appeared.

"Major Fish fails to note that General Bullard did not say that the colored soldier lacks courage. In fact, he states that in his military experience prior to the World War the conduct of

**Square To Be Dedicated To-day**

"The history of the Civil and Spanish American wars confirms this statement. General Bullard confines his criticism of the colored soldier to the 92d Division, whose war record apparently substantiates it. The fault, however, was not with the colored soldier in this division, but with his leaders and the administration that sent him into battle untrained."

"In closing I wish to call The Herald Tribune's and its readers' attention to the dedication in Harlem on Sunday, June 14, at 3 o'clock, on Edgecombe Avenue and 136th Street, of a Square to Private Dorrance Brooks, New York colored boy, born on 130th Street, educated in the New York public schools, killed in action in the Argonne-Meuse leading forward a remnant of a section of the Third Machine Gun Company, 369th Infantry, after his four white officers, two colored sergeants and two colored corporals had been killed or wounded. As the grave of the Unknown Soldier at Washington honors all soldier dead of the nation, let this Square, dedicated to a humble colored soldier from New York City honor the valor of the American colored soldier and stand as a permanent answer to all uninformed or prejudiced critics of the colored soldier."

**Another Officer Defends Negro**

Edwin Outwater, 247 Park Avenue, wrote: "As commanding officer throughout the war of Company L (369th), old 15th New York, mentioned in Representative Hamilton Fish jr.'s letter published in your edition of June 12, I have followed with great interest the correspondence relative to the statements of General Bullard in regard to colored troops in general and the 92d Division in particular. Although General Bullard might not have condemned Negro troops as a whole he undoubtedly gave the impression to the public that these troops were useless in warfare. This is a matter of capital importance to the nation, and from the point of view of the public and military policy the impression created by the general's comments on the 92d Division should not be permitted to reflect, as they do, on the use of colored troops or on colored soldiers, individually or collectively.

"It is true as General Bullard says, that colored troops required a longer period of training than white, but properly trained and properly led by officers whom they have learned to respect their devotion to duty and courage and their value as soldiers is equal to that of white troops. The fact, as General Bullard admits, that the Ninety-second Division was ill-trained and ill-led might have been the cause of the conduct which the General ascribes to them, but this should reflect more upon the higher command and the administration for permitting the use of these troops and not upon the men themselves.

"There are, naturally, two sides to any question. I distinctly remember receiving about twenty or thirty replacements the night before we moved into the attack in Champagne on September 26, 1918. At I was making some final dispositions preparatory to 'jumping off' I was amazed when several of these new men ran to me and asked

me how to load a rifle. While loading for them they explained that they were straight from the cotton belt and were drafted about six weeks before and never so much as drilled with a rifle. As the attack developed these men were either killed, wounded or scattered. One could scarcely expect more of them than to walk well-nigh helpless into the face of the enemy. But could they be blamed for this?

"The remarkable thing was, and it speaks very highly for colored soldiers, that the presence of these unfortunate men did not, under the circumstances, demoralize the entire company. General Bullard's allegations of cowardice on the part of the Ninety-second Division brings up a point, always difficult to prove, of how scared the other fellow—the enemy—might have been. I know from experience that colored soldiers have always struck terror into the heart of the German. Whenever he found that he was up against a black face in French Colonial brown, whether they were native Senegalese, Moroccans or, and I speak from experience when I say our own 369th, they felt it was a back-to-the-wall proposition and let fly with everything they had, so much so that on occasions we would pick up French blue overcoats and wear them as camouflage."

Percival Sills, of 133 West 132d Street, who described himself as a Negro private in France, charges in a letter that American authorities assisted the French military mission with the American troops to issue a document called "Secret Information Concerning Black American Troops." He asserts the alleged document proves that Negro troops were discriminated against in France.

According to the document, the French mission, assisted by the Americans, instructed the French troops as follows:

"We must prevent the rise of any pronounced degree of intimacy between French officers and black officers. We may be courteous and amiable with these last, but we cannot deal with them on the same plane as with the white American officers without deeply wounding the latter. We must not eat with them, must not shake hands or seek to talk or meet with them outside of the requirements of the military service.

"We must not commend too highly the black American troops, particularly in the presence of (white) Americans. It is all right to recognize their good

qualities and their services, but only in moderate terms, strictly in keeping with the truth.

"Make a point of keeping the native cantonment population from 'spoiling' the Negroes. (White) Americans become greatly incensed at any public expression of intimacy between white women and black men. They have recently uttered violent protests against a picture in 'La vie Parisienne' entitled 'The Child of the Desert' which shows a (white) woman with a Negro. Familiarity on the part of white women with black men is furthermore a source of profound regret to our experienced colonials, who see in it an overweening menace to the prestige of the white race."

*Continued on  
next page*

*Norald, 5* The Negro Soldier *6/13-25*

The frankness of General Bullard's opinion of Negro troops, jotted hastily into his diary under the stress of active service and in the presence of an embarrassing incident, has called forth precisely the kind of response which could be expected and which it deserved. Many Negroes have written to protest; Representative Fish has made a vigorous defense of the men who served under him in the 369th Infantry, and Colonel Hayward, who commanded that regiment, found that his experience with Negro soldiers was "exactly the opposite to that described by General Bullard."

General Bullard in criticizing the 92d Division Negroes added that their white commander was incompetent, and he ended his chapter with the suggestion that it was not the personal courage of the Negro which was involved, but the unhappy consequences of confusing a major war with the intricacies of racial uplift. "If you need combat soldiers, and especially if you need them in a hurry, don't put your time on Negroes. Soldier making . . . will be swamped in the race question." One of the minor difficulties, from first to last, with the American war effort was that it was also turned into an effort at almost everything else, from feminism to prohibition, and the troops of the 92d Division seem to have been among the innocent victims of that regrettable tendency.

Negroes have fought in all of this country's wars. The regulars of the 9th Cavalry distinguished themselves at San Juan Hill when one of New York's "crack" but undisciplined volunteer regiments broke under fire, and when the Rough Riders were glad to have their assistance. The 54th Massachusetts was famous in the Civil War as a successful "experiment," although Negro troops in the Revolution had stood when the local militia found its farming more interesting than fighting. In this war the 369th and other Negro regiments came away with enviable records. It is not a question of personal courage in any event, but of training, discipline, leadership and the organization's morale. Elsewhere General Bullard remarks that the hardest thing in war is to make the men

fight, no matter who they are, and when we learn that "an unbroken line" of military police followed our divisions, white as well as colored, into action in order to keep them there, it is obvious that our old ideas of personal courage have to go, along with most of the other "glamour" of war.

Modern war is too terrible to be fought by men; it can be fought only by organizations. General Bullard says that he found the regular officers of the 92d excellent, but among them all a feeling of "the most profound discouragement." It does not sound as if the conditions for creating an organization and a morale were present in the division. The "racial question" spoiled the opportunity. In organizations like the 369th, which were National Guard regiments before the war, or in the regular colored regiments, the Negro had a chance to show what he could do, and he did it bravely and well.

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Net Circulation, 105,464

TWO CENTS.

# PLACES D. C. MEN HELD AS FIGHTING ENDED DISCLOSED

## War Department Announces Location of All Troops When Armistice Began.

### LOCAL SOLDIERS AMONG SEVERAL OF DIVISIONS

#### Reports Just Received Here Show Organization of Army Corps of Expeditionary Forces.

Location of District of Columbia troops in France at the time the armistice was signed was disclosed today in a statement from the War Department.

The 29th Division, Maj. Gen. Mortol which includes the former District of Columbia Field Artillery and District of Columbia Cavalry Troop, is at Robert Espagne and St. Dizier.

The 30th Division, Maj. Gen. Edward H. Lewis, which includes District of Columbia men, is at Querrieu.

The 42d, "Rainbow," Division, Maj. Gen. Charles D. Rhodes, which includes a District field hospital unit, is at Maisonnelle and St. Dizier.

The 79th Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph E. Kuhn, which includes the 312th Machine Gun Battalion, composed of District selectees, is at Vacherauville and St. Dizier.

The 92d Division, composed of colored troops and commanded by Maj. Gen. Ballou, is at Marcache and St. Dizier.

Location of all of the American divisions at the time of cessation of hostilities is given by the War Department as follows:

### Combat Divisions.

First regulars, Neuart and St. Dizier, Brig. Gen. Frank Parker.

Second regulars, Fosse and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. John A. Le Jeune.

Third regulars, Tannois and St. Dizier, Brig. Gen. Preston Brown.

Fourth regulars, Lucey and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Mark L. Hersey.

Fifth regulars, Cunel and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Hanson E. Ely.

Sixth regulars, Sloane and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Walter H. Gordon.

Seventh regulars, Euvazin and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Edmund Wittenmeyer.

Twenty-sixth (New England), Bras, Troyon-sur-Meuse, St. Dizier, Brig. Gen. F. E. Bamford.

Twenty-seventh (New York), Corble, Beauquesne, St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. John F. O'Ryan.

Twenty-eighth (Pennsylvania), Heudicourt and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. William H. Hay.

Twenty-ninth (New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia), Robert, Espagne and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. C. C. Morton.

Thirtieth (Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and District of Columbia), Querrieu, Maj. Gen. Edward H. Lewis.

Thirty-first (Georgia, Alabama and Florida), Brest, Maj. Gen. Le Roy S. Lyon.

Thirty-second (Michigan and Wisconsin), Ainreville and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. William C. Haan.

Thirty-third (Illinois), Troyon and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. George Bell, jr.

Thirty-fourth (Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota), Castres, Brig. Gen. John A. Johnston.

Thirty-fifth (Missouri and Kansas), Somme Dieue and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Peter E. Traub.

Thirty-sixth (Texas, Oklahoma), Conde-en-Barrios, Maj. Gen. W. R. Smith.

Thirty-seventh (Ohio), Thfelt, Dunkerque, Maj. Gen. Charles S. Farnsworth.

Thirty-eighth (Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia), Le Mans, Maj. Gen. Robert L. Howze.

### Rainbow Command.

Forty-second (Rainbow), Maisonnelle and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Charles D. Rhodes.

Seventy-seventh (New York city), La Basace, Varennes and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Robert Alexander.

Seventy-eighth (western New York, New Jersey, Delaware), Le Champy, Haut and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. James H. McRae.

Seventy-ninth (northeastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and District of Columbia), Vacherauville and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Joseph E. Kuhn.

Eightieth (Virginia, West Virginia, western Pennsylvania), Somnauth and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Adelbert Cronkhite.

Eighty-first (North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Porto Rico), Somme Dieue, Is-sur-Tille, Maj. Gen. Charles J. Bailey.

Eighty-second (Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee), Florent, Maj. Gen. George P. Duncan.

Eighty-fourth (Kentucky, Indiana, southern Illinois), Neuvic, Maj. Gen. Harry C. Hale.

Eighty-sixth (Chicago and northern Illinois), St. Andre de Cubzac, Maj. Gen. Charles H. Martin.

Eighty-seventh (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and southern Alabama), Pons, Maj. Gen. S. D. Sturgis.

Eighty-eighth (North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and western Illinois), Montreau Chateau, Is-sur-Tille, Maj. Gen. William Weigel.

Eighty-ninth (Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona), Tally and St. Dizier, Brig. Gen. Frank L. Winn.

Ninetieth (Texas and Oklahoma), Villers, Dev, Dun and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Henry T. Allen.

Ninety-first (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming and Utah), Oostrosebeke and Dunkerque, Maj. Gen. William H. Johnston.

Ninety-second (negroes), National Army, Marbache and St. Dizier, Maj. Gen. Charles C. Ballou.

### Depot Divisions.

Forty-first (Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming), St. Aignan and Noyers, Brig. Gen. Eli Cole.

Eighty-third (Ohio and western Pennsylvania), Le Mans and Castres, Maj. Gen. E. F. Glenn.

Seventy-sixth (New England and New York), St. Amand, Mont Rond, Maj. Gen. Harry F. Hodges.

Eighty-fifth (Michigan and eastern Wisconsin), Pouilly, Maj. Gen. Chase W. Kennedy.

Thirty-ninth (Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana), St. Florent, Maj. Gen. Henry C. Hodges, jr.

Fortieth (Colorado, Utah, Arizona,

1919



COMPLETE HISTORY  
OF THE  
COLORED SOLDIERS  
IN THE  
WORLD WAR



# D. C. COLORED MEN BRING WAR HONORS

Show Modest Pride in Big Part They Took; Soon to Reach Here.

## FROM OLD ORGANIZATION

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

CAMP UPTON, N. Y., February 15.—Washington will very shortly have a chance to pay tribute to the valor of its colored soldiers—those who were members of what was formerly known as the 1st Separate Battalion of the old District National Guard, but now forming the greater part of the 1st Battalion, 372d Infantry, U. S. A.

The members of this famous old Washington organization, which has such a long, proud history, landed Wednesday in Hoboken, with the others of the regiment, and after a most rousing reception at the dock came direct to Camp Upton, at Yaphank, N. Y., where they are now comfortably housed, eagerly awaiting word to proceed home or to some nearby camp to be mustered out of the service.

### Has 480 From Washington.

There now are more than 480 Washington men in this distinguished outfit. Nineteen of them have been decorated one or more times for individual bravery under fire, and every one of them is a seasoned veteran and a real soldier through and through.

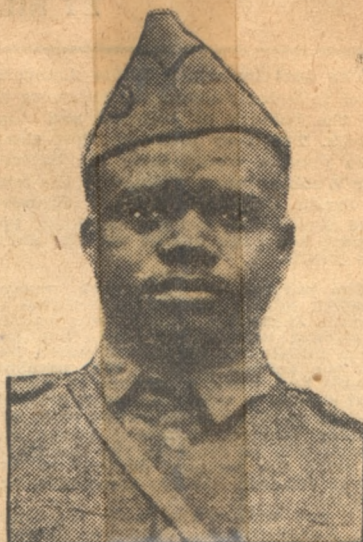
Showing modest pride in the conspicuous part they took in the great war and in the honors bestowed upon them in France as individuals and as a notable regiment, these Washington patriots speak only lightly of their deeds. They seem more interested in the date they are to "get back home." Although the latter has not been definitely settled, it is considered probable that the 372d Infantry will within the next few days be detached, as such, and its members divided into casual units to be sent to camps nearest their home cities for mustering-out purposes. In this event it is believed likely that the Washington members will be sent either to Camp Meade, Md., or to Potomac Park, on the speedway, in Washington.

It was at the latter point that the Separate Battalion first assembled when it answered the country's call to arms upon the declaration of war on Germany. The men spent almost half a year at the camp on the speedway, and those long, trying days of guard duty about the railroad and highway bridges and adjacent points are well known to the average citizen of Washington. It was at the time a seemingly inconspicuous bit of wartime soldiering, but their chance for real action finally came, and after several months' training at Camp Stuart, Newport News, Va., what was once the old Separate Battalion was on its way to France.

### Will Recognize Services.

From that time on its career was an honorable and distinguished one, and when its record becomes more generally known, Washingtonians will recognize that they have every reason to be proud of their colored warriors. It is naturally the desire of

# CROIX DE GUERRE MEN AMONG THE COLORED D. C. TROOPS JUST RETURNED FROM FRANCE.



THOMAS A. FREDERICK.



JOHN F. PARKS.



CHARLES M. MURPHY.



WILLIAM DICKSON.

took up a position in subsector B, in front of St. Marie Aux Mines, where it was situated when the word of the armistice was received.

The sudden coming of the latter deprived the battalion of added glory. It would have fallen to its lot to have the honor of being the vanguard of the French army of occupation.

From early September and during the great offensive and up to the present time the 1st Battalion has been under command of Maj. Clark L. Dickson, who is only twenty-seven years old. Maj. Dickson and all of the other commissioned officers of the battalion are white, with the exception of the chaplain, Lieut. Arrington S. Helm.

Of the nearly 600 Washington men who went "across" with the 372d Regiment, at least 200 were wounded, more or less seriously, and about thirty-two were killed. It was the first to fall with a fatal wound was Private Kenneth Lewis.

### Sergt. Payne's Bravery.

The greatest individual honors bestowed upon any of the Washington men were those received by First Sergt. Ira M. Payne, who has been decorated with palm for the croix de guerre with palm by the French distinguished service medal. The latter was given in recognition of the unusual bravery shown by Payne

in silencing, single-handed, a hidden German machine gun group which had been exceedingly troublesome. Payne had been a member of the old 1st Separate Battalion seventeen years prior to America's entrance in the war.

First Sergt. John A. Johnson of Company B was decorated with the croix de guerre with palm for exceptional bravery during a charge "over the top," and for capturing, single-handed, two Hun soldiers who later proved valuable as sources of information.

The official list of the Washington men in this outfit who have been decorated follows: First Sergt. John A. Johnson, Company B; First Sergt. Ira A. Payne, Company A; Sergt. James A. Marshall, Company B; Sergt. Norman Jones, Company B; Sergt. Homer Crabtree, Company B; Sergt. Norman Winsmore, Company C; Corp. John R. White, Company B; Corp. Benjamin Butler, Company C; Corp. March Graham, Company D; Private Warwick Alexander, Company B; Private George H. Budd, Company B; Private Thomas A. Frederick, Company B; Private John S. Parks, Company B; Private Charles M. Murphy, Company C; Private William N. Mathew, Company D; Private Earnest Payne, Company D; Private Joseph McKame, Company A; Private William Dickson, Company A; Samuel B. Webster, sergeant major.

J. R. V.



# Negroes' Part In War Told By Bullard

## 92d Division Comes Under His Command When He Takes Over 2d Army and Prepares for Metz

## Court Martial Held Within Ten Days

## Hearing Takes Normal Course; Officer Is Sentenced to Die as Coward

By General Robert Lee Bullard  
Who commanded the 1st Division, then the 3d Corps, and finally led the Second Army of the United States.

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As these are personal memories of experiences, the pronoun "I" can never be out of sight. I am not offering these memories as absolute fact, but as my impression and belief at the time.—R. L. Bullard.

### CHAPTER XXVI—STORY OF THE NEGRO DIVISION

Toul, October 14, 1918. (Diary.) Came by auto with my two aides, Captains Shirley and Witherspoon, via Bar-le-Duc and Ligny, to this place October 12. I passed at Souhaines la Grande the second echelon of my (now old) 3d Corps headquarters to tell the officers good by and to thank them for their loyal efforts. Really, they had not done badly. They began three months ago with a very imperfect organization that functioned very roughly and bunglingly. To-day it functions well.

"I stopped a few moments at First Army headquarters at Souilly to see our commander in chief, General Pershing. He informed me that he would give up the command of the First Army, and he intimated that he would form a group of armies, of which General Liggett would command the first and I the second; that he had found it necessary to quit the direct command of an army, as it forced him to neglect greater interests. I thanked him for the mark of his confidence in naming me to this new command.

"On arriving at Toul I found the Second Army about half organized. It has two corps (one being largely French) and some 17,000 army troops, the latter mainly labor and engineer troops. The chief of staff, Brigadier General Stuart Heintzelman, I have known for a long time, and in every way he suits me. He is disciplined and considerate

### The Great American Error

"But I found no army artillery, or even artillery staff. However, I have started on the staff with a good chief, Major General Lassiter, one of the best artilleryists that I know."

"In trying (Diary, October 15) to supply deficiencies in the Second Army I find the usual defect, to wit, too much talk, a great deal of expectation and too little realization. This has been the great American error (in the war). We have talked at long range. We have filled the air with loud words about things we are going to do. Is it a characteristic of us Americans to make a "blow" about everything that we do? Before we did anything toward getting into the war we were crying out over the world that we were going to have more and bigger guns and more men and more munitions and more ships and more and swifter airplanes, submarines and chasers; and more and deadlier gas, and more and bigger and deadlier

everything than any, or all the other belligerents. It is not much of an exaggeration to say that we made good only on the men; the gas came too late and the aeroplanes and many of the other things did not come at all.

### At the Head of the Second Army

"I was again encountering in the Second Army the difficulties which I had encountered in the completion of the 1st Division last December. I was having my requests answered in futures rather than in presents. But my requests now were in terms of tens of thousands where last year they were in hundreds.

"I see very clearly (Diary) that an army is a very much larger thing than a corps. Indeed, a single staff section is as large as a corps staff entire." In its very start this army was six times as great as the division which I was then commanding, and yet the army was in its mere beginning.

"I am not superstitious, but my health, vigor and good feeling, so reduced under the awful neuritis in my right arm from April until September, were now returning, and I thought, with some little misgiving, of my same good feeling on starting on a like new mission six months ago, the day before the said neuritis literally knocked me down. But my misgivings were never justified. My health was returning. It was fortunate, because all my available strength was needed in the work of the formation and preparation of this army for a heavy attack which I knew it would soon be called upon to make."

### Prepare for Advance on Metz

"Soon" in those days really meant what it said. The Allies were pressing the enemy with all their might to bring the war to a conclusion. The Second Army could not long be left to form and train itself at leisure. This army I found lying between the Moselle at Pont-a-Mousson and the Meuse near Verdun, connecting here with the First American Army.

After the reduction by the Americans of the St. Mihiel salient, about a month ago, the American troops left

upon this spot had been preparing for an American advance in the general direction of Metz. Our railroad, roads and other communications were being brought across the old No Man's Land in the German salient of St. Mihiel to connect with the corresponding old German communications leading into the enemy's country. Presumably we should soon need them in an advance from here.

### Havoc in the German's Wake

The roads and railroads over the German St. Mihiel salient had been completely destroyed during the war. It was a hard job to replace them. The country was wiped out. "Yesterday and to-day (Diary October 17) I passed through French villages that had been for four years in the hands of the German. A few unfortunate women had been left there during the German occupation. Their stories, their loss, were sad, unprotected against German brutality and lust.

"As I pass over (Diary) quiet areas of beautiful country utterly destroyed by the barbarous, brutal German to satisfy his lust of world rule, as I saw great forests killed as men are killed by shell and shrapnel, as I saw the infinite pains and labor to accomplish all this to hurt his enemy and protect himself, I was tremendously impressed with the German's will to conquer, his great determination and infinite patience. I saw hundreds of miles of trenches, dug and riveted with wood, stone and cement; thousands of dug-outs made almost as great and complete as houses; roads, houses, railroads and miles and miles of wire entanglements. It looked like the work of a world, and it is all wasted in so far as any material return is concerned—a deeply impressive sight."

### Negroes in the United States Armies

Among the divisions of the Second Army I found one Negro division, the 92d. Its generals, colonels and division staff officers and a considerable number of its field officers were white men, mostly of the regular army. This division especially interested me because in the Spanish-American War I

had raised and commanded a volunteer Negro regiment whose conduct had added to my reputation as a soldier. Having passed a pleasant boyhood and had this satisfactory experience in my earlier life with the Negroes, I found myself with most kindly feelings toward them and my interest was stirred now in France by finding this Negro division in my new army.

I felt some doubt, however, for the success in war of a Negro command as great as a division. General experience seemed to be to the contrary. I was at the time exceedingly busy in the preparation of the Second Army for an offensive which I knew would be coming very soon, and I could give the Negroes no more thought than I was giving to any other portion of my command. War, hard war, was before us, and race could make no difference.

### An Official Sentence to Death

About ten days after I joined the Second Army the proper officer of the army staff mentioned that some of the Negro officers of the 92d Division were to be tried for cowardice. I was too busy with my work of organization to give the matter especial attention. It took the usual course of such work. A few days later, in some way, it was reported to me that one of these Negro officers had been sentenced to be shot for cowardice. Then there came a rush

back upon my mind of all my past experience with Negroes. I remembered how our government seemed to expect the same of them as of white men, or at least placed them in positions that so indicated; how politics constantly forced for them the same treatment as white men when they were very different; how they themselves insisted upon such treatment; how surely, notwithstanding all this, if the same treatment were given black as white, it would cause trouble for him who should so deal it out; how, finally, the politics of our country had forced the formation of this Negro division contrary to experience.

NEW  
YORK  
HERALD  
June  
8,  
1925

# Couldn't Make Negroes Fight Says Bullard

92d Division Men Twice  
Ran From Enemy, Causing  
French to Ask Their  
Relief, General Avers  
*Herald*  
Saved 5 From Death  
Before Firing Squad  
*6-9-25*  
Unit First To Be Sent  
Home Because of Com-  
plaints of the French

By General Robert Lee Bullard  
Who commanded the 1st Division,  
then the 3d Corps, and finally led  
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experiences, the pronoun "I" can  
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offering these memories as absolute  
fact, but as my impression and be-  
lief at the time.—R. L. Bullard.

## CHAPTER XXVI—STORY OF THE NEGRO DIVISION (Continued)

All this constructive equality I re-  
garded as an injustice; it is not real.  
So I now inquired carefully into the  
matter, and found that in the battle of  
the Meuse-Argonne a part of the 92d  
Division, beside the trench in battle,  
had twice run away from in front of  
the enemy, causing the French, for  
their own safety, to request the relief  
of the Negro division from the fighting  
line. Some thirty Negro officers were  
involved in this running away. Five—  
the clearest cases and supposed leaders  
of the movement—only five, had been  
selected for trial by the law officers of  
the 2d Army. A court martial, com-  
posed of officers from another, a white  
division, had been ordered for this  
purpose.

Before this court one Negro officer  
had been tried, convicted and sentenced  
to death. It startled me, for much ex-  
perience and observation in such mat-  
ters had taught me that where even  
the most exact justice is meted out to  
Negroes, if meted out by white men  
alone, it becomes to Negroes injustice  
and converts them in the eyes of their  
fellows into martyrs for the race.

### Orders Trials Suspended

I therefore at once ordered the court to  
suspend trial upon the other cases and  
determined personally to investigate  
the whole matter and see the state of  
mind of the Negroes of the 92d Divi-  
sion before I should proceed any fur-  
ther with the trials. It took about a  
week for me to complete this investi-  
gation. It developed a lack of feeling  
among the Negroes of the division, a  
general lack of concern in the whole  
matter. Many of them knew nothing  
and almost all of them cared nothing  
about it. Those who knew seemed to  
believe that the white court martial  
would give justice, and especially a  
court martial composed of officers of  
another division. The same investi-  
gation also developed that there were  
some fifty other Negro officers of the  
division who were at that time being  
examined as to fitness to retain their  
commissions, all before boards of white  
officers.

I ordered all of these boards to sus-  
pend their work of examination. But  
I had in the end to allow the court  
martial, having once begun, to continue  
its trial of the four or five leading  
cases charged with cowardice. All five  
were found and sentenced as the first,  
exactly, I felt sure, as any white men  
would have been sentenced.

### Seeks Flaw in Proceedings

Yet I knew that these Negroes could  
not be held as responsible as white men,  
and I deliberately set about finding any  
possible flaw that would excuse an up-  
setting of all of the proceedings. To  
this end I called to my assistance Gen-  
eral E. A. Kregar, Judge Advocate's  
Department, representing the War De-  
partment in the American Expedition-  
ary Forces. He it was who should  
finally review these cases. He could  
at the time find no flaws in them, but  
later he or some other did find one  
flaw in one case. The last man tried  
testified in his own behalf that his  
own captain, who was killed in the  
runaway, had given him orders to run!  
There was no other living witness to  
this captain's order; the captain him-  
self was dead. So the case against  
the accused was completely disapproved  
and he was set free on the ground of  
uncontroverted evidence of having re-  
ceived an order to run!

I forwarded these five cases for  
final consideration by the President  
with the recommendation that they all  
be let off from all punishment. I felt  
perfectly sure that it would so result,  
and so it did. In 1919, a year later,  
the President ordered them all re-  
leased. As I now remember it, the  
other twenty-five officers and the rest  
of the battalion escaped everything,  
even reproof.

### A Pitiful Case of Discouragement

The 92d Division had a complement  
of exceptionally good higher officers  
and general staff, mostly white regular  
officers whom I knew. But among them  
all, except the general in command of  
the division, I found when I made the  
investigation of their charges of cow-  
ardice the most profound discouragem-  
ent. Not one of them believed that  
the 92d Division would ever be worth  
anything as soldiers. Every one of  
them would have given anything to  
have been transferred to any other  
duty. It was the most pitiful case of  
discouragement that I have ever seen  
among soldiers.

"The Negro division (diary, Novem-

ber 1) seems in a fair way to be a  
failure. It is in a quiet sector, yet  
can hardly take care of itself, while  
to take any offensive action seems  
wholly beyond its powers. I have been  
here now with it three weeks and have  
been unable to have it make a single  
raid upon the enemy. They are really  
inferior soldiers. There is no denying  
it. Their Negro officers have an inade-  
quate idea of what is expected of sol-  
diers, and their white officers are too  
few to leaven the lump."

"Spent the day (diary, November 5)  
going about the army and seeing. I  
saw especially the Negroes, the 92d  
Division, which, after more than a  
month in the trenches, cannot yet make  
a raid. It failed again on one to-day.  
Poor Negroes! They are hopelessly  
inferior. I've been talking with them  
individually about their division's suc-  
cess. That success is not troubling  
them. With every one feeling and say-  
ing that they are worthless as soldiers,  
they are going on quite unconcernedly.

### 27,000 Men Capture One German

"The 92d Negro Division is not  
making much, if any, progress toward  
efficiency and I am afraid it never will  
be worth anything as a fighting unit.  
Its division commanding general is not  
very strong as a military man. I'm  
inclined to think he will have to be  
'S. O. S.ed' and I'll have to have this  
done."

From about the 25th of October then  
until a few days before armistice I put  
forth every effort to have this division  
execute some offensive operation, as a  
raid, against the enemy. The division  
was large and composed of exception-  
ally husky, vigorous looking soldiers,  
well equipped. The enemy troops  
against them were of second or third  
class, not by any means the best. I  
provided the most skilled French and  
American advisers and instructors for  
them in an effort to have them execute  
a successful raid. I never succeeded  
even to a slight degree. As I remem-  
ber, in those three weeks this division  
of some 27,000 men captured one Ger-  
man!

The Negroes were a great disap-  
pointment. This experience did not  
agree with the experience of the reg-  
ular army of the United States with  
Negro soldiers. I could not ascribe  
the failure to the poor quality of their  
higher officers. These officers gen-  
erally, as I have said, were good, in  
most cases excellent. The French had  
had like experience with their Negro  
troops in their front line trenches  
against the enemy. The Negro, it  
seems, cannot stand bombardment.

N. Y. HERALD

June 9, 1925

# Bullard Charge Vexes Negroes; Bias Is Alleged

*Herald*  
National Association Calls  
Article Unjust and Cites  
Instances of Bravery to  
Disprove Race Cowardice

Col. Hayward's Experience  
6-10-25  
He Didn't Come in Contact  
With the 92d, but Found  
His Men Full of Courage

The conclusion which General Robert Lee Bullard drew in his article yesterday in The Herald Tribune from the cowardice of the 92d Division, a Negro organization, that Negroes were useless as combat troops vexes the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and was not corroborated by William Hayward, former United States Attorney, who commanded a Negro regiment in France.

Colonel Hayward's regiment, the 369th, was a volunteer organization, formerly the 15th Regiment of the National Guard of this state. The 92d was a draft division.

"We were at no time in contact with the 92d Division," said Colonel Hayward, "but my experience with the Negroes in my division was exactly the opposite to that described by General Bullard."

The 369th, brigaded with white French troops, was under fire 191 days. The following letter was received

from James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

"The most unjust and defamatory article that has yet come to my attention is the installment of General Robert Lee Bullard's book, published in The Herald Tribune of June 9, on the subject of Negro troops in France. General Bullard does not stop with recording alleged facts. He utters generalizations to the effect that Negroes are inferior, that they are racially inferior, and by the tenor of his article, with its race prejudice and its aspersions upon a group of American citizens, shows himself to be completely out of accord with the fundamental principle that a man shall be judged on the basis of his individual worth and achievement. It may contribute to an understanding of this extraordinary article of General Bullard to know that he was born in Alabama, one of the Southern states with the worst reputation for its treatment of colored people.

## Cites Praise of Negro Troops

"Fortunately, there are a number of other military observers of the highest standing from General George Washington down to the officers in the A. E. F. whose observations belie the generalities General Bullard sees fit to base upon his experience. It is not necessary here to cite President Lincoln's commendation of the conduct of colored troops in the Civil War.

"In reference to the A. E. F., I may cite General Sherrill, Colonel William Hayward, Colonel Arthur Little and Major Hamilton Fish, all of whom repeatedly and in public have spoken and written in the warmest terms of the devoted loyalty, the unflagging cheerfulness and the unexcelled bravery of the Negro troops under their command. Moreover, two of the officers I have named expressed amazement that any troops could bear up under the continual insult, calumny and indignities visited upon the colored men in their command by white

men and officers presumably harboring just such an attitude as is revealed in the article of General Bullard.

## Quotes 92d Division Commander

"The nature of that attitude is well shown in General Bullard's willingness to create and to spread the false impression that Negroes generally were poor fighters; when, as a matter of fact, the very 92d Division whose record General Bullard seeks to sully was spoken of as follows by its commanding general:

"It participated in the last battle of the war with creditable success, continuously pressing the attack against highly organized defensive works. It advanced successfully on the first day of the battle, attaining its objectives and capturing prisoners. This in the face of determined opposition by an alert enemy, and against rifle, machine gun and artillery fire. The issue of the second day's battle was rendered indecisive by the order to cease firing at 11 a. m., when the armistice became effective."

## Citation From General Goybet

"Furthermore, Negro regiments of the projected 93d Division, brigaded in France with French troops, were cited in General Orders of the French army by General Goybet, who told them they had 'lent glory' to the 157th Division, had 'surpassed his hopes,' had progressed in nine days of fighting through nine kilometers of powerfully organized defenses, had taken nearly 600 prisoners, fifteen guns of various calibers, twenty mine throwers, nearly 150 machine guns, an enormous amount of engineering materiel, an important supply of artillery ammunition and brought down by artillery fire three enemy airplanes.

"Perhaps, in view of the slurs and aspersions to which The Herald Tribune has given its space in publishing General Bullard's article, you will be fair enough to permit still another quotation from the General Order of General Goybet:

"Your troops have been admirable

in their attack. You must be proud of the courage of your officers and men, and I consider it an honor to have them under my command.

"The bravery and dash of your regiment won the admiration of the 2d Moroccan Division who are themselves versed in warfare. Thanks to you, during those hard days the division was at all times in advance of all other divisions of the army corps. I am sending you all my thanks and beg you to transmit them to your subordinates.

"I called on your wounded. Their morale is higher than any praise."

"Such scurrilous indictment of a race as General Bullard's generally bears a reply on its own face, in that it shows the prejudiced state of mind of the writer. But since the General pretends to be writing history, we may as well inject a few facts into the situation."

## Animosity Is Charged

Matthew V. Boutte, Negro commandant of the Colonel Charles Young Post, American Legion, 2376 Seventh Avenue, said last night that General Bullard's story of the failures of the 92d Division, a Negro division, was "most damnable."

Boutte said that General Bullard had animosity toward the Negroes because he was a Southerner and that Negro veterans had expected him to condemn the division. In any future wars, he said, Negroes would refuse to serve under men like General Bullard.

The court martial charges against Negro soldiers which the general mentioned, Boutte said, had been dropped because they were found to involve "higher ups" in the army.

N.Y. Herald

June 10, 1925

#### Can't Make Them Fight

Two or three days before the armistice I resolved to attack the enemy with my whole army. Before I could put my resolution into effect I received an order from General Pershing to do just what I had decided to do. The order was given to the 92d Division as to the rest of the 2d Army. The division made no impression of consequence upon the enemy. "The poor 92d Negroes" (Diary, November 11) "wasted time and dawdled where they did attack and in some places where they should have attacked never budged at all. It seems to be as much the fault of the general as of the Negroes." "Two days ago" (Diary, November 12) "and again yesterday, the 92d Division would not fight, couldn't be made to attack in any effective sense. The general who commands them can't make them fight." The general seemed to me to have lost sight of military efficiency in the

racial "uplift" problem which filled his mind. And the prospect, too, of little occupation for these vigorous black men in the quiet days after the armistice! And the sure complaints from the French population!

It is commonly believed among Americans that French people have no objections to Negroes, but this I quickly found was an error. While there were very few French people in the region occupied by this division, they were not happy to have the Negroes among them.

#### Charges Made by Women

The Negro is a more sensual man than the white man and at the same time he is far more offensive to white women than a white man is. The little acts of familiarity that would pass unnoticed in a white man, becomes with white women the cause of complaint against the Negro. This special Negro division was already charged with fifteen cases of rape.

For these reasons immediately after the armistice I recommended in effect that this division be sent home first of all American troops, that they be sent home in all honor, but, above all, that they be sent quick. The answer came that Marshal Foch would not, pending peace, approve the transfer of any division back to the United States. In answer I told the American headquarters to say to Marshal Foch that no man could be responsible for the acts of these Negroes toward French women, and that he had better send this division home at once. This brought the order and the 92d was, I believe, the very first division to be sent home. I was told that the division was received at home with great glorification. I was perfectly willing that it should be; the American Army abroad was relieved. My own sense of relief can be understood when I say that while a part of the division was waiting for its railroad trains to move it to its port of embarkation, among other things, one French woman complained that she was ravished by five 92d Division soldiers.

#### A Nightmare Memory

Altogether my memories of the 92nd Negro Division are a nightmare. When all my thought, time and effort were needed to make war against a powerful enemy, they had for a week to be given over entirely to a dangerous, irritating race question that had nothing to do with war making, the paramount matter of the time. I fear that it will always be so with Negroes wherever they are in contact with whites. This thought and my experience led me to this conclusion: If you need combat soldiers, and especially if you need them in a hurry, don't put your time upon Negroes. Soldier making and fighting with them, if there are any white people near, will be swamped in the race question. If racial uplift or racial equality is your purpose, that is another matter.

# Negroes Heroic, Fish Declares, Scoring Bullard

*Herald*  
**Representative Who Helped  
 Head New York Regiment  
 of Them Blames General  
 for 'Mishandling' Troops**

**Cites Pershing's Praise  
 Says France's Experience  
 Shows America Erred in  
 Training and Leadership**

Representative Hamilton Fish Jr., a former officer of the 369th Infantry, New York's Negro Guard regiment, wrote to The Herald Tribune yesterday to express his disagreement with the conclusions drawn by General Robert Lee Bullard in one of his leading articles concerning the usefulness of Negro troops.

Without questioning the facts cited by General Bullard as indicative of the conduct of the 92d Division, a Negro outfit, under fire, Representative Fish says that General Bullard was unwarranted in his conclusions that Negroes were useless as combat troops. The records of American history show on the contrary, says Mr. Fish, that when properly trained and led, Negro troops are as good soldiers as any.

The letter follows:  
 "I have read with amazement the story of the 92d Negro Division by General Robert Lee Bullard, and as much as I dislike to differ with such an eminent American General, I would be derelict in my duty toward those Negro soldiers in the old 15th New York who paid the supreme sacrifice, if I did not hasten to deny the glittering generalities and aspersions heaped against the Negro as a fighting man.

General Bullard's article shows a degree of animus against the colored soldier which is unusual from an army officer who should be familiar with deeds of heroism performed by Negro soldiers in all our wars—the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, colored, under the gallant Colonel Shaw in the Civil War, the 9th Cavalry, colored, in Cuba, which rushed to the support of the Rough Riders when the fighting was hottest, and the 24th and 25th Infantry along the border and in the Philippines.

### Calls Indictment Unfair

"I do not know whether General Bullard comes from the far South as his name indicates, but I do know that his indictment of the Negro soldiers is absolutely unfair and unwarranted. I do not question the facts presented by General Bullard, but differ utterly as to the conclusions. It seems to me that the responsibility for the 'profound discouragement' in the 92d Division rests largely on General Bullard's shoulders, as the provisional 93d Division (Negro), fought splendidly and had exceedingly heavy casualties.

"General Bullard says of the Ninety-second Division: 'The general who commands them can't make them fight, and again, 'The division commanding general is not a military man.' If this particular general was not up to his job, why did not General Bullard replace him? Why is it that the four Negro American infantry regiments attached to the French army fought valiantly and that three of these regiments had their flags decorated with the Croix de Guerre for gallantry on the field of battle? No one questions the fighting abilities of the American Negro regiments lent to the French; their heroic achievements speak for themselves.

### Cites Heavy Negro Casualties

"The total casualties of these four infantry regiments, which had a battle strength of approximately 10,000, or 2,500 to a regiment, were 457 killed and 3,468 wounded, or 40 per cent of the effectives. With the exception of the First and Second divisions there were not many American divisions which had a higher percentage of killed and wounded. These four regiments received 400 individual decorations for extraordinary heroism under fire, officially proving the gallant conduct of Negro troops in modern warfare.

"They endured all the hardships without a murmur, slept in the cold and rain and faced death from high explosives, shrapnel, gas and machine guns with the same fortitude, loyalty and courage as the other American divisions.

"The Negro troops, far from being 'discouraged,' were known to the French as 'les joyeux,' or the happy ones, as they carried out orders without grumbling, and made the best of the conditions with which they had to contend.

### Says Men Lacked Chance

"The answer is that the 92d Division (Negro) in General Bullard's army never had a fair chance from the beginning. The men were lacking in training and the junior officers were inexperienced and not accustomed to command. Many of the soldiers were recruits who had never seen a rifle in their lives, drafted from the cotton and corn fields less than two months before being ordered to participate in a general offensive. Some of the soldiers actually went into battle without ever having fired a rifle. Unlike other divisions, they had hardly any experience in quiet sectors, but owing to the need for all available troops, were rushed into the September offensive.

"General Bullard goes on to say that 'the Negro, it seems, cannot stand bombardment.' Such a statement is simply silly and shows that General Bullard does not know what he is talking about. I am quite sure that neither General Mangin nor General Gouraud, of the French army, both of whom commanded Negro French troops, ever had any such idea. General Mangin, who had as much experience with Negro soldiers as any general in the World War, was most outspoken in his praise and maintained that if properly trained and led, they were equal to the best troops in any army in the world for bravery and fighting qualities.

### Negroes 'First Class Fighters'

"Those white officers who have served with colored troops know that if Negro soldiers are given a fair chance, carefully trained and led by experienced officers, they make first class fighting men. If General Bullard desires to question the efficiency and advisability of using colored officers, let him say so, but not indict the Negro soldier of cowardice, which is a gross calumny against fearless soldiers, who were ready and willing to lay down their lives for their country, and who, if well led, will go as far as any general or any white officer will lead them.

"General Bullard further says, 'The politics of our country had forced the formation of this Negro division, contrary to experience.' Contrary to what experience and to whose experience? Since when did the United States ever have divisions containing 27,000 men before, white or black? No wonder the 92d Division never had a chance if that was the attitude of ranking generals in our army.

"Fortunately, we have much better regular army authority than General Bullard on the conduct of American Negro troops in war. Colonel James A. Moss, a graduate of West Point, who served eighteen years with Negro troops and commanded the 372d Infantry in France, says: 'If properly trained and instructed the Negro makes as good a soldier as the world has ever seen. The history of the Negro

in all of our wars, including our Indian campaigns, show this. He is by nature of a happy disposition, he is responsive and tractable, he is very amenable to discipline, he has faith and confidence in his leader, and he possesses physical courage, all of which are valuable military assets.'

### Notes Pershing's Tribute

"General Pershing says: 'I cannot commend too highly the spirit shown among the colored combat troops, who exhibit fine capacity for quick training and eagerness for the most dangerous work.'

"According to General Bullard's own statement, the 92d Division was under his command only a few weeks, yet he undertakes to condemn all Negro soldiers of cowardice and inefficiency because of the mishandling of the division under his command. The fact is that they were only called on to attack on November 11, along with the other units of the Second Army and accomplished about as much as any other division in that attack, one of the Negro battalions being decorated for coming to the aid of some white troops which had got into a tight place.

"If the attack of the Second Army failed, the blame should be placed elsewhere than on this division. When the First Army succeeded in its attack in September, 1918 there might have been some reason to reproach the Negro recruits, but in the November offensive before Metz the blame rests largely on poor leadership as there was plenty of time to reorganize the entire outfit if it were deemed necessary.

### Recalls Individual Heroism

"In my judgment this unwarranted attack on Negro soldiers and charging them with cowardice is either a deliberate conspiracy to malign and discredit American Negro soldiers and the Negro race or it was written without knowledge and conclusions hastily and eagerly jumped at from prejudices without a careful investigation of all the facts regarding the training, experience and conduct in battle of all the colored American soldiers in the American expeditionary forces.

"If any one questions the bravery of the American Negro soldier let me relate the story of Sergeant Butler, of Company L, 369th Infantry, who pursued a German raiding party into No Man's Land after it had captured a white American officer and four or five Negro soldiers, and who alone and unaided, except by the small machine gun he carried, freed the white officer and the Negro soldiers and killed a half dozen of the German raiding party and seriously wounded the German officer, who later died in our trenches. That is the true account of one trained and experienced Negro non-commissioned officer acting on his own initiative, and what one can do all could have done if given the opportunity and if properly trained and led.

"Let no man question the bravery of the Negro soldiers, for he either does not know what he is talking about or he is prejudiced.

"I do not know General Bullard and have no personal controversy with him, but simply out of justice to those seven hundred Negroes soldiers who paid the supreme sacrifice, the five thousand who were wounded and the four hundred thousand in the armed forces of the United States, I wish to take this opportunity to protest, deny and repudiate the charge of cowardice against the American Negro soldier.

"Respectfully yours,

HAMILTON FISH JR.

"P. S.—Since writing this defense of the American Negro soldier in the World War, I have learned that General Bullard was born in Alabama and was appointed to West Point from that state. Such information may be useful to the reader before reaching a conclusion. Let me add that I have followed the articles by General Bullard in The Herald Tribune and, with the exception of that relating to the American Negro soldier, consider them not only most interesting but a most accurate account of the various military operations of the American Ex-

N.Y.  
 HERALD  
 JUN  
 12,  
 1925

# Bullard Charge Denied, Upheld In Letter Flood

General Abused by Some, Commended for 'Honesty' by Others as Storm Over Criticisms Continues

*Herald*  
Negro War Feats Recalled  
6-11-25  
First French Decorations Awarded to U. S. Soldiers Went to Them, Is Claim

The storm stirred by the comments of General Robert Lee Bullard on the behavior of the American Negro soldier in France continued yesterday as more letters, both in denial and substantiation of the charges made were sent to The Herald Tribune.

The letters condemning General Bullard for his statements were for the most part abusive, while those which commended him for his "honesty" had words of thankfulness that at last some one had come forward who would "tell the truth." The entire correspondence cannot be printed because of its length, but excerpts from typical letters are printed here.

## Charges Effort to Discredit Negro

George S. Schuyler, writing on stationery of "The Messenger," a Negro publication, says in part:

"I feel that some one should take up the cudgels against this wholesale accusation. Despite the fact that every effort was made on the part of the United States government to bring about a state of affairs that would discredit the Negro soldier and officer, especially the latter, by not uniting the division until it arrived in France, by not supplying it adequately with necessary equipment and by transferring some of its most promising officers to labor battalions and pioneer organizations, still the division made an enviable record.

"It is noteworthy that a large number of the Negro line officers were former non-commissioned officers from the crack Negro regiments of the regular army, one of which (the 25th Infantry), Major General William H. Carter, retired, told a Congressional party in 1915, 'is the best dressed, best drilled, best maneuvering and best disciplined regiment I have ever seen in my forty years of service.'"

## Two White Majors Cowards, He Says

Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, editor of "The Crisis," in writing of the supposed cowardice of the 368th Infantry, said that evidence brought out at investigations showed the regiment was sent forward into a nest of barb-wire and machine guns in the most dangerous salient of the line inadequately supplied with wire cutters; that conflicting orders were given by white officers to advance and then to retreat; that one white major was so terrified by the hail of bullets that he became helpless and ran around whimpering, "What shall I do," while another major left his battalion and ran to his dug-out where he lay trembling and sobbing while his command shifted for itself. Neither of these officers was tried for cowardice—it was said they were shell-shocked.

## Negroes First to Get French Cross

Cleveland H. Allen, a Negro editor, comments on the Bullard articles in part as follows:

"Greater bravery, finer courage, a more rugged devotion to the ideals and traditions of the army have never been more finely exemplified than by the Negro soldier in the great struggle that began in 1914. The very first soldiers in action on the western front were Negroes, Needham Roberts, of Trenton, and Henry Johnson, of Albany, members of the old 15th Regiment, who beat off a dozen Germans after they had been wounded, and who were the first American soldiers to receive the French Croix de Guerre.

"Colonel William Hayward, a fine upstanding American white man, speaks in the highest terms of the courage and valor of this Negro outfit. An instance of the caliber of the men that made up the regiment was seen when twelve volunteers were called from one company of the regiment for a raiding party and the whole company fell in line.

"General Coybet, of the 157th French Division, said: 'Never will the 157th Division forget the indomitable dash, the heroic rush of the American Negro regiment up the observatory ridge and into the Plains of Monthois.' In the face of such facts I cannot see how any one can speak lightly of the heroism of the Negro soldiers. General Bullard has made a grave error in speaking in this light vein of the Negro soldier, and the War Department at Washington ought to resent it, for it has the record."

## Calls Bullard Prejudiced Southerner

An anonymous writer supposes General Bullard to be "a Southerner, prejudiced and brave."

"General Bullard's sense of decency and justice seems limited," the letter says. "I trust that all of the 92d Division may read General Bullard's slap in the face, in appreciation of their efforts to win the war for democracy. I am sorry that he has endeavored to dishonor the Negro soldier."

Referring to the articles as "blind and prejudiced," Corporal H. McBean, Company D., 367th Infantry, 92 Division, writes:

"I am a member of the 92d Division and would like to ask Mr. Bullard wasn't it the 92d Division that relieved the Wild Cat Division (white) who refused to remain under shell fire in the Toul sector?"

"We remained in that particular sector for sixty-five days under shell fire without getting supplies for days. Also in the Meuse Argonne, at La Chappelle, we repulsed a couple of combat patrols. Our trenches were shelled as level as you would expect, still we held our ground. On November 10 the 1st Battalion went over in assaulting waves in the Metz sector and took Pragny and Pregny, which forced the Germans to evacuate. The Negro soldiers, as whites had their shortcomings, and it is rather biased to single out the 92d Division. I protest in the name of the fine, stalwart and efficient Negro officers and men who did their duty for their country ably."

Further exception to the Bullard comments is taken by J. Eddie Edwards who, in a long letter, says:

"It is an insult to every colored mother who sacrificed her son to fight for the U. S. A. All the boys that went overseas, regardless of race, creed or color, did their bit eagerly. They all faced the same danger."

## Others Support General Bullard

From letters supporting the statements made by General Bullard, the following quotations are taken. M. H. Smith, a former lieutenant in the A. E. F., writes in part:

"We had misgivings on our way up to the front, stopping in a number of small towns where we found groups of

men from the 92d Division in a state of terror, huddled together, discussing nothing but religious subjects, and few of them, upon being questioned, seemed even to know what organization they belonged to.

"General Bullard's statement that the Negro could not stand bombardment was aptly expressed to me by one of the 92d Division at our position who stated: 'Over in the states they told us all about trenches, hand grenades and rifles—but they never told us one damn thing about shells!'"

"This is not written with any personal prejudice against the Negro whatsoever nor with the idea of entering into any controversy, but merely to give the opinion of one who was there, and with a sincere desire to give what confirmation might be desired to an article that has so honestly given the facts.

"The immediate exceptions taken to General Bullard's article as published in your issue of June 9 are to be expected; but any one who was on the ground at the time had his own opinion deeply impressed after living through such an unfortunate experience.

"All of this in the sincere hope that never again will it be necessary to place a Negro division in the position where for obvious reasons it cannot be expected to function."

## L. M. Mauro says:

"General Bullard expressed his opinion about the 92d Division composed exclusively of Negroes. He will be, undoubtedly, attacked for that. Nevertheless, he has told the truth. No man knows the Negroes any better than General Bullard, and his comments, therefore, are not second-handed."

N.Y. Herald

June 11, 1925

Schuyler continues his letter with quotations praising the Negro soldiers from Newton D. Baker, General Pershing, Brigadier General Malvern Hill Bagnum of the 92d Division, Colonel F. R. Brown, General John H. Sherburne, Colonel Wade H. Carpenter and Colonel G. R. Spaulding. He concludes by saying:

"In justice to the Negro soldier, who has ever defended the flag of this nation, let the other side be heard."

# Bullard Diary Criticism and Praise Continue

Views on President Wilson  
and Preparedness Evoke  
Attack on Regular Army  
Officers' Unreadiness  
*Donald*  
British Defended, Scored

Negro 'Lack of Enthusiasm  
for Battle' Attributed to  
Color Line's Influence  
6-17-20

Expressions of opinion concerning the World War recollections of General Robert Lee Bullard continue to reach The Herald Tribune from its readers in numbers. In letters received yesterday President Wilson is enthusiastically defended by one writer, while another agrees with General Bullard's remarks concerning our pre-war unpreparedness. One objects to the general's comments on the British war mind, and another supports them, while yet again opinions from both sides of the argument are offered regarding General Bullard's low estimate of Negro troops as combat units.

#### Blames Pacifism on Nation

"It is very easy to blame the President for lack of preparedness," writes Roderick D. Donaldson, captain, U. S. A., retired, and so we explain all failures of our military organization during the first year of the war. This attitude Mr. Donaldson considers "both unfair and unjust," and points out that in pre-war days the feeling in support of the United States entry into the conflict had its center in New York City. "The United States," he says, "was not fully aroused to the war until one year after we were in the war." Mr. Donaldson puts the responsibility for the pacifism of President Wilson upon the pacifism of the vast majority of the citizens of the United States.

Transport unpreparedness, he writes, was due to the failure of Congress to pass the Emergency Fleet Corporation Bill urged by the President more than a year previous to our entry into the war, and he further accuses the officers of the Regular Army of fostering unpreparedness on their own account, citing the situation after the United States had entered the war, with regard to the American army rifle, the redesigning of our machine guns, airplanes, and the delay in accepting the French 75 as a capable piece of light artillery.

"In our civilian operated government," he writes, "there was undoubtedly lack of wisdom both before and after our entry into the World War. . . . It is quite apparent to all those who saw anything of the working of the Regular Army officer that his woeful unpreparedness should be censured more harshly than the unpreparedness of the civilian departments of the government."

#### Censures Comment on British

"T. E. R." writes from Brooklyn arraigining General Bullard for his censure of certain habits attributed by him to the British.

"It is appalling," he says, "that a man of General Bullard's standing should make sweeping generalizations about a great nation on one experience—a futile and stupid hotel incident in London at 7:30 a. m. in wartime when staff were terribly reduced."

If the English were to generalize in the same way about us, what would be the result? The English have the most sanely balanced minds in the world, hence their wonderful sense of justice.

"What a terrible display of ignorance of the English to make, and what they have done to assert that the battle line could never call loudly enough to make them give up men and comforts in the rear to satisfy the requirements of the front; that this would be worse than defeat by the enemy; that they were unable to win the war! These are gross untruths. Any student of the war knows that the British saved the world in 1914 at Mons."

"General Bullard's futile analysis

shows no knowledge whatever of the subject of Great Britain, or of conditions. Rather than display such ignorance and incompetency, he should remain silent."

As against this opinion is the one set forth by Arthur E. Friswell, who, claiming to be English by birth and American by citizenship, says of this phase of the Bullard memoirs: "He is equally right in his few short pithy sentences exposing the Englishman's inherent slavery to custom, and his industrial laziness which enabled the German to steal his markets before the war, and which will enable him to do it again unless John Bull gets another lot . . . It is a great pity that there are not more General Bullards."

#### Sees Color Line as Damper

William J. Roe writes from Newburgh, N. Y., to ask whether the Negro lack of enthusiasm for battle is to be considered remarkable: "It might not be quite so easy," he writes, "to see the point in 'making the world safe for democracy,' from the shady side of the color line. Which line may be a more or less necessary fact, but is certainly not in accord with democratic theory."

But W. Barnes, of South Orange, agrees with General Bullard in the matter of the Negro troops. "Any one who really knows and understands the Negro," Mr. Barnes writes, "will know that everything General Bullard has said of him is true. It is unfortunate for the Negro, but people may as well know the truth. I have greatly enjoyed the general's splendid book."

Phyllis M. Komori takes no side but is frankly bored by the whole affair, saying to herself, "Do we have to go over all that again?" She sees in the presentation of the Bullard memoirs at this time a subtle propaganda "for the one purpose of working up fervor for the approaching Defense Day, which when celebrated last year met with enthusiasm only in the newspapers." Defense Day, she thinks, is "fostered by the militarists and a few other noisy 'patriots' who must represent only a minority." General Bullard's remarks concerning the war conduct of Negro troops she considers "tactless and ungentlemanly."

# Leader of 92d Hits Bullard's Negro Criticism

*Mail 6/28/25*  
Gen. Bullard Holds Race Antagonism Himpred Him, Caused One Regiment's Retreat To Be Magnified

Charges Plot to 'Get' Him Says He 'Carried On' With Colored Officers Under War Department's Orders

The Herald Tribune has received the following communication:

To The New York Herald Tribune:

I commanded the 92d Division during the World War and am therefore interested and not wholly uninformed reader of General Bullard's criticisms of that division and its commander and of the various comments thereon that you have recently published. Generally speaking, one is about as wide of the mark as the other. General Bullard charges cowardice, discouragement of the white officers (one alone excepted—the commanding general), general worthlessness, rape and various other sins of omission and commission, and supports his charges with specifications.

Assuming the charges proved, he then deduces the military unfitness of the colored race. Many of his critics, on the other hand, represent the colored race as a prodigy. The fact, as I see it, is that the masses of the colored race—and the 92d Division represented fairly the masses—whatever may be its inherent capacity, has never had an opportunity to develop leadership.

## Sees Need for Better Leaders

With many individual exceptions to the contrary, the fact remains that most colored people always have been dominated and either led or driven by white men. The result is a lack of initiative and self-reliance that makes it necessary to have superior leadership. The colored soldier (again speaking generally) requires a better leader than a white one does; and he must have a leader that he can see and hear and in whom he has confidence. Given these he is a good soldier.

I recommended against the organization of a colored division. When this had been ordered and I had been designated to command it, I did the best I knew how to be faithful to the trust reposed in me. General Bullard charges that I was not strong in a military way—thinking more of race "uplift" than of purely military problems.

**UPHIRT**—Was for Fighting Fitness  
I plead guilty of having a great interest in "uplift," but can produce abundant evidence to the fact that I taught early and late that the greatest good the 92d Division could do the colored race would be in proving their fitness as soldiers and that everything else must be subordinate to that idea. It was one of the highest tests of fitness for citizenship. Two battles could not be fought at one time—and their battle at that time was to defeat the Germans. There was no room or time for taking up social and other problems that confront the race.

While conducting the colored officers' training camp I realized that there could be no great success for the Negroes in the war without the sympathetic co-operation and friendly good will of the white race. Race strife and hatred meant nothing but loss to colored interests and hopes.

## Criticized by Negroes

So deeply was I impressed by this fact that I was severely criticized, by many colored people because of the vigor with which I attempted to stamp out every spark of discord that fell within my reach. Thanks, however, to the fact that I did so, the East St. Louis and Houston tragedies, that aroused so much bitterness elsewhere, never made a ripple in the friendly relations that had been established between the training camp personnel and the people of Des Moines.

No sooner were we established in our training area in France, however, than the dreaded spark reached the powder barrel. The troops were distributed over more than a hundred square miles of territory and quartered ("billeted") with French families, by whom they were generally treated as social equals. This worked badly.

## Treated as Equals by French

Few of my 27,000 Negroes, however kindly treated, had ever before been treated as social equals by white women. They had come from massed cantonments, with every facility for disciplinary control, and from practical prohibition, to a place where they were widely dispersed, with control correspondingly difficult, and where unlimited supplies of intoxicants were readily obtainable.

Add to this the fact of a hitherto unknown social equality, which was worse than wine in its "heady" effects on many; then add to this the effect that the sight of this social equality had on white men; then combine the sum with the thousand other harassing problems peculiar to the situation, and you may well wonder that General Bullard did not find the division commander as discouraged as he reported the other white officers to have been.

## Racial Discontent Sown

Many will deny it—some, perhaps, were not definitely conscious of it—but the fact remains that right then and there were sown the seeds of racial discontent, discord and distrust that made all hope of close and sympathetic co-operation between black and white officers vanish. The white man's vision was prejudiced—jaundiced—and he, probably unconsciously, magnified every defect of the colored officers (and, goodness knows, these were many enough and large enough without any distortion).

There was no waiting for tests of courage and charges of cowardice. Right there in the training area was begun an effort, that never ceased, to induce the division commander to eliminate colored officers and substitute white ones. I credit those engaged in this with sincerity, but they were not in the right frame of mind to make the best possible use of the material they must work with.

## Had to "Carry On" With Officers

The division commander could not personally influence his widely scattered command as he had influenced those at the officers' training camp, but, rightly or wrongly, he felt that he must "carry on" as best he could with the material given him by the War Department. He recommended the discharge of the proved unfit, but never asked for a white man to replace a colored man.

He did ask, and secured, a colored division judge advocate, urging that he desired that every colored man should know that if tried for any serious offense his case would be reviewed by a man of his own race. He also placed several colored officers on every court he appointed. Many colored people charge that he ruled with "an iron discipline"; he certainly tried to do so and needed to do so.

## Admits Discouragement

I make no denial of General Bullard's statement of the disaffection—

discouragement—whatever he pleased to call it—of the white officers. Perhaps even the division commander was a bit discouraged, though General Bullard failed to observe it. But I do not think he has fairly stated the case against the Negro. General Bullard damns the division and the race because of the misconduct of some troops in the battle of the Argonne. What are the facts?

An infantry regiment, never before in battle, was detached from the division, attached to a French brigade under a French officer, placed between the French and the American armies, in a gap so wide that they were out of touch with both, and there, during the night, under the influence of bombardment to which they could not reply because of the limitations of their weapons, the battalion in the first line—very generally, but not entirely—drifted to the rear—not in a stampede, but singly and in small groups.

## Cites Regiment's Retreat

The above is from the information later given me by the officers, white and black, of the regiment, and by General De Mondesire, the French corps commander. The latter added; "It was a difficult situation—one that would have tested the quality of experienced troops of approved valor." The president of the Tuskegee Industrial Training School told me that General Pershing had told him that he (Pershing) could name eighteen white organizations that had behaved as badly!

Why is it that we hear little or nothing of the stampedes of white organizations and so much of this failure of the Negroes? It is simply because of the fact that in spite of the efforts of the division commander race bitterness was in the air; too many white and too many black men were "seeing red." The many shortcomings of the colored troops were distorted and magnified, as they are to this day.

## Says Whites Resented Equality Hopes

There were then and there are now thousands of white men with tolerant, kindly feelings toward the Negro—similar to their kindly, humane interest in a horse or a dog—but only for so long as he remains a horse or a dog. When he aspired to be a man it was different; least of all could he be treated as "an officer and a gentleman!"

General Bullard found every white officer but one discouraged. On that one exception he poured forth the vials of his wrath, because, as General Bullard charges, he "couldn't make the colored troops fight" and was interested in their uplift. The other white officers he praises as exceptionally fine and capable officers, excusing them from responsibility because they were too few in number to leave the lead.

N.Y. HERALD  
June 28, 1925



### Asks How He Could Do It All

If three white brigadier generals, fourteen or fifteen white colonels and lieutenant colonels and twice as many white majors, with their white staff officers in still larger numbers, couldn't get any fight out of the Negroes, how could one man—a major general, it is true, but, after all, only a man—accomplish it? Has any man ever charged that he did not try? Has any man ever charged that he ever held back one of these fine officers? I never heard of it. His great fault lay in the fact that he wouldn't be a party to a wholesale condemnation of colored officers and try to replace them with white ones.

General Bullard charges "dawdling," failure to attack, etc., in the last battle (that of November 10 and 11), and places the blame, as usual, on the division commander and the colored men. Let us examine the facts briefly:

#### Explains Failure to Attack

The 92d Division had replaced a French division on the right of the Moselle River, with its left at Pont-a-Mousson. On its right was the French 33d Corps, and on its left across the river was the 7th United States Division. General Bullard caused it to be split, one regiment of infantry being placed on the left bank, thus being widely separated from the rest of the division by an unfordable stream, the Moselle.

The two elements had no common objective and could make no co-operative effort. Unity of command was difficult. In front of the 7th Division were the Heights of Preny, barring its advance, and also, by their position on the left flank of my infantry regiment's sector, completely commanding its advance on its first objective. Preny must be taken before my left could advance beyond it, and co-operation, therefore, with the 7th Division was highly desirable—perhaps absolutely essential.

#### Names Bullard's Orders

On Thursday or Friday evening prior to the armistice General Bullard summoned me to his headquarters and showed me Marshal Foch's order for the government of the action of all troops up to and at the time the armistice should become effective. There was in this order not a word contemplating an attack; the war was practically over.

My line was deeply indented at the river, and General Bullard directed me to rectify it so as to present a practi-

cally straight line when the armistice should become effective four or five days later. Preparations were made to carry this out on the morning of November 10 at 5 o'clock. Between midnight and 1 o'clock of that morning, however, I received orders by telephone to attack in force at 7 and to go as far as I could.

#### Found French Not Attacking

I was told that the entire Second Army would attack at that hour, but I received not one word from any source as to the special action of the division on my left or as to the French troops on my right. Later I found that the latter were not attacking at all! There was barely time to get orders written and distributed before the hour of attack.

Knowing that the 7th Division must attack Preny, the colonel on my left was given the only orders that limited time and information made possible. He was to attack at 7 a. m., in close connection with the 7th Division. I personally went to the right and broader front to push the action there, leaving my chief of staff at the command post to observe the left, act in my absence, if necessary, and to keep me informed.

### 7th Division Falls Back

The first message I received from him was that difficulty had been experienced in getting in touch with the 7th Division, but that this had been effected, and that all was now going all right. The next was that the 7th had attacked, was badly licked and had fallen back with heavy loss on its trenches, its retreat being covered by our regiment's machine guns.

This regiment was then directed by me to hold its ground and to resume the attack whenever the 7th was ready. But it never moved again till after the armistice. Subsequently I learned that my regiment had not moved at all. The colonel got his simple, plain orders, but thought they didn't mean what they said. This was the "failure to attack at all" referred to by General Bullard.

#### Heard 7th Attacked Too Soon

The division commander was, as he says, as much to blame for this as were the Negroes, neither one nor the other having any power to prevent or remedy it. My chief of staff informed me later that the 7th Division "jumped off" at 4:30 a. m., instead of at 7, the hour stated in the army orders, and that this was what had delayed our getting in touch with them. (I have never learned positively whether or not this was true).

The commander of the 92d Division was made the "goat" of the 7th Division's defeat. At any rate, it was not due to the colored men. Their

colonel didn't even try to make them fight.

#### Blames Delays on White Officers

On the right of the river occurred the delays—the "dawdling" to which General Bullard refers (and his designation of it as such is probably just). The division commander, having designated the first and second objectives and stressed the demand for pushing the attack as far as possible, did not learn until too late that a certain reserve had not been ordered to a position from which it could, and should have advanced at once on the allotted objective when the first objective had been taken.

When this was learned and corrective measures directed, this white commander demurred, saying that he wished to be sure of the first objective before giving any orders looking toward taking the second. Wherever the fault lay, it cannot be placed upon a Negro. Does General Bullard propose to blame the division commander for not doing everything himself?

#### Negroes Retreated From Gas

The fault that can and must be laid to them (the Negroes) in this same brigade is that, having captured a wood, they allowed themselves to be driven out of it by gas, seeking relief at the rear instead of at the front, as their officers had been ordered to do in such an event. Slowness in retaking this wood was due to a "superior" white officer who did not act until my peremptory order was accompanied by directions for his relief from command if there was further delay.

Since, as stated above, I, as commander of the 92d Division, was made the "goat" of the 7th Division's defeat (although the then Secretary of War said to me concerning it: "Your exoneration from blame appears to me to be complete"), it seems that the regiment—mine—on the left must have the key to the situation. Otherwise, how could the division commander be so held?

### Asks Why Bullard Delayed Orders

Then, why did not the army commander, well knowing his intention to attack whether General Pershing ordered it or not, give me, the commander of the 92d Division, timely information, so that I could consult with the 7th Division commander on my left and arrange a plan for a joint attack on Preny, instead of merely telling me to "straighten out your line," and leaving me in total ignorance of the more strenuous work to be done until six or six and a half hours before that work was to begin?

Indeed, believing, as he states, that the Negroes were worthless, why did he split the 92d Division by placing it astride the Moselle and trust the suc-

cess or failure of his 7th Division to this black regiment?

#### Charges Plot to "Get" Him

Two years ago I was told by a colonel that one of General Bullard's staff officers had told him that the war ended two years too soon. "We 'got' a lot of them as it was," said he, "but if the war had lasted a year or two longer we would have 'got' every major general and most of the brigadiers." This explains much that I already knew. The failure of my colonel to obey orders and attack and the defeat of the 7th Division provided an opportunity to 'get' a major general—one already in disfavor because of his supposed pro-Negro-officer leanings.

General Bullard says that the commander of the 92d Division was not very strong in a military way. Perhaps not, but in the records of forty-three years' service it will be found that it remained for General Bullard and other critics of my attitude toward Negro officers to make this discovery.

#### Race Antagonism Discouraged

Many of the white officers were in sympathy with my methods and, if discouraged, as General Bullard states, were discouraged because of the unfortunate element of race antagonism that so hampered their efforts and mine.

One of my brigadiers, now a major general, said to me: "If you had put the same effort into a white division it would have been the best in the army." There would have been no race problem.

A colored officer came to me after the war and said: "We always knew that you were no Negro lover, but we also knew that you did everything in your power to give us a square deal."

C. C. BALLOU,  
Late Major General,  
Commanding 92d Division,  
Spokane, Wash., June 23, 1925.

# MAJOR ADAM PATTERSON GIVES SOME INSIDE FACTS TO REFUTE BULLARD'S ATTACK ON SOLDIERS

By MAJOR ADAM E. PATTERSON  
(Judge Advocate of the 92d Division)

General Robert Lee Bullard appears to be woefully lacking in correct information relative to the activities and character of the 92d division. It is almost unbelievable that a man of General Bullard's type can be so far wrong in his observations and conclusions regarding the Colored soldiers in the A. E. F., yet such is the case. There can be only one reason, but no excuse, for the woeful misrepresentation of the facts concerning these soldiers, the reason being that General Bullard received his information about Colored soldiers from highly prejudiced staff officers of the 92d division, chiefly Colonel Green, who was innately opposed to Colored soldiers and not from actual contact or observation. There can be no excuse for General Bullard's lack of truthful information because he had the means of obtaining correct information if he had not been too willing to rely upon the words of others whom he knew to be intensely prejudiced.



Major Patterson

A fair and full investigation by unbiased men would have disclosed the fact that the very men charged with cowardice were under the immediate command of Major Max A. Elser of the 168th infantry, in the Meuse-Argonne battle and that Elser was possessed of a violent case of Negro prejudice and did everything possible to discourage and discredit the Colored soldiers under his command; that he preferred false charges against some of the Colored officers and sought to have them court-martialed for talking to the French women. On the night of the Argonne battle, the major became so frightened he jumped into a shell hole and cried to some of the Colored soldiers to take him away from the battle. He could not and did not give his officers intelligent orders and after the first skirmish could not be found. On that same night and in the same battle, the Colored men were sent to take and destroy barbed-wire entanglements with nothing save their bare hands, while the other groups of white were supplied with the proper wire-cutting implements.

## Prejudiced Officers

It is generally known among the Colored soldiers that many of the white superior officers (no Colored man held a commission above the grade of captain in the 92d division excepting Major Patterson) studiously and deliberately made it difficult, if not almost impossible, for their Colored soldiers to make a showing solely because they objected to Colored soldiers and wanted things to appear as badly for them as possible.

The statement that only one German was captured by the Colored men of the 92d is too ridiculous for comment. In fact and in truth there were scores of Germans captured, oftentimes several, by a single Colored soldier. One of the five captains tried for cowardice held a congressional medal of honor for bravery.

Robert Lee Bullard is a southerner of known anti-Negro feeling, but admits that the scurrilous articles on the Colored soldiers are not facts of his own personal knowledge, but matters of opinion and belief.

I was the judge advocate for the 92d division and personally handled all offenses committed by the soldiers from A. W. O. L. to murder, and upon my return to America made a report to Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, containing among other things the case of Capt. Daniel Smith

of Company K, 368th infantry, who resided in Washington, D. C.

Captain Smith, no doubt, is one of the officers referred to by General Bullard who was sentenced to be shot by court-martial. I became personally interested in this case, secured proper records from Smith, which reads as follows:

"On the evening of Sept. 27, 1918, I received orders to advance at 5:30 p. m. I formed my company and moved out at the time ordered. After advancing 50 yards, I came under heavy shell fire from the enemy. One shell burst in the midst of my first platoon, killing three and wounding eight. I pushed on still under shell and machine gun fire. My men were eager to continue the advance. I received orders to halt until further orders, but as my men were filled with morale, I decided to continue the advance. It being dark, raining and woods very thick, we pushed on, capturing 28 Germans and four machine guns. It was then about 10 p. m. I halted for the night, and had no cover for my men. I issued orders to hold what we had gained. Although under heavy shell fire all night, all my men stuck.

## Advanced Again

"At 5 a. m. Sept. 28 I received orders to move forward at 7:30. I had neither water nor food for my men, but moved forward at the time ordered with Company I on my left, advancing through the enemy's barrage of gas, machine guns and snapper, arriving at Morrow Valley. A shell burst within 20 feet of me, wounding two of my soldiers. I then had conference with the captain of Company I, and while holding this consultation another shell burst about 20 feet away, wounding Captain Green, from which wound he died. During this operation I lost 28 men by gas and four killed by shell and 19 wounded. I did not mention about all of my officers, numbering four, who were wounded on the night of Sept. 27, leaving me to control the company of 244 men alone."

Another incident of bravery in action which came to my notice was that of Sergt. William Collier of Nashville, Tenn., of Company K, 368th infantry, who while in charge of a squad of eight men on the night of Sept. 28, captured two machine guns and 12 Germans, killing three others.

I think it is appropriate to mention here that Captain Smith, whose gallantry had been stunned by the cowardice charge, was a seasoned war veteran. He had been in every battle in which the United States army took part since July 3, 1898. He was at Carrizal and in the Philippines and holds four medals, one of which is a congressional medal of honor.

## Bullard Ridiculous

There are so many discrepancies and misstatements contained in General Bullard's article that they border on the ridiculous. His statement regarding the conduct of our men under fire is in direct contrast to that of Gen. John J. Pershing, commander-in-chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, who said the following:

"I cannot commend too highly the spirit shown among the Colored combat troops, who exhibit fine capacity for quick training and eagerness for the most dangerous work."

The late President Theodore Roosevelt said in his last public appearance: "Had I been permitted to raise troops to go on the other side, I should have asked permission to raise two Colored regiments. I had intended to offer Col. Charles Young the leadership of one regiment, telling him I expected him to choose only Colored officers."

These two Americans, far above Bullard in reputation on the battlefield and as judges of the character of men and their worth, believe and know different. So do we.

CHICAGO  
DEFENDER  
JUNE  
13,  
1925

## Stamps

# Battlefield Bravery

By Samuel A. Tower  
Special to The Washington Post

With a commemorative for veterans of World War I coming out tomorrow, the accent on the military—the fighting men, their commanders, those who shaped the armed forces and the wars they fought—that marked this year's U.S. issues is near an end.

The only one yet to come is an 18-cent coil issue in November for George Washington that will restore the nation's first commander-in-chief to a place on American stamps after a brief absence.

The commemorative is being issued in Milwaukee during the annual convention of American World War I veterans, of whom some 248,000 survive. The United States fought only in the last 19 months of the conflict but suffered more than 320,000 killed or wounded.

When the United States entered the war on April 6, 1917, the Russian Revolution had removed that country from the Allied side, freeing German armies for the Western Front, increasing pressure on the French, British and Italian armies. But the most serious crisis was at sea, where German submarines were sinking ships at an alarming rate. The U.S. Navy devised a system of protected convoys that substantially reduced sinkings.

On land, after the Germans were stopped at the Marne in 1914, both sides dug into trenches. Before the war was over, the trenches stretched for 600 miles across Europe, and the armies faced each other in bitter see-saw fighting for the next three years.

The United States declared war on Germany with an army that numbered only 307,000 men, without a unit of divisional strength and with its weapons arsenal depleted. Nevertheless, its commander, Gen. John J. Pershing, patched together a division that went to France to boost Allied morale. The troops paraded in Paris on July 4 in a ceremony honoring Lafayette, during which Col. C.E. Stanton—not Pershing as legend would have it—uttered the immortal words "Lafayette, we are here."

But the Americans were not yet really there, and it was many months before the American industrial and

military mobilization produced the manpower, ships, food and armaments that broke the deadlock on the Western Front in 1918. In the fall of 1918, in the Battle of the Marne—the greatest battle fought by American troops to that time—the last German lines were broken. Within weeks Kaiser Wilhelm fled into exile and fighting ended.

The design of the new 22-cent stamp is based on a charcoal drawing by Harvey Dunn titled "The Battle of the Marne." It depicts American soldiers, with bayonets fixed, moving out over an overgrown field, with the battered houses of a small village at their rear.

The artist, Capt. Dunn, who arrived in Europe early in 1918, was one of eight official artists for the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) whose drawings, pastels and paintings were used in support of the war effort and to help maintain a historical record.

The Dunn battlefield drawing was turned into a pencil rendering for use in the engraving by Robert Alexander Anderson.

The new horizontal issue in the standard commemorative size was produced by intaglio in red and green by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. There is one plate number per post office pane of 50 stamps, along with two standard marginal inscriptions.

Collectors of first-day-of-issue cancellations have the customary 30-day grace period from the day of issue, so orders must be postmarked no later than Sept. 25. As usual, there are alternative ways of ordering.

Collectors acquiring stamps and affixing them on their first-day covers, which must be addressed, should send them to Customer-Affixed Envelopes, World War I Veterans Stamp, Postmaster, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201-9991. No remittance is required.

Collectors preferring complete processing of covers by the Postal Service should send their envelopes, which must bear addresses, to World War I Veterans Stamp, Postmaster, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201-9992. The cost is 22 cents for each stamp affixed on a cover. Personal checks are accepted, cash is not welcomed, pay-

afro 6/10/39

# THEY ARE GOOD MUDDERS



Officers of Company B of Howard University's ROTC left to right, are: Second Lieut. Samuel W. Bailey, Second unit. Company B won first prize in the annual drill held Lieut. Francis C. Fenwick, Capt. J. Popel Martin, and at the university stadium on Friday. In the photo, from First Lieut. Dennette A. Harrod.

Wash. Afro-American  
 June 10, 1939

1942

## NEGRO'S PLACE IN DEFENSE ARMY

### DESCRIBED AT COLLEGE

#### Maj. Campbell Johnson Is Speaker There Monday

Maj. Campbell C. Johnson, executive assistant to the director of Selective Service, Washington, D. C., addressed the faculty and student body of the Georgia State College yesterday in Meldrim Hall. Major Johnson was formerly a commissioned officer at Des Moines, Iowa, during the World War. After the war, he was promoted to the rank of captain. He has served as professor of military science and tactics at Howard University, Washington. Later, he engaged in the practice of law, and was affiliated with the Veterans Bureau there. He has held positions as executive secretary of the Y. M. C. A., Washington, D. C., and as a member of the Housing Authority in Washington, where he had much to do with formulating plans for negro housing. In addition to his present position, he is a member of the Washington Chamber of Commerce.

Present also at the assembly exercises were Attorney W. H. Hopkins of Savannah, and T. J. Hopkins, local businessman, who introduced Major Johnson.

Major Johnson outlined and clarified the provisions of the Selective Service Act, stating that it was his job to see that all colored groups in the United States receive what the law states they should receive—a square deal under the Selective Service System. He called attention to the fact that the United States has learned two lessons from World War No. 1, in so far as military service is concerned: First, that a larger army is needed than could be raised by voluntary enlistments, and second, that a system would be necessary that could keep out of the armed forces, men who were more valuable somewhere else, or who were not of sufficient caliber for military service.

In regard to deferments, Major Johnson stated that men may be deferred because of family relationships and obligations; because of their activity in necessary enterprises, and because they do not meet the standard requirements of the Military Service Act. He cited statistics revealing that 50 per cent of all of the men who registered were deferred for various reasons, and that six-tenths of one per cent of the men who have been deferred in various enterprises were negroes, indicating the fact that negroes are not doing the jobs that are essential today. The type of training being given negroes, he said, is not exactly the type of training they need in the age in which we live.

"We are living in a highly mechanized world," said Major Johnson, "with every industry requiring a certain type of skill. Many of our institutions still have curricula that deal merely with the academic side of life, when more attention should be given to the technical fields. We must prepare our young people to learn these skills so that they will occupy the necessary positions." He also made mention of the fact that young peo-

ple in the negro group with these skills have difficulty getting jobs, and that it is difficult also to get negro men who want to be trained in skilled defense industries. He urged the students to take the type of training that would enable them to fill jobs available today.

Mention was also made of the educational qualifications of men for selective service. Major Johnson stated that a man must have a satisfactory degree of intelligence to serve in the army. The War Department does not accept anyone for military service unless he has at least a fourth grade education. Statistics showed that in Georgia, 14,000 negroes were turned down because they did not meet the educational requirements for military service. "If the state cannot provide soldiers for national defense because of limited educational facilities and opportunities," said Major Johnson, "that state becomes a matter of national concern, and other states with citizens of better educational background must provide more men." He called attention to the physical fitness of men for military service, and cited health conditions among negroes which have caused a great deal of concern, due to bad housing, poor medical care and generally low economic standards of living. He urged the students to think seriously about this problem of health, and impressed upon them the necessity and importance of establishing sound and ideal family relationships.

Major Johnson said also that women are playing a very important part in the national defense program. They are being trained to relieve men in war industries, such as filling shells, making gas masks, and operating large machines. "We are living in an extraordinary age, and before the war is over, we shall be doing a great many things that we thought we would never have to do. We must not sit idly by and think that we have no part in this fight for democracy. Although prejudices and discrimination exist, we have more of a democracy than we would be able to have in other countries. We can raise our voices in petition and complaint without being led out and shot down. We have free speech and the right of assembly, which are not allowed in some countries today. We have a great deal to fight for in preserving this country in which we have the right to fight for this democracy."

## Army Plans New Division

A new division—the 92nd—is to be formed in October at Camp McClellan, Anniston, Alabama, the War Department announced this week.

Commanding officer will be Brig. General Edward M. Almond, 50, a native of Luray, Va. The division, which is called a reconstituted division (the original 92nd saw service abroad in World War I), will have colored and white line officers just as the 93rd Division now at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

Washington  
Afro-American  
August 29, 1942

Pittsburgh  
Courier

Sept. 5, 1942

# ALMOND TO HEAD NEW 92nd

Stimson Makes Announcement on Courier Scoop —  
to Have Mixed Officers.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 3—Not content with again scooping its contemporaries, The Courier "jumped" the War Department last week when it was the first to announce the plans for immediate activation of the 92 Infantry Division.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson officially announced in his press conference on Thursday that the second colored division in this war will be formed during October at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Alabama. The Courier carried the story in its editions beginning Monday.

## DIVISION TO HAVE MIXED OFFICERS

Brigadier General Edward M. Almond, U. S. A., has been designated as commander of the 92nd. He is a Virginian and a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, receiving his Army commission in 1916 and later saw service with the overseas forces in the first World War. Gen. Almond was on duty with the 92nd Division at Fort Huachuca since its activation.

The 92nd Division was first activated in October, 1917 at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas and saw service with the French Army in the St. Die sector, Lorraine, in August and September, 1918. It also took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of the American Army from September 26 to October 3, returning to the Marbache sector, Lorraine, on October 9 to remain there until Armistice Day, November 11.

Discussing the activation of the 92nd Division scheduled for Oc-

tober at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Alabama, Secretary of War Stimson told his press conference Thursday morning that officers for the triangular unit would be for the most part colored. They were being trained now, he said, to take over the posts and from the experiences with colored officers in other units, they were proving highly satisfactory. He spoke of the training of officers in the various schools and colleges of the country and said the men were being graduated as rapidly as possible.



# ARMY TO FORM TWO DIVISIONS OF INFANTRY DURING OCTOBER

WASHINGTON — The War Department this week announced that two new infantry divisions will be formed during the month of October, the Eighty-fourth at Camp Howze, near Gainesville, Texas, and the Ninety-second at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Ala. The Ninety-second Infantry Division will be composed of Negro troops. Brigadier General John H. Hilldring, U.S.A., has been named commander of the Eighty-fourth Infantry Division, and Brigadier General Edward M. Almond, U.S.A., commander of the Ninety-second Infantry Division.

Both of these organizations are reconstituted World War divisions. The Eighty-fourth, known as the Lincoln Division, having been formed from Selective Service men from Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky., in August, 1917, and the Ninety-second from Negro Selective Service men from the United States at large at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kans., in October, 1917.

The Eighty-fourth Division did not see service in France as a division, its men being sent to other divisions in the battle line as replacements shortly after its arrival in September, 1918.

The Ninety-second Division, however, saw service with the French army in the St. Die sector, Lorraine, in August and September of 1918 and took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of the American army from September 26 to October 3, returning to the Marbache Sector Lorraine, on October 9 to remain there until Armistic Day, November 11.

the  
Michigan  
Chronicle  
September  
5,  
1942

## Another Negro Army Division To Be Formed During October War Department Announces

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The War Department on Thursday announced that two new Infantry Divisions will be formed during the month of October, the 84th at Camp Howze, near Gainesville, Texas, and the 92nd at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Alabama. The 92nd Infantry Division will be composed of Negro troops.

Brigadier General John H. Hilldring, U.S.A., has been named commander of the 84th Infantry Division, and Brigadier General Edward M. Almond, U. S. A., commander of the 92nd Infantry Division.

Both of these organizations are reconstituted World War divisions, the 84th, known as the Lincoln Division, having been formed from Selective Service men from Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky in August, 1917, and the 92nd from Negro Selective Service men from the United States at large at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas, in October, 1917.

The 84th Division did not see service in France as a division, its men being sent to other divisions in the battle line as replacements shortly after its arrival in September, 1918.

### Had World War Record

The 92nd Division, however, saw service with the French Army in the St. Die sector, Lorraine, in August and September of 1918, and

took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of the American Army from September 26 to October 3, returning to the Marbache Sector, Lorraine, on October 9 to remain there until Armistice Day, November 11.

Brigadier General Almond, commander of the 92nd Division, was born at Luray, Virginia, December 12, 1892. He was graduated from Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry, Regular Army, November 20, 1916. He served in the 58th Infantry, Fourth Division, and as commander of the 12th Machine Gun Battalion, Fourth Division, in France.

During the Aisne-Marne Offensive, which began July 18, 1918, General Almond was wounded in action August 4, during fighting on the Vesle River. Returning to action September 30, he participated in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive until Armistice Day, serving later in the Army of Occupation in Germany.

General Almond was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Purple Heart and the Ecuador Decoration, Estrella Abdon Calderon. A graduate of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, he was also graduated from the Command and General Staff School (two-year course), in 1930, and from the Army War College in

THE NEW YORK AGE

SEPTEMBER 5, 1942

# Helped Win Battle Of Coral Sea

## Second Division Of Colored Troops Is Authorized

WASHINGTON—An aviation engineer battalion composed of Negro troops, working 24 hours a day and moving equipment many miles overland, rushed to completion an airdrome in New Caledonia which shortly afterward was effectively used by Army and Navy aircraft in the successful Battle of the Coral Sea, it was disclosed this week by the War Department.

The story was revealed in a report from the commanding officer of the unit commending the troops in the performance of their difficult work in satisfactory manner. Secretary of War Stimson cited the heroic action in press conference a few days ago.

### GOT GAS FOR PLANES

The report also told how members of the battalion unloaded gasoline from a supply ship which had anchored in an uncharted roadstead of the island.

They transported the fuel ashore in rafts and moved it rapidly to the airdrome just in time to service aircraft in the crucial Coral Sea engagement.

### SECOND NEGRO DIVISION

The War Department also announced that a new infantry division composed of colored troops will be formed during the month of October—the 92d at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Alabama. The 93rd Division, also all-Negro—except for some officers—was authorized last December. It will be headquartered at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona.

Brigadier General Edward M. Almond, (white), U. S. A., will command the 92nd Infantry Division.

The organization is a reconstituted World War division, the 92d having been formed from Negro selective service men from the United States at large at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas, in October, 1917.

### SERVICE IN LAST WAR

The 92d Division saw service with the French Army in the St. Die sector, Lorraine, in August and September of 1918, and took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of the American Army from September 26 to October 3, returning to the Marbache Sector, Lorraine, on October 9 to remain there until Armistice Day, November 11.

Brigadier General Almond, commander of the 92d Division, was born at Luray, Va., December 12, 1892. He was graduated from Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry, Regular Army November 20, 1916. He served in the 58th Infantry, Fourth Division, and as commander of the 12th Machine Gun Battalion, Division, in France.

### WAS DECORATED

During the Aisne-Marne offensive, which began July 18, 1918, General Almond was wounded in action August 4, during fighting on the Vesle River. Returning to action September 30, he participated in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive until Armistice Day, serving later in the Army of Occupation in Germany.

General Almond was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Purple Heart, and the Ecuador decoration, Estrella Abdon Calderon. A graduate of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, he was also graduate from the Command and General Staff School (two-year course) in 1930, and from the Army War College in 1934.

### HAVE NEGRO OFFICERS

Discussing the activation of the 92d Division scheduled for October at Camp McClellan, near Anniston, Ala., Secretary of War Stimson told a press conference that officers for the triangular unit would be, for the most part, colored.

They are being trained now, he said, to take over the posts and from the experiences with colored officers in other units, they were proving highly satisfactory.

He spoke of the training of officers in the various schools and colleges of the country and said the men were being graduated as rapidly as possible.

Norfolk  
JOURNAL  
and  
GUIDE  
SEPTEMBER  
5,  
1942

# Engineer Battalion Lauded; New Division to be Formed

*Sept 2 10/7/42*  
The War Department announced last week that the 92nd infantry division, composed of Negro troops, would be activated in October at Fort McClellan, near Anniston, Alabama.

Simultaneously, Secretary of War Stimson had high praise for a Negro aviation battallion, working 24 hours a day and moving equipment many miles overland, rushed to completion an airdrome in New Caledonia, which shortly afterward was effectively used by Army and Navy aircraft in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

**"Exceptionally Meritorious"**

The story was revealed in a

report from the commanding officer of the unit, commending the troops in the performance of their difficult work in a satisfactory manner.

Secretary Stimson said the feat was "exceptionally meritorious."

The report also related how members of the battalion unloaded gasoline from a supply ship which had anchored in an uncharted roadstead off the island. They transported the fuel ashore in rafts and moved it rapidly to the airdrome just in time to service aircraft in the above engagement.

The 92nd will be a reconstituted

unit, as mentioned in communications from headquarters by commanding officers of the various units.

The entire first battalion of the 367th Infantry was awarded the Croix de guerre by the French military authorities for bravery in the drive on Metz. Maj. Gen. Marton, commanding the division, cited many officers and enlisted men for valor in action at Bois Frehaut.

## Brig. Gen. Allmond to Command

In the entire division, 14 officers and 43 enlisted men received the Distinguished Cross for outstanding bravery.

It is significant that during the previous war, all the front line officers were Negro. Like its predecessor, the front line officers of this division will be Negro.

The unit will be commanded by Brigadier Gen. Edward M. Allmond, U. S. Infantry, who is

now attached to the 93rd division at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, at present the only divisions constituted entirely by Negro personnel.

*Wash.  
Tribune  
Sept 5, 1942*

ed World War division. It was formed from Selective Service men from the United States at large at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas, in October, 1917.

The outfit saw service with the French Army in the St. Die sector, Lorraine, in August and September of 1918, and took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive of the American Army from September 26 to October 3, returning to the Marbache sector, Lorraine, on October 9, and remained there until the war ended.

The 92nd distinguished itself on the field of battle during the first World War and a large number of its troops received citations and awards for "meritorious conduct" in combat. In addition to those who earned coveted medals, others were speci-

Washington  
Afro-American  
June 15, 1943

**H.U. Grad Promoted  
to First Lieutenant**

Second Lt. Edward W. Brooke, graduate of Howard University now stationed with the 366th Infantry at Fort Devens, Mass., was recently promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

Lieutenant Brooke is a native of this city and was a member of the R.O.T.C. at Howard. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

# WORLD WAR I HERO AGAIN IN U.S. ARMY

Master Sergeant W. A. Johnson, Winner of Various Medals, Prepares at Fort Sill for Overseas Duty

FORT SILL, Okla.—Master Sergeant William A. Johnson, sergeant-major of the 100th Ordnance Battalion, is not the only Negro soldier to have received the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre, and the Purple Heart in World War I, but he is probably the only soldier to have received those awards at the age of 15.

Enlisting in Toledo, Ohio, January 5, 1918, shortly after reaching his 15th birthday, Private Johnson, who claimed to be 18, received his basic training was sent overseas immediately, arriving in France, March 27, 1918, with the 370th Infantry, where he saw action in St. Mihiel, at Oise and at Aisne, and was then stationed in the defensive sector.

#### Companions Wounded

On October 9, 1918, Private Johnson and two comrades were carrying ammunition and signal rockets to the front line, during which time Private Johnson's legging became untied. He called to his two companions to proceed while he re-wrapped his legging, adding that he would catch up with them as soon as he had finished.

Barely were the words out of his mouth, when a German 88 shell exploded between him and his

companions, seriously wounding the two others, but leaving him untouched.

Relaying the carrying of the two men to the rear, Johnson was almost out of the danger zone when he was struck in his right shoulder by a piece of a shrapnel while still carrying one of the wounded men. He was wounded a second time in the leg by a machine gun bullet. Despite the two wounds, he reached safety with his two comrades.

#### His Bravery Recognized

In recognition of his action, Private Johnson was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the American government and the Croix de Guerre by the French government. He was later awarded the Order of the Purple Heart for having been wounded in action.

Johnson, then a private first class, remained in a hospital in France until April 4, then returned to New York. Reenlisting immediately for one year, Private First Class Johnson was sent to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, where he was assigned to the 10th Cavalry. He left the service upon the completion of the one year enlistment and became an embalmer.

He reenlisted in the Army in 1942 and, after training at Camp Sutton, he was assigned to Fort Sill, where he was advanced to his present rank.

"I'm ready to go across any time," he says, "and I hope it'll be soon."

N.Y. Amsterdam News  
March 27, 1943

HOUSTON INFORMER  
Houston, Texas

Date JUL 10 1943  
p.

## Truman Gibson, The Apologist <sup>99</sup> <sub>7/10</sub>

By CAROL WESLEY

HOUSTON.—Last week Truman K. Gibson, Jr., acting civilian aide to secretary of war, sent a memorandum to the Negro press. In it he blamed the Negro press for increasing racial tension and causing greater anxiety among relatives and friends of the men in the armed camps. Also in most of racial clashes, he blamed Negro soldiers outright for it, and in no instance did he even imply that whites might have been responsible.

The kindest thing that could be said about this memorandum is that it would have been better if he had never sent it out. Maybe in conference at the War Department or elsewhere Mr. Gibson has done great service for Negroes. Unfortunately, it has not been his good fortune to do publicly any outstanding thing for Negroes as civilian aide to the War Department since he has had the position.

For him to come out blaming Negroes for clashes and other racial trouble raises immediately in the minds of many of us the question as to whether or not he is not more an apologist for the government than a representative from Negroes to the War Department. The government does not really need him to apologize; too many of the government officials have already taken the course that Mr. Gibson is now taking. What is needed today is somebody who will speak to the War Department on behalf of Negroes and tell the truth about the injustices and inequalities that Negroes work under.

Neither can we accept from Mr. Gibson the complacent, docile acceptance of reports that white investigators are making about clashes between white and black soldiers. In not an instance that Mr. Gibson mentions was there anything that seemed like a fair attempt to state the case and to recognize the facts as they are. It is one of those usual assumptions that Negroes and whites are treated the same and have equal opportunities, followed with a sort of vocal raising of the eyebrow at Negroes being throttled or complaining of injustices. Truman Gibson knows better than that, and he knows better than to accept any such point of view, whether it is in investigation or anywhere else.

The writer knows Truman Gibson pretty well, and has always found him a likeable chap. Most of the publishers like Truman as an individual and most of them will hesitate to take any public issue with him, or to take him to task publicly, because they like him. But if this memorandum is what Truman is saying to the people at Washington about Negroes, we are being compromised by our civilian aide rather than being represented and interpreted properly. It would be better not to have a civilian aide there than to have one who endorses the old double standard of democracy, such as Truman seems to do in this memorandum. We seem to hear the voice of Rankins in the overtones of Truman's words.

# Genius Is Discovered In 365th Infantry

MICHIGAN CHRONICLE  
Detroit, Mich.

Date JUN 19 1943  
P.

99

One genius will arise in time, but the entire Pioneer Platoon of 2nd Bn. H. Co has conceived a notion to make their training less expensive, more secure and easier to understand. This attitude is really a product of their 1st Sgt. Willis, who encouraged free and prompt exchange of ideas among his men who tremendously accelerates their ideas into new developments.

Out of this group of ideas, Sgt. Willis has invented a Folding Camouflage rack. It consists chiefly of two parts; a net and a folding rack. It is used in areas where bushes, grass, or camouflage material are scarce. Thus, this useful object can be set up as a perfect camouflage for a man in less time than two minutes with little twigs. It has the advantage of having a very light weight and folding, which makes it easy to strap to a pack. Furthermore, it can be set up from the prone position making it unnecessary for a man to stand up under actual battle conditions to camouflage himself.

Another invention that the War Department promises to use is Sgt. Willis' hand grenade to be used for training purposes only. They are explosive, but less harmful than the ones used in actual war. The same effect is produced however. Four men can make enough to supply a whole battalion and the production rate by hand is recorded as one grenade a minute per man. The cost is negligible, costing less than 2c each, and the materials are very easy to get—no priority.

The third mechanical contrivance is a small scale Mortar and Rocket Signal gun, made completely of wood and designed for company and battalion problems. For use as a Rocket Signal only one part need be moved. It is easily constructed in approximately twenty minutes. This is a materialized idea of Sgt. Willis.

This Pioneer Platoon produces its own training aids, charts and a va-

riety of booby traps. Many of these ideas are copied for training but made to suit the situation and area. Sgt. Ramsey and Cpl. Johnson have done much to encourage a greater incentive to hard work, to develop all indications of contradictions, to practice which seems to be inventive.

And in this way, not only one genius has arisen in 2nd Bn. H. Co of the 365th Infantry, but there are others who are out of misunderstanding of the complexity of situations making useful and clearer paths for their fellow men. This these soldiers have obivated as war clouds loom and accelerate their ideas. Congratulations, Pioneer Platoon.



AFRO-AMERICAN  
Washington, DC

Date JUL 17 1943  
p.

## An Interview with Truman K. Gibson

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### Civilian Aide to Secretary of War

He Sits with a Committee of General  
Officers and Generals Which Advises the  
Chief of Staff on the Use of Colored Troops

By MICHAEL CARTER

#### WASHINGTON

All matters of policy concerning colored soldiers pass through the office of Truman K. Gibson. Gibson, who did not quit his War Department job when Hastie resigned, is now top civilian aide, colored, to Chief of Staff George Catlett Marshall.

In the first World War, Emmett Scott held a similar post. In neither case did the post carry any actual administrative powers. In neither case could the head of the board give orders. He may only give polite suggestions, which may or may not be accepted.

#### Military Committee

Gibson told the AFRO that he "sits with a committee composed of general officers, brigadier generals and up, who advise the chief of staff on the use of colored troops. I am not a member of the committee. It is a military committee and naturally cannot accept orders from civilians."

Gibson works in a suite of offices in the huge Pentagon Building in Virginia. The bus which takes you to this brain center of armed might carries a little sign advising colored persons to sit from the rear.

Between Washington and the Pentagon Building the sign simply hangs. Beyond the building the sign has meaning. The Herrenvolk are separated from the possibility of contamination.

#### Center of Information

Despite the obvious limitations of Gibson's office some valid accomplishments have been scored. His office is also a center of information about colored troops.

For example, Gibson told the AFRO that nearly 10 per cent of the army is colored. "There are about 800,000 colored troops in the various armed forces. At least three-fourths of them came from the South. This is because of the distribution of population.

*"Most of the employment deferments of colored men in this area have been for farm work. It is true that the general intelligence and education of many of these men are rather low.*

"The army does not give an intelligence quotient test. The army tests merely slot and assign a man to a job in accordance with his education. The army test is a learning test rather than an intelligence test.

#### High Intelligence

"Most of the men coming from the South are essentially farm hands. They have no educations in



TRUMAN GIBSON

the Northern sense of the word. They have a high degree of intelligence, but little knowledge. Most Northern colored people and many Southern-educated colored people overlook this fact.

"Incidentally, the low knowledge of most of these men should not embarrass us. (Gibson is colored.) They have simply not had the chance to go to school and were not encouraged to learn.

"The results of the army tests put a man in any one of five different categories. Most of the colored soldiers are in Class 5, the lowest acceptable in the army."

Net result is that the army and the fighting strength of the United Nations have to pay for the South's refusal to educate colored people.

#### 50% in Class 5

"All men in Class 5 are sent to special army schools where they are given special training. Nearly 50 per cent of all colored soldiers are in these classes."

Gibson said that a question on race morale in the army was almost impossible to answer.

*"The best example is the morale of the 93rd Division. It was generally said that their morale was low. Yet when they went on maneuvers they demonstrated a very high esprit de corps. It is impossible to generalize on a question like that."*

I got a very generalized answer on the question concerning the jim crow of colored soldiers on inter-State carriers.

#### Army Opposes Injustice

"We must not cease hitting at jim crow. I think the army is as much opposed to injustice as anyone else. I know what they are

doing against brutality.

"In general it can be said that colored people don't like to be jim-crowed. Until we change our laws colored soldiers are amenable to State law.

"A common misapprehension is that State laws don't apply to soldiers. Actually the only action against this can come from the Supreme Court.

"There is a big difference between jim-crow State law and a National Park law. It is true that there is no jim crow in National Parks.

#### Need Congressional Act

"National Parks are well defined territories. Please understand that I do not condone any system of segregation. But it can only be corrected by act of Congress."

*According to Gibson, the two main problems confronting colored soldiers are jim crow in transportation and brutality from local citizens near army camps.*

"The power to punish offenders of colored soldiers is in the hands of the FBI. In bad situations the army's only course is to declare the place out of bounds." Obviously this is the easy way. It does not make jim crow illegal. It does not even make brutality an offense. It simply deprives the colored soldier of freedom to travel about the country he is sworn to defend.

#### 4,000 Colored Officers

Gibson says that the number of colored army officers now approaches 4,000. He has no figures on the percentage of passings and failures by colored officer candidates. "Once a man is selected for candidacy he is pushed through."

Gibson says that the rumor colored officers are activated (shipped to fighting fronts) as soon as commissioned is false.

"There is no place like the army for false rumors. The activation of colored officers is no more rapid than the activation of whites. The fact that they are not assigned to white units may make it appear that they are more quickly activated."

#### Training Bombardiers

Speaking of colored flyers, Gibson said: "Studies are being made to arrange for the training of colored personnel as bombardiers. Some colored aviators are already attached to artillery units, where they act as fire spotters." These men are not combat pilots, but are equally valuable and equally exposed. "We have also several colored weather experts. It is true that all branches of aviation are not yet open to colored men but they are advancing."

*Why does the army pick so many Southern locations for its camps? Why can't colored men, who will suffer most from the South's Nazi-like race patterns, be protected by training them in the North?*

"It is largely a problem of geography. The South is sparsely populated, the North is dense. An army training camp has to be a big place. The South is chosen because there are so many wide-open places," Gibson said.

#### Battle Conditions

"Moreover, army camps must duplicate, as closely as possible, actual battle conditions. The army prefers to risk abuse of colored troops rather than be blamed for large casualty lists which would be obtained if space were sacrificed for other factors."

Is it true that most colored men are in labor battalions? "The army uses what it gets. Remember that most colored men are in Class 5 in the tests." Apparently colored men are concentrated in labor groups because they never had a chance to educate themselves.

"However, the distinction between labor and combat groups is fast disappearing. In this war all troops fight."

On numerous complaints that I raised—complaints expressed by colored soldiers—Gibson answered:

"There is no easy way out. You must reduce complaints to a matter of specifics." He implied that abuses against colored soldiers should not necessarily be fought as insults to democracy. The army may not understand that.

They should be attacked as a matter of army principle. The army should be shown that such abuses actually reduce the fire power of its units and retard their training.

That's the job for the race press.

Date JUL 31 1943

p.

# Lt. Col. Queen Made Full Colonel in 366th Regiment's Acting Commander, Become Corporal 30 Years Ago

FORT DEVENS, Mass.—Lieut. Col. Howard D. Queen, since January 30 acting commanding officer of the 366th Infantry Regiment here, was promoted to full colonelcy Saturday.

The promotion came thirty years to the day after he was made a corporal while stationed with the Tenth Cavalry in Winchester, Va., in 1913.

Lieut. Col. Queen assumed command of the 366th in January when Col. Joseph S. Leonard, white, was transferred to Washington. He had served previously as executive officer since March, 1942.

#### Made Captain at 22

The new colonel is a native of Washington and is 48 years old. He enlisted in the D.C. National Guard in 1910, served in the Cavalry from 1911 to 1917, attaining the rank of captain during World War I, at the age of 22.

He was made major in 1929 and promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1935, after graduation from the U.S. Command and General Staff Extension School.

Lieut. Col. Queen is also a graduate of the First Corps School at Gondrecourt, France, where he finished in 1918, and the Fort Benning (Ga.) Infantry School, which he finished in 1941.

#### In 5 Major Battles

The colonel has participated in the following battles:

El Carrozal, Mexico, June 21, 1916; Punitive Expedition into Mexico with the Tenth Cavalry, March, 1916, to April, 1917;

Vosges Sector (France) with the 368th Infantry; Meuse-Argonne Offensive and the Metz Sector in France, 1918 to 1919.

#### Army in His System

Asked to what he attributed his rise in the army, Lieut. Col. Queen said, "It is in my system." He comes from three generations of sailors and soldiers.

His great-grandfather participated in the battle of Boston Common, a grandfather and three uncles fought with the Union Army during the Civil War, and his father served fifteen years in



LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
HOWARD D. QUEEN

the Twenty-fourth Infantry and the Tenth Cavalry.

A cousin lost his life aboard the USS Maine in Havana Harbor, prior to the Spanish-American War, and a brother, Richard R. Queen, served as lieutenant with the 368th Infantry in the Argonne Offensive.

1944

AFRO-AMERICAN  
Baltimore, Md.

Date MAR 4 - 1944  
P.

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## War Correspondents on Press Week Broadcast

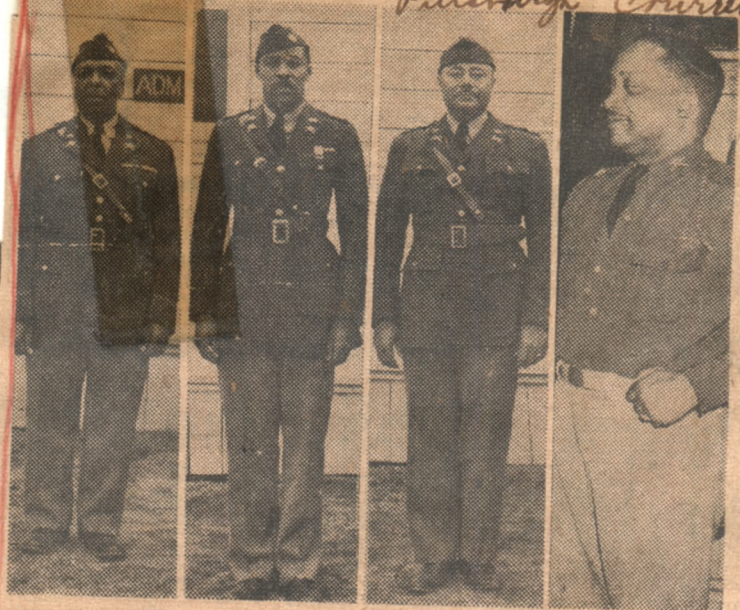


These war correspondents took part in the Newspaper Week broadcasts Saturday afternoon and Monday night. Top (left to right): David Orro, Chicago Defender; Art Carter, AFRO-AMERICAN; Ollie Stewart, AFRO-AMERICAN; Lem Graves, Jr., Journal and Guide. Bottom: Thomas W. Young, Journal and Guide; Randy Dixon, Pittsburgh Courier, and Fletcher Martin, representing the Negro Newspaper Publishers' Association pool.

\* \* \*

## COMMANDED 'INCOMPETENT' UNITS

*Pittsburgh Courier*



These are the commanding officers of Negro units termed as incompetent by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. Left to right, Col. Anderson F. Pitts, commander of the 184th Field Artillery before it was broken up;

Lt. Col. Marcus Ray, commander of the 931st Field Artillery; Lt. Col. Oscar F. Randall, now with the 366th and an important figure in a trial which was a forerunner to the unit being split, and Lt. Col. Wendell T. Derricks, commander of the 930th Artillery.

# SECRETARY OF WAR ATTACKS RECORD OF RACE COMBAT UNITS

His Letter to Hamilton Fish Says Negro Units  
Unable to Master Techniques of Modern Weapons

**BULLETIN:** CHICAGO—Calling upon President Roosevelt to oust Henry L. Stimson as Secretary of War, a mass meeting here Sunday sponsored by the National Negro Council and the Chicago Committee of 1,000, adopted a resolution calling the statement of Stimson as “unfounded and utterly false” and as appearing “close to the line of national disservice.” Speakers claimed the ouster of Stimson would speed victory over the Axis nations.

*Pittsburgh Courier*

March 4, 1944

NEW YORK AGE  
New York, City

Date MAR 18 1944  
P.

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## Soldiers Rejoice Over His Promotion



A great percentage of our boys who are stationed at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., are rejoicing over the recent promotion of Lt. Col. M. O. Bousfield to full colonelship, as was announced by the War Department early this week. Col. Bousfield was a former member of the Chicago's Board of Education and medical director of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Co.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The promotion of four Negro officers in the Medical Corps at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, was announced by the War Department. All four are assigned to Station Hospital No. 1.

Lieutenant Colonel Midian O. Bousfield, commanding officer of Station Hospital No. 1, was promoted to the rank of colonel. He was former director of Negro Health, Rosenwald Fund; once a member of Board of Education, and former president of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company, in Chicago, Illinois, his home city.

The other three officers who were promoted to lieutenant colonels and the dates of their promotions are: Majors DeHaven Hinkson, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Executive Officer of the hospital; Roscoe C. Giles, of Chicago, Illinois, Chief of Surgical Service, and the first Negro graduate of Cornell University's College of Medicine; and Harold W. Thatcher, of Kansas City, Kansas, Chief of Medical Service.

Two other promotions announced by the War Department are those of First Lieutenants George Harvey Wright, of Seattle, Washington, and Nathaniel Courtenay Harden, of Prairie View, Texas. Both officers were elevated to captains, and are assigned to the 276th Quartermaster Battalion at Camp John T. Knight, Oakland, California.

MAY 7, 1944  
Norfolk, Journal  
AND  
Guide



**THE LULL BEFORE THE STORM**—When these four men came into the city of Massa, things were quiet in the newly captured town south of La Spezia on the west coast of Italy. They are, left to right: Capt. Walter L. Henry, of Philadelphia, company commander of a medical battalion unit, attached to the 92nd; Capt. F. L. Robinson, Ann Arbor, Mich., assistant division surgeon; Maj. N. E. Gretakis, Norfolk, Va. division provost marshal; and Lt. Col. Eldon L. Bolton, division surgeon. About 5 minutes after this picture was taken, the three medical officers were as busy as they could be trying to patch up wounded men hurt as an intense artillery shelling hit the town, after waiting for our occupation, and continued for more than four hours. (Exclusive GUIDE Photo by Lem Graves Jr.)



**92ND SOLDIER BRINGS IN PRISONER**—Pfc. Willie D. Bartow, of Newark, N. J., a soldier in the 92nd division, is bringing in a German prisoner during the recent push on Massa. (Photo by Dickerson, Buffalo photographer.)





**GET ALONG LITTLE NAZI, GET ALONG**—A 92nd Infantryman returns with a German prisoner during the initial phases of the recent attack in Italy, which spelled doom for the Germans. (Photo by Cpl. Louie Adrian)



**92ND COMMANDER ENTERS MASSA**—General Edward M. Allmond, left, commanding general of the 92nd Division took over the town of Massa a few hours after Partisans had declared the town free of Germans in the 92nd's attack along the Ligurian coast toward La Spezia in the new Allied all-out offensive in Italy. He is shown here with Lt. General Lucien K. Truscott Jr., commanding general of the Fifth Army, center, and Col. W. P. Yarborough, Staunton, Va., commander of the 473rd Regiment which was entering the town when this picture was taken. Shown in the background wearing goatee is one of the leaders of the Italian Partisan troops which greatly aided the fall of the city. (Exclusive GUIDE Photo by Lem Graves Jr.)

# ARTILLERY OFFICERS JOIN 92D INFANTRY DIVISION



MICHIGAN CHRONICLE  
Detroit, Mich.

Date MAY 30 1944



Released by U. S. War Department Bureau of Public Relations

Pictured are officers recently assigned to artillery units of the 92d Infantry Division, Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Top photo shows, left to right, officers of the 597th Field Artillery Battalion: first row—2nd Lt. Flonronoy A. Coles, Jr., Alyoma, W. Va.; 2nd Lt. James R. Mundy, Atlantic City, N. J.; 2nd Lt. Frank J. Boutte, New Orleans, La.; 1st Lt. Hondon B. Hargrove, Detroit, Mich.; Capt. Westley B. Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; Capt. Joseph L. Francois, Chicago; Capt. Charles L. Pickett, Chicago; 1st Lt. William Y. Rose, Chicago; 1st Lt. Lester McCants, Chicago, and 2nd Lt. Sherman A. Jones, El Paso, Texas. Second Row: 1st Lt. Ulysses R. Lee, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 1st Lt. John L. Gayles, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Leon E. Burton, Detroit, Mich.; Capt. Otis Buchanon, Chicago; 1st Lt. Albert A. Briggs, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Aldrick H. Wilson, Chicago; Capt. Charles W. White, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Leonard J. Jackson, Chicago; 2nd Lt. William G. Dix, Wilmington, Del.; and 1st Lt. James W. Quisenberry, Chicago. Center photo, left to right, officers of the 600th Field Artillery Battalion: first row—Capt. Steve G. Davis, Chicago; 1st Lt. Byron C. Minor, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Richard L. Jeffereys, Chase City, Va.; Capt. Lestre H. Brownlee, Chicago; 1st Lt. Clark Lowe, Palestine, Texas; Capt. Claude C. Clark, Chicago; 1st Lt. Samuel M. Love, Detroit, Mich.; 2nd Lt. Howard R. Jones, New York City; 2nd Lt. Marion W. Smith, San Antonio, Texas; 1st Lt. Mervin O. Parker, Washington, D. C.; Capt. Webb Threet, Chicago; 1st Lt. Clifford R. Moore, Philadelphia, Pa.; 1st Lt. Willie Williams, Taylor, Texas, and 2nd Lt. John A. Parker, Pleasantville, N. J. Second row: 2nd Lt. Lavon E. Smith, Austin, Texas; 2nd Lt. Lloyd R. V. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; 1st Lt. Hardy B. Ruffin, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Benjamin F. King, Jefferson City, Mo.; Capt. Harold L. Miles, Chicago; Capt. David W. Pelkey, Chicago; 2nd Lt. Arnold D. Grant, Coffeyville, Kans.; 1st Lt. Herman M. Bell, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa.; 2nd Lt. Albert A. Loving, Jr., Chicago; 2nd Lt. Louis K. Hanks, Toledo, Ohio; 2nd Lt. Leland D. Ewing, Houston, Texas; 2nd Lt. Earl E. Strayhorn, Chicago; 1st Lt. Robbin E. L. Washington, Huntington, W. Va.; and 2nd Lt. George E. Pepe, Jr., Hawkinsville, Ga. In lower left photo are, left to right: Lt. Col. Wendell T. Derricks, Chicago, commanding officer of the 597th Field Artillery Battalion; Major Orion N. Page, Chicago, executive officer of the 597th; and Major Kenneth E. Campbell, Chicago, plans and training officer of the 597th. At right is Lt. Col. Marcus H. Ray, Chicago, commanding officer of the 600th Field Artillery Battalion. His principal staff officers are not pictured. (U. S. Army photos.)

# American, African Negroes Get Along Fine In Front Line Foxholes In Italy

By GEORGE PADMORE  
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON—It is now possible to reveal that among the victorious Allied troops fighting in Italy under the command of General Alexander are soldiers from Southern Nigeria and the Cameroons, the former Germany West African colonies.

They too will march to Berlin, when that citadel of racism is finally stormed from East, West and South.

But they will not be the only blacks at the kill. From the West will march American Negro troops and famous Senegalese warriors serving with the French Army of Liberation, as well as Congolese forces from the Belgian Congo. These so-called inferior races are today helping to tear the guts out of the Herrenvolk "super-men" of Nazi Germany. Such is the irony of history.

## Shelled by German Big Guns

Commenting on the fighting experiences of the African troops in Italy, a military observer, just returned to London from the Mediterranean theatre of operations, says that "their service has been packed with thrills and wonderful sights."

The West Africans have been bombed by German planes and shelled by Nazi big guns. The first party of Africans to arrive went ashore at Augusta on the east coast of Sicily. Scarcely were they on land when the air raid warning

went off and German bombs began to drop. Every man had to set to and dig his own slit trench at once.

Meanwhile the big British guns had opened up and the air was torn with bursting shells and rockets. Several German planes were shot down in flames. Thus did the West Africans get their baptism of fire in Europe. Later they had to face the enemy's concentration of fire on the beaches at Salerno.

## Medical Units With Troops

The military spokesman stated that there are four West African medical units in Italy. Each of these units comprise from eleven to seventeen trained nursing orderlies of the West African Army Medical Corps, and a similar number of pioneers of the Royal West African Frontier Force as general duty men. Each unit is attached to a British General hospital and is under the charge of a British medical officer.

The Africans assist the British military surgeons in the field operation-theatre, take temperature and keep the charts, renew dressings, give medicines and help in the X-ray department at base hospitals.

The officer explained that there was no segregation. For example, during the past 10 months of service in Italy, the Africans have nursed English, Scots, Indians, South Africans, French, Poles and Jugo-Slavs, besides other Africans from places like Basuteland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland in South Africa. Many of the Cameroon natives who come into contact with Germans speak to them in good German, a language they learned from German plantation owners in the Cameroons before the war.

Most interesting of all says the officer is the deep friendship between American Negro troops and the Africans. The West Africans get on famously with the Afro-Americans and to quote his exact words: "They indeed find them very like themselves and invariably friendly. As almost all the West African orderlies speak good English the Africans find no difficulty in talking to the Americans though the American accent sounds strange to them.

"For their part the American Negroes love to tell the West Africans all about their lives in the great United States. Some have exchanged addresses and photos and promised to visit one another after the war."

Asked what Africans need most,

the British military spokesman said: "Like their English and American comrades, the West Africans never forget their homes and families. Mail and newspapers from Nigeria and the Cameroons are most eagerly welcomed."

They also delight in reading the colored American newspapers and like especially the pictures of Afro-American girls which they cut out to decorate their billets.

Chicago  
Defender

August  
19,  
1944

CHICAGO SUN  
Chicago, Ill.

Date AUG 29 1944

p.

## First Negro Infantrymen Battle Germans in Italy

By Russell Hill.

Special to The Chicago Sun.

Rome, Aug. 28.—Men of the 92d Infantry Division who went into line on the 5th Army front last week are the first Negro ground troops to go into action against the Germans.

Before they were sent into combat they were exhorted by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark to "take this opportunity, as I know you will,

to cover yourselves with glory." Presumably they did not need this exhortation. For they are well aware that the way they acquit themselves in battle has more than purely military importance.

### Watched Sympathetically.

The Negro population in the United States, and everybody who wishes to see the Negroes given greater opportunities, will watch them sympathetically, hoping that they will prove that they can fight with the same courage and skill that other American divisions have shown. To speak frankly, they also will be watched critically by those who are skeptical about the fighting ability of Negro units.

In the past this second group has been influential enough so that it was more than two years before any Negro combat troops were sent overseas and that the first formations to arrive here were used for noncombat duty.

### Trained Two Years.

The 92d Division has had two years' training. It has been provided with the best weapons and the most modern equipment. In one respect only, this will not be a perfect test case. Some senior officers, including the commander, are white, even though all the

troops and the majority of the junior officers are Negroes.

In its few days in the line, the Negro formation has already suffered one casualty. A captain was killed while leading a reconnaissance patrol.

Two soldiers of the division were awarded the Combat Infantry Badge today by Gen. Clark. They were S/Sgt. Paul Wilson of Youngstown, Ohio, and Sgt. Nolan Reed of St. Louis.

Although this is the first time that Negro ground troops have been in contact with the enemy in this theater, a Negro fighter plane group has been operating from Italy for several months.

### Germans Afraid, Clark Says.

In his address to the members of the 92d Division, Clark said:

"You will find when you meet the German, that you have nothing to fear from him. In fact, he will be afraid of you.

"What could be a finer setting for entrance into battle than with the Germans wobbling on their last legs with the Allied forces in France and Russia closing in on him, and we ready again to bloody his nose here. Take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory. Good luck to you, and God bless you."

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THE NEW YORK TIMES  
New York City

Date **AUG 29 1944**  
p.

## Clark Exhorts Negro Soldiers To Win Glory

92d Infantry Division Is  
in Line in Italy, First to  
Fight Nazis on Ground

By Russell Hill

*By Wireless to the Herald Tribune*  
Copyright, 1944, New York Tribune Inc.

ROME, Aug. 28.—Men of the 92d Infantry Division, who went into line on the 5th Army front last week are the first Negro ground troops to go into action against the Germans.

Before they were committed to combat they were exhorted by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark to "take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory." Presumably they did not need this exhortation, for they are well aware that the way they acquit themselves in battle has more than purely military importance.

The Negro population in the United States, and everybody who wishes to see the Negroes given greater opportunities, will watch them sympathetically, hoping they will prove that they can fight with the same courage and skill other American divisions have shown. To speak frankly, they will also be watched critically by those who are skeptical about the fighting ability of Negro units.

In the past this second group has been influential enough so that it was more than two years before any Negro combat troops were sent overseas, and the first formations to arrive here were used for non-combat duty.

The 92d Division has had two years' training. It has been provided with the best weapons and the most modern equipment. In one respect only, this will not be a perfect test case. Some senior officers, including the commander, are white, even though all the troops and the majority of the junior officers are Negroes.

Although this is the first time Negro ground troops have been in contact with the enemy in this theater, a Negro fighter plane group has been operating from Italy for several months. Its pilots have scored more than seventy-five air victories, according to official figures, and have sunk one enemy destroyer.

In his address to the members of the 92d Division, Clark said:

"You will find when you meet the German that you have nothing to fear from him. In fact, he will be afraid of you."

"What could be a finer setting for entrance into battle than the Germans wobbling on their last legs, with the Allied forces in France and Russia closing in on him, and we ready again to bloody his nose here? Take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory. Good luck to you and God bless you."

# Nazis Now Face Negro Infantrymen; Unit Gets First Casualty

Gen. Clark Confers Combat Badges On Two Men; Predicts Brilliant Future For Outfit From 92nd Division; Soldiers Eager

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN  
Journal and Guide War Correspondent  
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SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—Via Wireless—The crack Negro combat team, composed of elements of the famous 92nd Buffalo division which was such a vital factor in the winning of World War I, are now in combat with Lt. General Mark Clark's Fifth Army on the Italian West Coast front.

This marks the first time in this war that the Nazis have met American Negro infantrymen in battle, and a parallel to 1918 when the Germans found themselves face to face with the original Buffaloes, has been established.

The combat team suffered its initial casualty last week and two of its soldiers were cited by General Clark in a special ceremony.

The unit's first casualty came last week when a colored officer of this combat team—the first self-sufficient infantry team in Army history—went to the front ahead of his unit which was assigned to reconnaissance work. He was reported killed in action. (His name will not be released until next of kin are notified.—Ed.)

## TOUGH AND SMART

When interviewed, the commanding officer of the unit declared: "In our assignment, we will see plenty of fighting action and this is right down our alley. The men in this outfit are tough and they're smart. They would be a credit to any Army in the world."

In special ceremonies on Monday of this week, Lt. General Clark conferred the combat infantry badge upon two soldiers of the combat team. They were: S/Sgt. Paul Wilson, Youngstown, Ohio; and Sgt. Nolan Reed, St. Louis.

This badge is only awarded to infantrymen who are actually serving in front line combat at the time of the incident which merits the award.

## PRaised BY CLARK

In his remarks to the unit at the front, just before it was committed to combat, General Clark related the glorious history of the Fifth Army from Salerno to Florence and then said: "I know how carefully you have trained. I know your fine leadership, your discipline and the proficiency with which you used the weapons of your branch.

"You are better equipped than any Army in the world. You have joined the big leagues now. You are with professional fighters and with your background you have every opportunity to make a great name for the 92nd division.

"You have nothing to fear from the Germans. In fact, they will be afraid of you. You will defeat him and annihilate him in every place you find him. You will prove that he is inferior to you and that you are superior to him in every way."

## TO BE IN ON KILL

Concluding, General Clark said: "Take this opportunity, as I know you will, to cover yourselves with glory. You men of the 92nd will be in on the final battle when we completely crush the enemy thereby bringing victory to our great nation. Good luck and God bless you."

The rugged men of the new combat infantry team are proud (See COMBAT TEAM, Page 2)

## Combat Team

(Continued from Page 1)

masters of the improved weapons of war. These bronzed warriors have the highest morale and have excellent equipment. They have an eagerness to wade in and slug it out to a finish with the Germans. They have trained for this job for over two years.

### WELL EQUIPPED

The majority of the officers of the unit are colored. 1st Lt. Phillip Grayson, 292 Bartham avenue, Columbus, Ohio, assistant personnel officer, told this reporter: "We are equipped with everything we could ask for. If we had another piece of equipment, I think it would be excess."

1st Lt. Allen L. Johnson, of Jackson, Miss., team chaplain, affectionately called "the fighting, shouting chaplain," previously served several months in the Pacific. He said: "I am proud of these boys. They're the best I have ever seen."

Other chaplains are: 1st Lt. Ernest D. Thompson, Des Moines, Iowa, and 1st Lt. Herbert C. Jones, Chattanooga, Tenn.

1st Lt. Charles Bailey, of Easton, Md., member of the headquarters staff declared: "Our boys are ready. I believe they can take care of themselves in any situation."

### PORTSMOUTH SOLDIERS

2nd Lt. Robert Brooks, platoon leader who was previously an enlisted man in the engineers in North Africa, returned to the states, went to officer candidate school, and was reassigned to the Buffalo division. Another officer of the unit is 1st Lt. Charles "Cutes" Carter, former Hampton Institute athlete.

1st Lt. John W. Brown, of Portsmouth, Va., told this writer that "We are here now. Bring on those Jerries." T/Sgt. Robert E. Bazemore, also of Portsmouth, said: "Keep an eye on these boys. We are going to make news."

Norfolk Journal

AND

Guide

SEPTEMBER 2, 1944

NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS

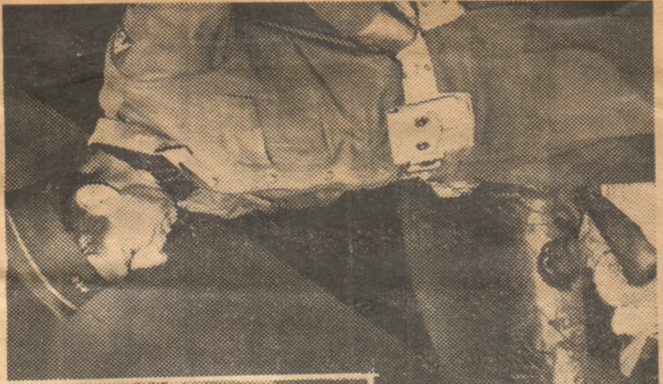
## General Mark Clark Inspects and Visits Members of the 92nd Infantry



LIEUTENANT GENERAL MARK W. CLARK, Commanding General of the Fifth Army "somewhere in Italy" recently inspected the crack 92nd Infantry Division Combat Team and personally visited many of its members. At the right the General stands with Lt. Rudolph Hines, of Columbus, Ga., when he reviewed the 92nd; the



center photo shows the Commanding General and members of his staff on an inspection tour. In the third photo General Clark is shown with Pvt. E. P. Jackson of Philadelphia, member of a service company, at an evacuation hospital near Leghorn, Italy. — U. S. Signal Corps Photo



September 16, 1944



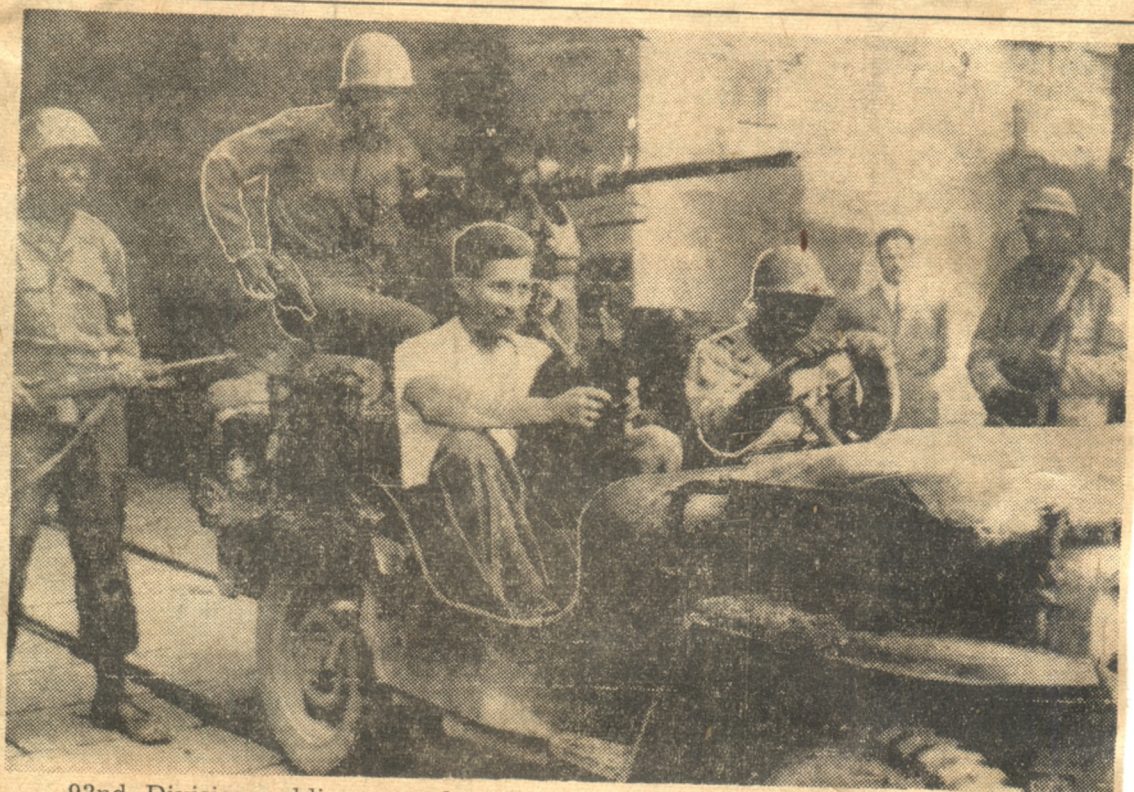


THE PHILA. TRIBUNE  
Philadelphia, Pa.

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## 92nd Division Soldiers Capture Prisoners



92nd Division soldiers guard a German prisoner caught in civilian clothes. Sitting in a jeep, the captive waits to be removed to the rear. Fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy, the division recently went into combat action for the first time, scoring brilliant initial victories against the Gothic line. (Signal Corps Radio Telephoto)

# 92nd Division Takes 2 Mountains

THESE ARE THE BOYS who have the Nazis on the run—run—A 105-mm howitzer of a field artillery unit of the 92nd Division, first Negro artillery unit in Italy, which took two mountains near Bologna Monday, is being fired at German positions.—(US Army Signal Corps foto). Story Page 3



PEOPLE'S VOICE  
New York City

Date OCT 14 1944

OCTOBER 11, 1944

THE CHICAGO DEFENDER, Saturday, September 30, 1944

## HOW 92ND DIVISION SMASHED ACROSS ARNO RIVER



German snipers make for some uncomfortable moments for this engineer unit of the 92nd Division while preparing a section of the Arno River for traffic. This is in the Cascina Area.



Preparing the Arno River for traffic, these engineers laying down wire netting across which men will walk through the shallow stream. All carry guns for emergency use.



This ruined bridge in the Pontederra area once spanned the Arno River but this is all that's left as units of the 92nd Division push through toward German positions on the vaunted Gothic line.

# 92nd Trying To Break Gothic Line's Anchor To Sea On West Coast

Face Toughest Assignment Given Team Since Committed To Combat; Casualties Rise; Unit Proves Equal To Task

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN  
Journal and Guide War Correspondent  
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden)

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY—(Via Wireless)—The 92nd infantry division crack combat team staged the fiercest battle in its combat history when it made a dramatic frontal attack on a mountain objective along Highway One in the Gothic Line on Wednesday and Thursday, October 11 and 12.

This battle saw Captain Jesse Jarman, of 2119 Boulevard place, Indianapolis, Ind., emerge as one of the greatest heroes of this war. It also saw sudden death come to three of the most popular officers of this gallant combat team.

In rapid succession, the 92nd captured three important mountains off Highway One where the Gothic Line is anchored to the sea on the Western flank. From behind elaborate fortifications, the determined Nazis poured a withering fire from every type of weapon to slow the advance of the infantry division.

Units commanded by Captain Clarence H. Brown, 1722 Columbia avenue, Philadelphia, smashed through to take an initial objective and found themselves forced to stand off six German counterattacks to hold the ground.

## GREAT HERO

The feat of Captain Jarman stands out as one of the brightest pages in the Negro's military history. On the night of October 12, Captain Jarman was leading a unit advancing against a mountain target when a sudden, terrific burst of Nazi fire forced some of the men back and pinned others down.

Captain Jarman found himself with only four men. He dug five foxholes, connected by a trench, and radioed the command post that he would attempt to hold the Jerries until he could be relieved. He cleverly fired a variety of small arms fire in such a way that he fooled the Germans into thinking that he had a much larger force. He held this precarious position until the following morning when relief came.

## REPLACEMENTS GALLANT

The men with him were all new replacements. They were: T/Sgt. Verles Johnson, Little Rock, Ark.; Pfc. Marcus Dewberry, Chicago, Ill.; Pvt. Joseph R. Miller, Lansdown, Pa.; and Pvt. Jake Glisson, of Sumter, S. C.

This two-day battle was an acid test for the infantry team, which suffered its greatest casualties since coming into action with the Fifth Army two months ago. The three popular officers were killed while leading advance units.

The division is still holding the towns of Ripa and Serravezza. The valleys around these towns are circled by steep mountains which are honey-combed with German guns. However, the division is probing forward slowly but steadily.

## SEES GUN

From our positions, I could see German guns bristling on hostile mountain tops. I could not see the Nazis, however, as they were hiding in the deep emplacements which have been set up in this Gothic line. Just the tops of the guns are visible. The Krauts fire by remote control using rope to pull the triggers of their guns.

It often seems impossible to dislodge Nazis. Whenever we knock out one gun, they quickly set up another. The Germans and the 92nd units engage in fierce artillery duels night and day.

When our big guns rake mountains, the Germans hide. They emerge after the barrage. They are apparently determined to have a showdown here.

The long dormant west coast sector of the Fifth Army drive into the Gothic line has been blazing for the past several days. Flanked by the Brazilian Army units, who slashed three miles north of Lucca a few days ago, the 92nd division and the Brazilians continue to advance steadily forward, despite the difficult terrain and frenzied German opposition.

Advancing north astride Highway One, Thursday, the combat team captured Mt. Caula in the Apennines west of the highway. They forced the fanatical Kraut defenders to move back. Despite increasing pressure on the Nazis by these powerful Fifth Army units driving East on Bologna, the Germans are apparently determined to stubbornly defend Highway One, which is an important coastal route running virtually the entire length of Italy.

## PROVE CAPABLE

The 92nd units, fighting mud, rain, and mountains, are still proving more than a match for Hitler's best "supermen."

Our units seem to be constantly fighting under difficult handicaps. However, they are advancing slowly but surely and are succeeding in keeping large numbers of German defenders occupied which is the strategy being used by the Fifth Army commanders.

A steady flow of replacements continues to come into Italy to fill in these infantry units and take the place of men who become casualties in one way or another.

THE JOURNAL & GUIDE  
Norfolk, Va.

Date OCT 21 1944  
p.

THE NEW YORK TIMES  
New York City

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## NEGRO UNIT PROUD OF GAINS IN ITALY

But Men of the 92d Division  
Object to Special Attention  
Because of Race

By MILTON BRACKER

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WITH A REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM of the United States Ninety-second Division on the Italian front, Oct. 30 (Delayed)—The progress and development of the first Negro combat unit to meet the Germans in the European theatre has been "normal and progressively satisfactory," their commanding general said yesterday.

Aware of the great interest in their work and its extreme importance in the future Negro share in American military history, the men who form the fighting vanguard of the Ninety-second Division have been in the front line for as many as sixty-eight days and have kept their advance at least up to the pace of more experienced divisions in the more active sector around Bologna.

The Negro outfit has killed Germans—one man is up for citation for having killed thirteen with his damaged carbine—and has had its losses.

### Object to Special Attention

Negro GI's and officers—the former predominantly from Southern States—deplore accounts that play up their achievements along lines which they feel point more to color than to the accomplishment itself and this fact is extremely important in any presentation of the present role of the outfit.

The situation in which the Negro soldier here finds himself thus grows out of a situation that applies to all minority groups. The men want to do well as a matter of group pride and at the same time they do not want to be singled out for attention that they feel is based more on their color than on their work.

Japanese-American members of the celebrated 100th Battalion, which is no longer in Italy, objected to special publicity on awards and citations on the grounds that it overemphasized the "hyphenated" quality of their Americanism. Negro officers say they want above all to be regarded as American fighting men. Yet they admit their men want to do particularly well as a matter of race pride.

The overall principle of race relations, established by Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond of Luray, Va., who brought the Ninety-second Division overseas, was that the development of the new infantry outfit was a military and not a sociological problem. This approach was bound to cut corners, but one result has been that Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of the Fifth Army, feels that there is no problem of race relations within his forces.

### White Officers Are in Issue

This combat team has a white colonel and lieutenant colonel and although there are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white junior officers. Moreover all current officer replacements are white. The colonel, who is a native of Connecticut but has lived long in Virginia, does not foresee the time when his outfit will include Negro junior officers outranking white junior officers.

In rear areas certain considerations have arisen out of race, which the division first encountered in training at home. Negro GI's are not permitted to carry knives of any sort except the regular issue knife or bayonet, which is not concealed and is as much a part of front line equipment as rifles or grenades.

Then the military police problem has been solved by having one white and one Negro MP patrol border areas together. The basic principle is that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. All Negro MP's are more than six feet tall. They do not carry pistols but use a short club.

There is no official segregation in forward or rear areas at messes or latrines or in sleeping accommodations although every Negro in the division, having trained in at least one Southern State, has had his share of it in the Army.

At the officers' mess here there is only one table. But at divisional headquarters, the night I messed there, Negro officers went to one table.

The divisional general reiterated that his outfit was administered on "military rather than racial lines" and added: "I don't try to choose an officer's friends for him."

Some white officers said some Negro infantrymen tended to "panic" more easily than whites and that the superstition and ignorance of some Southern boys could not be ignored. But more responsible officers said the greatest problem of Negro combat troops was inexperience against a foe as tough as the Germans.

*Journal and Guide*  
**Italian Women**

11-9-44  
(Continued from Page 1)

our troops. The entire unit finally moved into this forward area and continued its attack on the mountain from this position.

Supply the forcers under the heavy fire laid down by Kraut artillerymen continues to be the major problem and some of the most exciting adventures of the war occur daily as men toil along the hazardous supply route in full observation of the Germans.

**BLUEFIELD GRID STAR**

Lt. John Flippen, of Bluefield W. Va., former Bluefield College football star, now an officer in an infantry cannon company with the 92nd, told this reporter that "Our Big Guns are steadily blasting those mountain positions. Those Nazi rats have got to leave their holes before long. Yes sir, something's got to break and I don't think it will be us."

However the Jerries continue to shoot back peppering the supply routes and dropping heavy shells into rear areas. We must be careful with trucks and even jeeps because the Germans start shelling when they observe the slightest movement. It is now evident that the Krauts will fight for every inch of road to La Spezia which the 92nd is determined they will capture.

**STILL CARRY FIGHT**

After three months of the heaviest frontline fighting, these heroic tan soldiers are still carrying the fight to the German supermen. Despite their casualties, our soldiers continue pressure on the fanatical Krauts as blistering fighting rages spasmodically in the mountains dominating Route One.

The combat infantrymen of this courageous outfit pause now and then to lick their wounds and then wade right in and start slugging again.

On their right, the Brazilians recently secured two more strategic heights. Elsewhere on the Fifth Army front, mud and the rampaging streams built up by a heavy downpour of rain, have brought a virtual standstill to offensive operations.

**FORGOTTEN FRONT**

Taking advantage of the bad weather, the Germans are firing more artillery than ever before in Italian campaign, including even the Anzio stalemate. The Krauts are hoping to gain precious time in which to improve their defenses and install more barbed wire and minefields.

All evidence points to the fact that this forgotten front may continue providing the bloodiest battles of the war.

*Journal and Guide*  
**Women Of Italian Town Fight By Side Of 92nd Infantrymen** 11/4/44

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN  
Guide War Correspondent  
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WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN THE GOTHIC LINE IN ITALY — (Via Wireless) — The favor with which the 92nd division infantrymen have been received by the natives of Liberated Italy was never more graphically illustrated than in recent fierce fighting, in the mountains north of Via Reggio when, in the quaint town of Gustigliano, the gallant Italian women volunteered to assist in getting supplies to our units when the terrain proved too tough for jeeps or mules.

Women of all ages — pretty senioritas and senioras, old women and young girls—daily assisted in the supply problem. They carried packs of ammunition and food to troops holding vital mountain points. The women seemed delighted and happy to help despite the fact that they toiled under the fire of German artillery.

When our troops occupied the town, the commanding officer was informed that German patrols were frequently seen at a point high above the rocky terrain. The women advised the 2nd officer to station troops in

that sector to capture prisoners but the commanding officer explained that it would be difficult to supply the troops in such a position.

**VOLUNTEERED TO HELP**

Whereupon, the women volunteered to carry the necessary supplies up to these men in what is believed to be the first time in the history of the Italian campaign that native women actually worked with fighting troops.

As these women filed across the rocky terrain with these supplies, we saw a profound and amazing picture of cooperation which will become a significant part of the proud history of this famous Buffalo division.

The men of the 92nd will never forget the women of Gustigliano who fought beside them.

**MOUNTAIN BATTLE**

Meanwhile, a bitter battle for Mt. Strettoia, less than five miles south of Massa off Highway One, raged most of the past week with the 92nd combat units continually boring into fanatical Germans who are now aided by their strongest remaining ally, General Bad Weather.

A portion of the mountain objective was taken and held by a platoon under command of 2nd Lt. Horner and was later consolidated by the main body of (See ITALIAN WOMEN, P. 2)

NOVEMBER

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Norfolk Journal & Guide

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Norfolk, Va.

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## Four Popular Officers Of 92nd Give Lives In Gothic Battle

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN  
*Journal and Guide War Correspondent*  
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FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—(Via Air Mail)—The victories won by our infantry during the six-day battle with Germans firmly entrenched in mountain fortifications of the Gothic Line, near vital Highway Number One, cost the lives of four fighting officers, among them being Captain Charles F. Gandy, courageous hero of the battle of Lucca.

### Captain Gandy Inspiring Officer

Prior to entering the Army, Captain Gandy made his home in Washington, D. C. He formerly resided in Greenville, S. C. Captain Gandy leaves a wife and a child, which he had never seen. Before the war he was in the insurance business in Washington.

The captain was leading his

units on the side of a mountain October 12 when he was mortally wounded by enemy machinegun fire. A soldier near him went to his aid and was about to pick up the wounded officer when he too was killed, presumably by the same gun.

wide popularity among men of the entire outfit for his courage and heroism under fire. The most popular expression used by infantry men to describe Captain Gandy is: "He wouldn't ask a soldier to do anything that he wouldn't do . . ."

Captain Gandy was a colorful, inspiring officer. He was the first officer to receive a battlefront promotion and that came very spectacularly. During an inspection of the infantry units prior to entry into actual combat, Lieutenant Mark Clark approached the captain, then a lieutenant, who stood with his units and gave him his promotion.



**92<sup>ND</sup> MEETS**

**JIM CROW**

**IN ITALY**

**WHITE OFFICERS ONLY  
FOR REPLACEMENTS  
IN FAMOUS DIVISION**

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT—Belatedly but surely, the typical American pattern of discrimination and jim crow has invaded the Italian front lines, bringing to an all-time low the morale of the men and officers of the 92nd Division combat team fighting here. Although democratic conditions prevailed during the early days of the combat team's service at the front, radical changes following the arrival of Major Gen. Edward Almond, division commander from Fort Huachuca, and a long time resident of Virginia, have instituted a completely discriminatory method of officer replacement. According to Milton Bracken, writing for the New York Times,

THE PITTSBURGH COURIER  
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Date NOV 11 1944

### Colored Officers Being Transferred

According to reliable information received by The Pittsburgh Courier, the following Negro officers of the 92nd Division combat team, fighting Nazis and Nazism in Italy, have been moved from the units with which they have trained and transferred to rifle companies to make way for white replacements whom, according to their commanding general, Edward Almond, they are not permitted to out-rank:

**LIEUTENANT LEE**, transferred from an anti-tank platoon to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

**LIEUTENANT MADISON**, transferred from S-2 duties to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

**LIEUTENANT MITCHELL**, transferred from an anti-tank platoon to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

**LIEUTENANT GARNET**, motor officer, transferred to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

**LIEUTENANT BOWEN**, battalion liaison officer, transferred to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement;

**LIEUTENANT KIDD**, transferred from a heavy weapon company to a rifle company to make way for a white replacement.

General Almond is quoted as saying that he could not foresee the time when his outfit will include colored junior officers outranking white junior officers. Accordingly, although the combat team includes many Negro company commanders, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white junior officers. Moreover all current officer replacements are white. In the policy of replacement of colored by white officers, the colored men are taken from the units with which they have trained and sent into front-line rifle companies.

### DISCRIMINATION IN THE REAR

Bracken reports also that in the rear areas, certain considerations have arisen out of the race question. Negro GI's are not permitted

to carry knives of any sort except the regular issue bayonet. Negro and white MP's go on patrol together on the basic principle that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. Negro MP's are all more than six feet tall. They do not carry pistols like the whites, but use a short club.

There is no official segregation in forward or rear areas at messes, latrines or in sleeping accommodations, Brackens reports, but on the night when he messed at the divisional headquarters, Negro officers went to one table.

Bracken quotes Almond as saying: "I don't try to choose an officer's friends for him," and that he is administering his outfit on "military rather than racial lines." His overall principle of race relations, again according to Bracken, is that the development of the division is a military, not a sociological problem.

In the meanwhile, the commanding general reports that the development and progress of the division has been normal and satisfactory. The men, reportedly, resent special attention to their activities because of their color, yet are anxious to make a good record because of their race pride. Negro officers, according to General Almond, are stressing that race is secondary to patriotism.

Aware of the historical nature of their mission as the first Negro combat team to meet the Germans, the fighting vanguard of the 92nd have been in the front line for more than two months and have successfully kept pace with the advance of more experienced divisions in some of the more fiery sectors around Bologna. The unit has had its losses and its heroes as well. One of the men is up for a citation for having killed 13 Germans with a damaged carbine.

General Mark Clark, commander of the Fifth Army, who has declared there is no race problem within his army, has the complete respect and admiration of the men. According to one correspondent, he is apparently not aware of the new situation that has developed. This correspondent terms the new replacement policy as one which "kills the chances of promotion for colored officers," and which introduces "incompetent white officers into the outfit, constituting sabotage behind the lines of the 92nd division."

AMSTERDAM STAR NEWS  
New York City

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## Change Needed in Armed Forces

A recent article in THE NEW YORK TIMES about the valor of the 92nd Division in Italy stated: "Negro GI's and officers deplore accounts that play up their achievements along lines which they feel point more to color than to the accomplish itself.

"This combat team (the 92nd) has a white colonel, lieut.-colonel, and although there are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white junior officers. Moreover, all current officer replacements are white. The colonel, who is a native of Conn., but who has lived long in Va., does not foresee the time when his outfit will include Negro junior officers outranking white junior officers."

Under these circumstances how can any GI or Negro officer of the 92nd ever overcome the feeling that he is specifically singled out as a soldier apart? He cannot as long as his own Government does its level best to make him feel inferior by not permitting qualified Negro officers to outrank even white shavetails? In fact, how can the men of the 92nd fight, knowing that their own Government actually considers them inferior to the white men fighting and dying in foxholes alongside of them? It is certainly time for a radical change in our armed forces.

FIRST  
IN A  
SERIES

# Pittsburgh THE Courier

☆ AMERICA'S ☆ ☆ ☆ BEST ☆ ☆ ☆ WEEKLY ☆ ☆ ☆

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1944

## UNDER FIRE *with the* 92nd DIVISION

### *A Grape Arbor: Protection*

By OLLIE HARRINGTON Courier War Correspondent and Artist

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—While making thumbnail sketches of patrols attached to a battalion of the 92nd Infantry Division, the most difficult witnessed by me, was the day three men and I went out to bring back a wounded comrade.

Protected by a single mortar and tommy-gun fire, the patrol was able to inch its way between a clump of buildings. It was difficult, however, to locate the exact hiding place of the Nazi gun, which opened up whenever our movements were detected.

We finally found protection beneath a grape arbor, which also served as camouflage for the patrol.

*A patrol sent out to bring back a man seen with  
terrible stomach wounds—machine gun fire—*



**SECOND  
NEWS SECTION**

*by Ollie Harrington*



*With Charley Gandy's patrol on outskirts of Vorno  
snipers in every building - checked church tower —*

## ***It's All In A Day's Work: Snipers, Booby Traps, Mines Keep Men Alert***

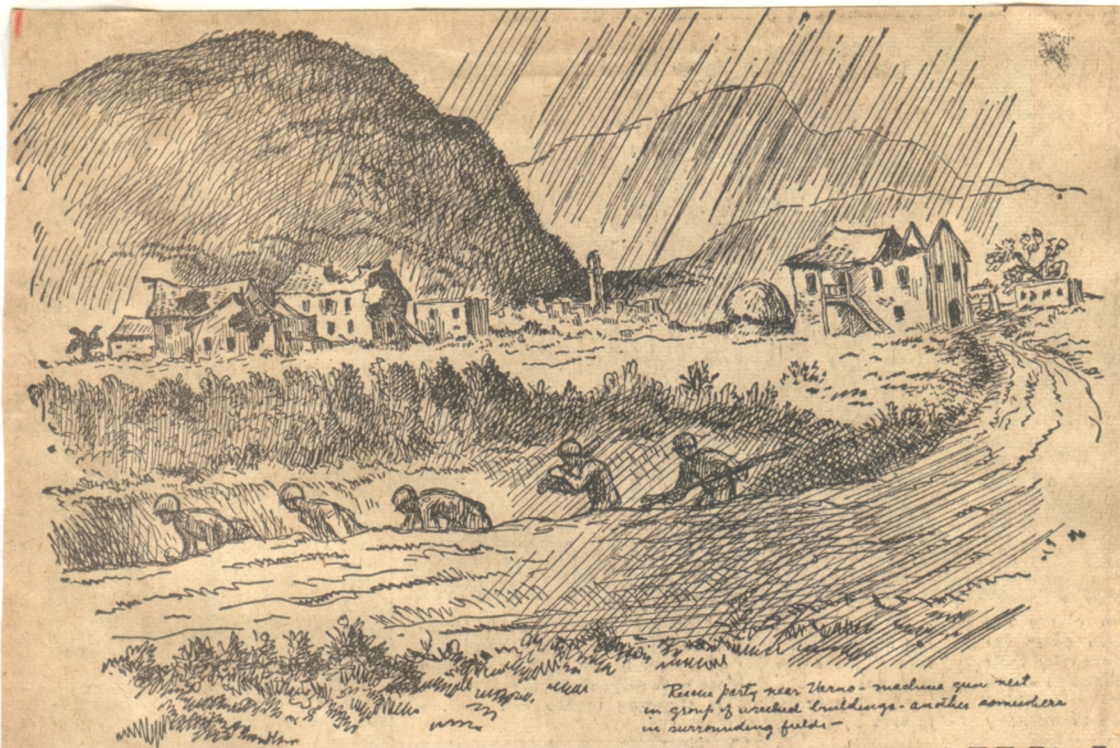
**By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Correspondent and Artist**

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—We were patrolling an area just outside the town of Vorno. Our troops already had taken the town and moved on to chase the Nazis to other parts farther back. And I might say the task of patrolling a captured area is one of the most dangerous assignments a group of soldiers can draw.

There was quite a good deal of wreckage, which afforded excellent hiding places for Nazi machine-gun nests and snipers. It is extremely ticklish business tripping through these ruins, where Hitler's boys don't open up on you until your patrol has passed their hiding place. One's spine twitches continually in these spots.

In addition, the Nazis place their nests in cornfields. Aside from that there is nothing to worry about but land mines and booby traps, with which the place is infested. When you stop worrying about these there are only the 88's to think about.

While on this mission, we had the privilege of visiting the ruins of a church. We were looking for Nazi snipers.



## Daring 92nd Patrol Returns With Wounded Man Despite Nazi Fire

By OLLIE HARRINGTON, Courier War Correspondent and Artist

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—Capt. Charlie Gandy had received information stating that one of his men had been cut down by German machinegun fire. Wasting not a second, he called for volunteers to form a patrol. More than enough volunteered for the dangerous job. Each volunteer knew all odds went against him at the very outset.

His patrol organized, Captain Gandy and his men set out on foot to locate their fallen buddy. Making their way through ditches, heavily covered fields, and using bullet-spattered stone walls as shields, the patrol began working its way to a clump of buildings. The wounded man was lying somewhere in front of the houses in full view of the hidden Nazis, who fired as we approached. After pinning us down, they opened fire on our medical men, who were plainly marked.

Captain Gandy then ordered his men to open fire, and during the pitched battle the wounded man was dragged to safety. The Nazis continued to let us have all they could give, and proved so strong that the attempt to dislodge them was abandoned. Later on in the day, it was actually necessary to withdraw the entire battalion from the area.

*Patrol party near barn - machine gun nest in group of wrecked buildings - another somewhere in surrounding fields -*

Pittsburgh  
Courier

Nov. 11, 1944

# ALMOND'S FAILURE CHARGED TO DIVISION

By COLLINS GEORGE  
(Formerly Attached to Ninety-second Division)

The fighting men of the Ninety-second Division received bad publicity because of two battles, that in the Serchio Valley Dec. 26, 1944, and in the Cinquale Canal action in Feb. of this year. If there is any criticism to be made of the division in these battles, it is criticism of the white command and not of the Negro enlisted men who performed under fire as well as any soldiers anywhere.

The division received praise for its part in the final push. Yet the men who fought in that push resent much of that praise, for it was praise for a division that had been reconstituted with white and Nisei troops while the original men of the division had been betrayed by their commander, General Almond.

## LESSONS TO BE LEARNED

Whether the division received good or bad publicity, there are lessons to be learned from these three engagements as to how Negro troops are not to be used in battle, and a strong argument against conscription into a segregated Army.

The Serchio breakthrough made headlines all over the nations when the papers cried that the Germans had broken through Ninety-second Division defenses and were advancing. As a matter of fact, the Germans did break through in a very thinly held mountain sector, but according to the chief of staff of the division and to eye-witnesses, they at no time advanced more than a mile and a half.

What then is the significance of the Serchio? First, publicity given to the break-through of a "Negro" division's lines began the myth that Negro soldiers can't fight, though similar reverses on much larger scale with other divisions brought forth no such publicity.

Involved in the engagement were small units of less than battalion strength of the 366th Infantry and the 370th Infantry. According to information I received, the 366th, which bore the brunt of the attack, won commendation for the part it played in checking the attack; the 370th, condemnation. That information was played down in the division. Why? The 366th, all-Negro officered, had resented, from the time it became attached to the division, the division's racial policies, and its original commanding officer, Col. Howard Queen, had resigned because of it. General Almond, for reasons I was never able to discern, did not like the 366th and eventually caused its dissolution.

## CINQUALE SCHEDULED FOR FAILURE

I knew the plans of the Cinquale attack the night before it took place. I was told that they would fail and why they would fail. I knew that General Almond had been advised by his tank commander that the beach terrain selected for tank movement was not suitable for the maneuver. The general said, "We will use tanks there." Twenty-two of them were knocked out of commission at the spot the next day.

I was told that not enough strength had been allotted to take the high ground vital for any movement along the low lying coastal plain and beach. That was again exactly what happened—but again a battalion of the 366th bore the brunt and for three days was left on the beach under murderous cross artillery, mortar and shell fire from three directions. One-third of a battalion died there, including the battalion commander, Major Willis Polk of Philadelphia.

## 366th DISSOLVED

The results of the Cinquale. The 366th, one of the oldest and proudest Negro infantry regiments was converted into general service engineers, at a time when the Fifth Army and Fifteenth Army groups were asking for more combat troops.

When, with other correspondents, I asked the Fifth Army commander, General Lucian Truscott, about the breakup he told us, "Some of you correspondents are writing stories that are doing more harm than good," and pointing his finger at me, he stated, "and you are one of them."

I know on extremely reliable authority that following the battle General Almond wrote to General Crittenger, commander of the Fourth Corps, asking that the 365th and 371st regiments be not used in direct attack but only in support or flanking positions. That is exactly what was their disposition in the final attack.

## TRUMAN GIBSON ARRIVES

The rustl of the Cinquale: Truman Gibson was sent over by the War Department, ostensibly to check on the performance of Negro troops, actually to find reasons or methods to use Negro troops in a manner that would make universal peace-time conscription acceptable to Negroes.

The significance of the Cinquale: General Almond, who, with almost dictatorial power, had trained the division since its activation in 1942, repudiated his own men. Having made a tactical error, he placed the blame for the failure on Negro troops and by writing the above-mentioned letter added materially to the weapons of those who do not wish to see Negroes used in integrated units or in combat positions.

## REORGANIZES 370th

Having received permission to reorganize the 370th, according to his best lights, the general sought to give it all white officers, but was prevailed upon by Gibson to add two Negro officers. Even at that, and although every GI was aware of what he was doing, he committed one battalion of the 370th to the lines with these words, "This is your last chance to fight for your race."

Seventy-five officers and men were court-martialed as a result of the Cinquale failure. . . . their failure? No, for the failure of the white general staff of the division.

## NINETY-SECOND REORGANIZED

The glorious final push: According to General Almond's request two of his original divisions were given nondescript assignments. The 448th, a reconverted anti-aircraft white regiment and the 442nd, the Nisei regiment, were attached to the division. In full strength on a much smaller front, the Ninety-second finally got over the high ground that had impeded its advance so long. Massa fell, Carrara fell, La Spezia fell . . . all with the aid of revolting partisans.

General Almond's 370th Infantry fought to the very gates of Massa, and dug in, prepared to enter it in the morning. But in the morning it had been moved to another sector, and it was the white 448th that entered the city for which the soldiers of the Ninety-second had yearned so long.

## 370th BETRAYED

Later in Genoa correspondents asked the general why he had done this. He replied that the 370th was no good as a fighting outfit. In short, the general even repudiated the one regiment he had had authority to reorganize according to his every wish.

The result of the final battle: In spite of the copy that each correspondent sent back to the glorious democracy of the new white, Nisei and Negro Ninety-second, the major opinion among Negro correspondents was that the troops of the division had been betrayed by its commander; among whites, that the other outfits had had to be called to aid the Ninety-second. Although Genoa fell into Allied hands purely through the partisan revolt in the north of Italy, a sign remained outside the city for weeks after its capture, "You are now entering Genoa, by courtesy of the 448th (a white) regiment."

## SEGREGATION WON'T WORK

What is the significance to be drawn from these experiences, and borne out by every other similarly constituted outfit. Units made up of Negro enlisted personnel with white commanding officers—and that is the picture of every "Negro" outfit in the Army—will inevitably suffer from invidious comparisons with other outfits; will inevitably suffer low morale as the men realize the hopelessness of their position, being of one color while any recourse they may need for help from above must be to men of another color; the frustration of the ambition and worth of Negro officers, and the inevitable tendency of command to lay the blame for failure of the command on the "Negro soldier."

CHICAGO DEFENDER  
Chicago, Ill.

Date NOV 11 1944  
p.

## Men Of 92nd Proud Of Gains Made In Italy

WITH THE NINETY-SECOND DIVISION ON THE ITALIAN FRONT—The men of the 92nd Division, first Negro combat unit to meet the Germans in Europe, have reason to be proud of their gains in Italy.

The commanding general of the division recently termed their progress and development as "normal and progressively satisfactory," according to a dispatch by Milton Bracker, New York Times war correspondent.

German troops have fallen under the firepower of this Negro outfit and the 92nd has suffered casualties. One man is up for citation for having mowed down 13 Nazis with a carbine that was partly damaged.

Recognizing that they form a vanguard of Negro fighting men and that their performance under fire is being closely observed, the 92nd have been in the front line

for as many as 68 days. Their advances have kept pace with those of more experienced divisions.

### All White Officers

Bracker of the Times reports that the men of the 92nd object to special attention because of their race. "The men want to do well as a matter of group pride," he writes, "but at the same time they do not want to be singled out for attention that they feel is based more on their color than on their work."

Describing the organization of the 92nd, Bracker states, "This combat team has a white colonel and lieutenant colonel and although there are many Negro company officers, captains and lieutenants, none ranks white officers."

"Moreover all current officer replacements are white. The colonel, who is a native of Connecticut, but has lived long in Virginia, does not foresee the time when his outfit will include Negro junior officers outranking white junior officers."

### 'No Segregation'

"The military police problem," Bracker writes, "has been solved by having one white and one Negro MP patrol border areas together. The basic principle is that the white man handles white offenders and the Negro handles Negroes. All Negro MP's are more than six feet tall. They do not carry pistols but use a short club."

"There is no official segregation in forward or rear areas at messes or latrines or in sleeping accommodations although every Negro in the division, having trained in at least one southern state, has had his share of it in the army."

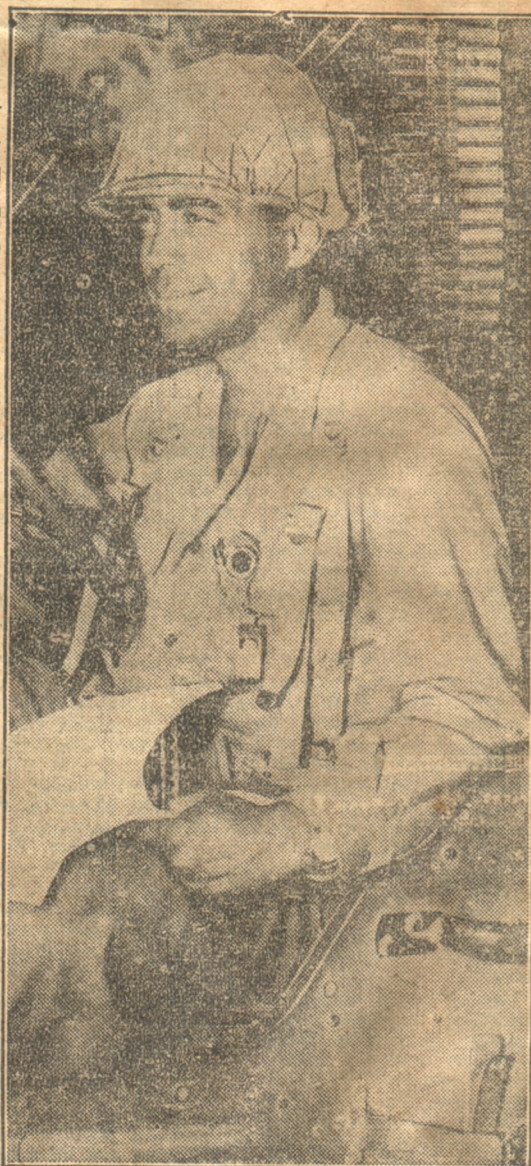
"Some white officers said some Negro infantrymen tended to 'panic' more easily than whites and that the superstitious and ignorance of some southern boys could not be ignored. But more responsible officers said the greatest problem of Negro combat troops was inexperience against a foe as tough as the Germans."



THE CALL & POST  
Cleveland, Ohio

Date NOV 18 1944  
p.

Daring commander of a company of the 92nd Infantry Division now fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy who was reported missing in action by the War Department on November 3. Captain Gandy, the first officer of the Negro division to be promoted in the field by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, won the admiration of his men because he wouldn't ask a soldier to do anything that he wouldn't do." He made his home in Washington, D. C. (U. S. Signal Corps Photo from BPR.)



CAPTAIN CHARLES F. GANDY

THE AFRO-AMERICAN  
Washington, D. C.

Date **NOV 18 1944**  
p.

**UNDER FIRE** with the **92nd DIVISION** by *Ollie Harrington*

## Loaded Grapes Leave GI A Mass Of Mangled Flesh



SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—At first there were many casualties, for the most part from German mines and .88 shells, when patrols of the 92nd Division marched off to wreck the Gothic Line.

I saw one poor fellow reach across a ditch to pluck a bunch of grapes. The next second there was a terrific roar, and when the smoke cleared there was the fellow sitting in the road, clutching a handful of grapes and with the most peculiar expression of surprise on his face as he looked at a mangled mass of wool, flesh and bone, which ended in a bloody mass at his knee.

Patrols of the 92nd gained firm footholds, however. They crawled, cursed and fought their way—hill by overpowering hill—straight into the supposedly impregnable Gothic Line, watching with grim satisfaction the Nazi flesh and bone and steel crumble in the face of the 92nd's blistering hot machine-guns and mortars.

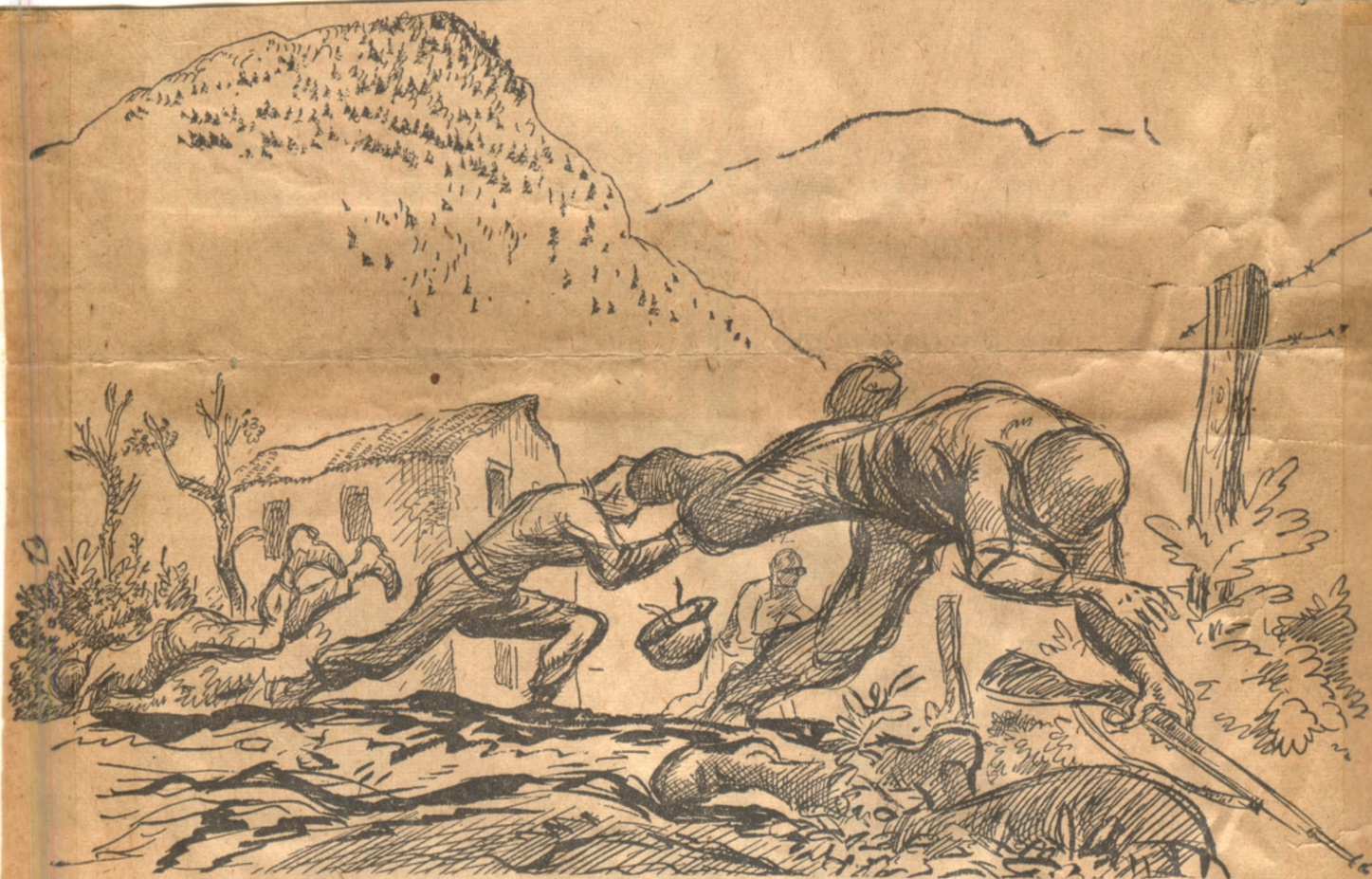
But in smashing across the Arno, the 92nd paid a ghastly price for its apprenticeship. The men paid it on the line with many blanket-covered forms which marked their path.

Italy - Sept 13 with 92nd Div  
On Lucca road 88's knocked  
hell out of patrol. Some pretty  
bad shrapnel wounds. now  
we talked.

### First 92nd Patrol To Cross the Arno

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY — The first patrol to cross the Arno and open the Fifth Army drive against the approaches to the Gothic Line was a group of daring Yanks from the 92nd Infantry Division. Given protection by artillery, which battered the shores held by the Nazis, the first group of men reaching the coveted spot found the enemy had moved back into the hills. This information was verified by captured Nazi prisoners.





## Screaming Steel From 88's Kept Men Diving Into Ditches

SOMEWHERE IN ITALY—With the Germans holding all of the surrounding hills in the Battle of the Gothic Line, which gave them perfect observation, our men were subjected to the most terrible .88 gunfire. Fortunately, one can hear the shell for a split second before it reaches its destination . . . and in that split second one must dive into the nearest depression.

Most casualties were from this murderous fire, and after seeing what the evil bits of screaming steel can do to the flesh and bone, I listened very attentively, and once dove into a ditch when I heard

the exhaust of a jeep.

There in the blood-drenched mountains it is difficult to think in terms of being part of a strategical operation. Life boils itself down to a simple matter of kill or be killed. Death, metallicly chattering like a riveting machine, lies behind the shattered, the splintered tree trunks and the heaps of moss-covered rocks; or it may come with a single crack from the window of a deserted farmhouse, where frightened fowl huddle in dark barn shed corners.

Each man has his own front line, and he who shoots first moves on to shoot again.

# 92nd Div. Soldier Kills 15 Nazis in Day; 10 Decorated

By ART CARTER

AFRO War Correspondent with  
U.S. Troops in Italy

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or in part expressly forbidden.]

WITH THE 92ND DIVISION  
(By Cable) — Killing fifteen Ger-  
mans in one day was the feat ac-  
complished by Pfc. Ollie V. Am-  
mons of Lonoke, Ark., who was

awarded the Silver Star for gallan-  
try in action Friday as 92nd Divis-  
ion soldiers received two silver  
stars and eight bronze stars.

During hot action near Sera-  
vezza on October 12, Ammons used  
his Browning automatic rifle to  
inflict heavy casualties upon ene-  
my forces. Defying six counter-  
attacks by the enemy, he stood  
his ground until the last man was  
behind him as our forces with-  
drew to a better position, killing  
nine Germans. Earlier in the  
day he had plucked off six enemy  
soldiers while holding a mountain  
sector against advancing enemy  
forces.

## Another Gets Silver Star

The other Silver Star award  
went to a first lieutenant who  
bravely led his platoon to accom-  
plish a mission in spite of wounds  
received in battle. He continued  
his leadership for three hours  
though wounded, refusing to leave  
his men for medical aid until so  
ordered by the company com-  
mander. The latter award was  
made posthumously.

Bronze stars for meritorious  
service in combat were awarded

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

# 92nd Div. Soldier Kills 15

(Continued from Page 1)

to Capt. Clarence Brown, Jr., of  
Philadelphia; S/Sgt. Mandy  
James, Newport News, Va.; Cpl.  
Richard A. Warr, Memphis; Pvt.  
Matthew Ragland, Buffalo, N.Y.;  
Cpl. Carroll James and three  
white officers, Capt. Elmore F.  
Reedy, Woodstock, Va.; and First  
Lieuts. Jessea Wooten and Jose-  
pha Corsaro.

Captain Brown's citation and  
award was based on the October  
12 action when he masterly led  
his company through a difficult  
night advance, notwithstanding  
repeated enemy counter-thrusts.  
Throughout the night, heavy  
machine-gun, mortar and rifle fire  
harrassed the company, but in the  
morning it reached its objective  
and inflicted heavy losses on the  
enemy.

Sergeant James defied machine-  
gun fire to rescue a wounded offi-  
cer, dragging the injured man to  
a place of safety, while Corporal  
Warr and Private Ragland were  
cited for advancing under fire to  
rescue a wounded comrade, going  
first on the back of a tank, then  
crawling through a tunnel and  
finally crawling thirty yards over  
exposed terrain to reach the  
wounded soldier.

Corporal James was awarded  
the bronze star for work with  
Lieutenant Corsaro who convinced  
seven enemy soldiers that it was  
best to surrender after going

through exposed territory to talk  
with them.

Wash  
Afro-American  
November 18, 1944

**Also Takes 5**  
**Italian Towns**

Prisoners' Camp in  
at Fifty Per Day

**MANY DESERTERS**

Fighting Fierce Here  
on Armistice Day

By **ART CARTER**

*AFRO War Correspondent with  
U.S. Troops in Italy*

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WITH 92nd DIVISION—Today  
was Armistice Day back in the  
States where solemn rites were  
being held in commemoration of  
those who gave their lives twenty-  
six years ago for peace and de-  
mocracy.

Battling in bloody, muddy Italian  
mountains, elements of the



92nd Division were punching forward  
along the Western sector  
front, having cleared half a dozen  
small towns in the past three  
days.

But the battle was much the  
same as in World War I—as  
rugged and tough as the Apen-  
nines over which it is being con-  
tested.

NOVEMBER 18, 1944

Wash.  
Afro-American

# Negro Soldiers Make Friends With Filipinos

12-2-44

World War II  
Familiar Tunes  
Heard By Martin;  
Sergeant Leads Group

By FLETCHER P. MARTIN  
(U. S. War Correspondent)

(Representing the Journal and Guide and  
Negro Newspaper Publishers Association)  
(Copyright, Reproduction Forbidden)

LEYTE BEACH, Philippines  
—(By Courier)— Despite the  
intense rain and wind of this  
Philippine village, the school  
children were once again in the  
classrooms this morning (Nov-  
ember 8, 1944.) It was like  
September at home. Ribbons  
in the hair, ruffled dresses un-  
starched, laughter, but not too  
great eagerness.

The opening here was the first  
of the openings of public  
schools in all liberated areas. In  
delivering the opening address,  
President Sergio Osmena said:

"I am happy to greet the  
teachers of Tacloban and to  
announce that the Common-  
wealth of the Philippines  
reopens the public schools  
in the liberated areas of  
the Philippines today. It is  
our privilege to resume the  
same school system. . ."

And many of our troops are  
here. They seem to have had  
a personal interest. The Fili-  
pino has been more jovial and  
social with the Negro soldier  
than any other group he has  
met in the Southwest Pacific.  
Our troops have held children  
and fed them. Have slipped  
canned milk into homes where  
milk was badly needed. Have  
bought souvenirs, not solely be-  
cause they wanted them, but  
many of them thought they  
would be helping out the newly  
found friends.

## REAL FRIENDLINESS

There is real friendliness here,  
and it has resulted in kindness.

Walking through one of the  
narrow streets, this correspon-  
dent heard a group of children  
singing with much enthusiasm  
one of our more familiar tunes.  
Following the source of the mus-  
ic I found the following:

There were fourteen chil-  
dren, looked to have ranged  
in age from ten to fifteen.  
Their eyes sparkled, their  
voices high pitched. The  
Philippino - American lan-  
guage rolled from their  
mouths.

Leading them was a Negro  
staff sergeant. And he seemed  
to have been enjoying the music  
as much as they. As he waved  
his hand, the little children  
broke out with: "Flat foot  
Flooie, with a floy, floy."

## Magnification

Admissions by Truman Gibson,  
Negro civilian aide to the Secretary  
of War, concerning certain failures  
of the division have been magnified  
here. No one has bothered to quote  
the explanations he made for the  
poor showing.

It is almost an unwritten law  
among the Allied correspondents  
not to report any show of flinching.  
The High Command and war corre-  
spondents know white patrols have  
"melted away under enemy fire."  
They know that there are inefficient  
white officers. They also know that  
there are outfits without spectacular  
victories.

To be sure, much of the "criti-  
cisms of the Negro division from  
white troops, is a form of sublimat-  
ing. They are frustrated and home-  
sick. The complex reasons for their  
being here escape them. Therefore,  
they seek a scapegoat. The Negro  
soldier seems to be the handiest  
whipping boy. So, with the flimsiest  
information, they gripe about the  
failures of Negroes.

## Courage

No one here actually questions  
the courage of Negro soldiers. Their  
white officers are unstinting in  
praise of individual acts of heroism.  
The division's casualties have been  
high. Few ever were taken pris-  
oner. *Stars and Stripes*, the GI  
newspaper, recently praised the  
men of the division. But all this  
has failed to offset the misinforma-  
tion that is being circulated.

The 92d Division probably would

not have been singled out for criti-  
cism if the War Dept. had not sent  
Truman Gibson to Italy. What the  
motive was seems vague at this dis-  
tance, because no noticeable change  
has been made in the outfit. In any  
case, the expose has boomeranged.  
It has placed blazing focus on a  
disgraceful situation in the U. S.  
Army. Even the GIs are beginning  
to ask the reason.

I went up with the Ninety-se-  
cond to gather some facts. The men  
had been fighting on the front for  
a long time, having been activated  
in October, 1943. They were mov-  
ing swiftly toward La Spezia, the  
formidable naval base. They were  
taking a terrific shelling from the  
coastal batteries of the Nazis—but  
they were moving forward steadily.

What I learned saddened and  
discouraged me—but hardly more  
than the discouragement and frus-  
tration the men themselves were ex-  
periencing. For the press reports,  
particularly those appearing in  
*Time* and *Newsweek* magazines, in  
addition to their day-to-day prob-  
lems, were hard to morale.

## Comments

This is the sort of comments that  
punctuated their conversations:

"I know I'm not going to get a  
break when I get home!"

To which another would say,  
"Yeah, so I don't want to be a  
hero."

The general feeling was, "This  
is Mr. Charlie's fight"—meaning the  
war is a white man's affair.

A certain inevitability threaded  
through their comments: "When I  
return I'll have to fight this war all  
over again," was the way they  
put it.

"No matter what we do, nobody  
pays us any mind," was the final  
conclusion.

The fact is, even the most unin-  
formed Negro GI I talked with  
questioned the usefulness of risking  
his life.

I asked one of the Negro chap-  
lains what he said to the men to  
stimulate their morale. He  
shrugged helplessly.

When I talked with the Chief of  
Staff, Col. McCaffery, he offered no  
solution to this distressing morale.  
The Negro officers frankly admitted  
they were helpless, except to stir  
the men with "racial patriotism."  
They said the men would go to the  
death for each other, but not for  
any abstract slogan. They were  
clearly cynical about the announced

objectives of the war.

As it turned out, what actually I  
discovered in the ranks of the 92d  
Division reached deep in the social  
patterns of U. S. life. Neither  
whites nor Negroes were ultimately  
responsible. They were all caught  
up, victims of an ugly condition.  
For what was wrong with the divi-  
sion could never be corrected in  
Italy.

So, with this discovery, I sought  
the facts. I know I have them and  
I will try to put into perspective a  
sad chapter in our military history  
—one that has embarrassed us with  
our troops, caused racial conflicts  
and misunderstanding among them,  
embarrassed us with our Allies, and  
produced a certain cynicism among  
the liberated peoples as to the ut-  
imate meanings of America's part  
icipation in the war.

DEC. 2, 1944  
Norfolk  
JOURNAL  
AND  
GUIDE

THE AMSTERDAM-STAR NEWS  
New York City

Date **DEC 16 1944**  
p.

## 92nd Division Faces Bitter Front Battle

Art Carter Interviewed In  
Trailer Near Italian Lines

By ART CARTER

(Amsterdam News and Afro-  
American War Correspondent)

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS —  
"This is a critical period as battle  
experiences for the 92nd are just  
beginning."

So spoke divisional commander  
Major General Edward M. Almon  
of Luray, Va., as he began an inter-  
view in his trailer here recently.

"We are opposed by a stubborn  
enemy. We have constantly exerted  
pressure by patrol and limited ob-  
jective attacks. Many times we  
have broken up small counter-  
attacks, and have taken over 800  
prisoners." Then using his pointer,  
which the 52 years old general  
waves like a college professor, he  
said emphatically: "We have suf-  
fered many casualties in taking our  
objectives, but we have assigned  
jobs and will carry out all future  
assignments."

"It is entirely too early in the  
experience of the Division to predict  
its fighting capabilities," he con-  
tinued. "We have made mistakes  
like all green troops when they first  
go into combat, but our non-coms  
and junior officers are gaining the  
experience that they need and are  
correcting those mistakes."

At this point the commander,  
who is regarded as a soldier's soldier  
by his men, sketched the history of  
the Division and talked about the  
feats of individuals who have  
proved to be heroes in battle.

He pointed out that the Division's  
first unit to enter battle was a  
regimental combat team command-  
ed by Col. Raymond G. Sherman of  
Waynesburg, Va., which saw its  
initial action on August 25, and  
spearheaded the Allied crossing of  
the Arno River. This unit has been  
in line continuously since that time  
and has suffered the most casual-  
ties, while other units have been  
in combat slightly over 30 days.

The sector in which the Division  
is fighting is one of the most  
difficult terrains on which to fight  
on the whole Fifth Army front.

Journal and Guide Dec 16, 1944

# Rain Steals Show On 92nd Front; Commander Visits Foxhole Men

By JOHN "ROVER" JORDAN  
Journal and Guide War Correspondent  
(Copyright. Reproduction Forbidden)

WITH 92ND DIVISION IN ITALY—Again during last week old man weather stole the show in the Italian War Theatre with the high spot reached on Friday when two and a half inches of rain whipped up by a fifty-mile wind stung the drenched dough-boys.

After a tour of three days of the frontline foxholes, the division commander stated that our infantrymen are successfully accomplishing their mission of holding the enemy and then chewing him up with repeated attacks and counterattacks.

The commander talked to hundreds in the frontlines and heard their gripes and comments. Morale is high despite the miserable weather, he reported. In his statement the commander stressed the importance of news and information to the men at the front and ordered that all possible material, including newspapers, be sent to the foxhole men.



JORDAN

### MORALE BUILDER

He cited news and information as one of the biggest morale builders.

Continuing, he pointed out that our infantry have been successfully inserted into battle. "On occasions we have made mistakes and on others we have performed brilliantly. But, most

important of all, we gained experience."

Meanwhile the fighting front remained unchanged during the week with the enemy showing signs of preparation for some move.

Some of the most active patrolling by our infantry was carried out by our forces.

Heavy artillery duels blasted at intervals.

### PRISONERS TAKEN

We continued to take appreciable numbers of prisoners, mostly fascist deserters. The high spot was last Wednesday when the hundred mark was barely missed for the day's bag.

The infantry maintains pressure from the Serchio River sector to the West Coast.

But, weather is still the top news. One soldier, lifting his rain splashed face to the angry skies, summed up the matter thusly, "Never knew so much hell could rain from heaven."

DECEMBER  
16,  
1944

Norfolk Journal  
and Guide.



# Patrol Led by Lt. Ledbetter Captures 5 Nazis in Italy

By MAX JOHNSON

AFRO War Correspondent with  
U.S. Troops in Italy

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WITH THE 92ND DIVISION IN  
ITALY—With the past week end's  
activities on this Fifth Army front  
still limited to reconnaissance  
thrusts by both sides, outstanding

was one in which S/Sgt. Mans-  
field Mason, 823 N. Calhoun Street,  
Baltimore, caused the capture of  
one entire German patrol.

The captured patrol included a  
German lieutenant, a sergeant and  
three enlisted men. Reports had  
reached Sergeant Mason's company  
at an advanced command post  
that the German patrol had been  
seen entering a house shortly be-  
fore daybreak.

Second Lt. Wilbur E. Ledbetter,  
227 Rhode Island Avenue, Wash-  
ington, an officer stationed at this  
frontline area, was immediately  
dispatched with a small patrol, of  
which S/Sgt. Mason was a mem-  
ber, to capture or kill the Ger-  
mans.

#### Spotted by Enemy

Moving across a mined area up  
a hilly slope, Lieutenant Ledbet-  
ter's patrol surrounded the house  
containing the German patrol at  
8 o'clock. The enemy outlook  
spotted them, however, in the  
breaking daylight and opened fire.

The 92nd patrol realized that an  
exchange of fire would accomplish  
little, and questioned the possi-  
bility of someone's attempting to  
approach the house close enough  
to rout the Germans with hand  
grenades.

#### Must Crawl 150 Yards

Sergeant Mason promptly volun-  
teered for this assignment and be-  
gan crawling slowly toward the  
house, which was over 150 yards  
away.

1944

(undated)

# A.A. Battalion In Italy Cited By General Clark

In a recent letter to his parents, Sgt. Harry A. Donaldson of Chicago, tells of a citation given his outfit, the 450th Anti Aircraft Artillery Battalion by Lieut. General Mark Clark for extraordinary efficiency



Sgt. Donaldson

and bravery under fire. The battalion is now in southern Italy where the outfit won its laurels in the heat of earlier allied landing operations. Sgt. Donaldson attended Wendell Phillips high school and graduated from DuSable high. He enlisted in the services on July 12, 1941, and received his basic training at Camp Davis, N. C., later becoming instructor in automatic rifle use, and winning high commendation for his proficiency with that weapon. Prior to landing in Italy the efficient top-kick had trained in Great Britain and fought in North Africa and he and his entire outfit acquitted themselves in a superb manner according to Chaplain J. B. Pierce who is himself a member of the 450th.

But the fashion in which the 450th acquitted itself is best and most

significantly indicated in the citation of which Sgt. Donaldson wrote in his letter home. The conduct of the battalion, along with that of other colored units was sufficiently commendable to evoke comment by Secretary of War Stimson during a recent press conference. In lauding the fighting qualities of the colored American soldiers, Secretary Stimson quoted Gen. Clark, commander of the U.S. Fifth Army, now in Italy, to the effect that colored troops under his command have indeed contributed their part to the success of American arms in no uncertain manner. It was at this time that the general cited the exploits of the 450th battalion.

Further quoting General Clark, Secretary Stimson pointed out that the 450th was the first colored American unit to see action in the European theatre of operations. "Since arriving at the front the 450th battalion has proven its fighting qualities and has stood up superbly under fire," the secretary's quotation of Gen. Clark said.

Sgt. Donaldson is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Donaldson of 3562 South Parkway, Chicago.

1944  
(undated)

Chicago  
DEFENDER