

Their Bloods Shall Mix In 1st And 7th

NEGRO-WHITE UNIT NOW ON FRONT LINES

PARIS — After repeated requests by Negro Troops to be allowed to join combat units, some 2,300 were accepted for duty in the infantry companies of the First and Seventh armies. It was announced this week by the Army newspaper, Stars and Stripes.

According to American historical records, this occasion marks the first time white and Negro troops have fought side by side on the battle front.

The men who will be given a regular infantry course, were chosen mainly from the service and supply troops, with applications from port battalions unloading materials, and from the famed truck companies. In one unit four first sergeants accepted demotions to the rank of private in order to be eligible for the course. The troops volunteered after a special appeal by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee who said:

"It is planned to assign you without regard to race or color to units where your assistance is needed most. Your comrades at the front are anxious to share the glory of victory with you. Your relatives and friends are arguing that you are granted this privilege."

ENGINEERS IN GERMANY KEEPING RAILROADS OPEN

With Advance U. S. Forces in Germany — Penetrating into Germany territory east of Aachen, the 37th Engineer Central Postal Directory is following advanced engineering units, ties, spikes, and heavy equipment to establish necessary railroads for the continuous flow of supplies from Advance Section Communications Zone depots to forward army elements.

Seemingly unmindful of enemy strafing and air attacks, companies of the regiment are following close on the heels of the combat troops.

Clearing away the debris and wreckage caused by both Allied and German bombing, and leveling the 37th mile of track ready for service. While security patrols cover the men at work, long sections of rehabilitated track cut parallel lines in the snow over the German terrain.

Former North Carolinian Heads College Fund Drive

NEW YORK — A nation-wide appeal for \$1,550,000 for the United Negro College Fund, which will begin April 18 will have as its chairman, North Carolina-born Thomas A. Morgan, president of the Sperry Corporation.

Former Governor J. Melville Broughton will direct the campaign in North Carolina. The private colleges in this state which share in the fund are Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte; Livingstone College, Salisbury; Bennett College, Greensboro; and Shaw University in Raleigh.

"Upon how well the 32 colleges represented in the fund function," said Chairman Morgan, "largely depends the type of leaders and technical men that the 13,000,000 Negroes, a tenth of our population, will have in the future. These institutions will carry much of the load in the complex adjustment period ahead. They will have a major role in guiding the 250,000 Negro men in the Army who plan to return to school."

"There can never be too many capable teachers, physicians, scientists, and ministers, and in helping the Negro to help himself, we are also helping our world as a whole. If his tenth of the population can become, as much of it is already, an educated, advancing, goods-buying tenth, our chances for a prosperous nation will be much greater.

Daring Negro Captain In France Wins Service Cross

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The War Department today announced the award of the Distinguished Service Cross to Captain Charles L. Thomas, 24-year-old Negro commander of a Tank Destroyer Company in France, for extraordinary heroism in action.

Captain Thomas, who entered the Army from Detroit, thus becomes the second Negro in the present war so honored. The other, Private George Watson of Birmingham, Alabama, who received the award posthumously, distinguished himself at Pordoch Harbor, New Guinea, in March 1943 when he lost his life after assisting several men to safety on a raft from their sinking boat.

Sustaining multiple wounds in the chest, legs and arms, the courageous Negro officer won the Army's second highest decoration by literally shooting his way through the Siegfried Line last December in a blaze of fire from enemy tanks, artillery and machine guns.

When Task Force "Blackshear" of Lieutenant Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army was organized to storm and capture the strong German Fortress at Climbach, Captain Thomas, then a Lt. Colonel, was ordered to take a platoon of Tank Destroyers of the 614th TD Battalion and keep several of the German gun batteries occupied while the infantry infiltrated into the town around the tanks.

How well the mild-mannered captain executed his orders is best revealed in the official citation, which reads as follows: (Headquarters Seventh Army, dated 28 February 1945) "While riding in the lead vehicle of a task force organized to storm and capture the village of Climbach, French, Lieutenant Thomas' armored scout car was subjected to intense enemy artillery, self-propelled gun, and small arms fire. Although wounded by the initial burst of hostile fire, Lieutenant Thomas signally the remainder of the column to halt and, despite the severity of his wounds, assisted the crew in the wrecked car in dismounting.

"Upon leaving the scout car, Lieutenant Thomas was again subjected to a hail of enemy fire which inflicted multiple gun shot wounds in his chest, legs and both arms. Despite the intense pain caused by these wounds, the Lt. ordered and directed the dispersion and emplacement of two anti-tank guns which in a few moments were effectively returning the enemy fire.

"Realizing that he could no longer remain in command of the platoon, he signaled to the platoon commander to join him. Lieutenant Thomas then thoroughly oriented the enemy gun dispositions and the general situation. Only after he permit himself to be evacuated."

Inducted at Fort Custer, Mich., as a private in January 1942, Captain Thomas had advanced to the position of operations sergeant in the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion before being promoted to Tank Destroyers' Officer Candidate School at Camp Hood, Texas, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant in March 1943.

After completing an advanced course at the Tank Destroyer School, he was promoted to first lieutenant and sailed overseas as commander of Company C. He was promoted to captain January 11, 1945.

Prior to his induction, Captain Thomas, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Thomas of 5877 Beedwood Ave., Detroit, was a mold and metal purser for the Ford Motor Company. He studied aeronautical meteorology and navigation at the Cass Technical High School, Detroit, and at the time of his induction was a student at Wayne University of that city. The Distinguished Service Cross will be presented to Captain Thomas at appropriate ceremonies to be announced.

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Veterans Need Civilian Cooperation Says Mrs. F.D.R.

By A Staff Correspondent.

Greensboro (Special to the CAROLINIAN) — Returning Veterans, arriving in this country now at the rate of 12,000 weekly, need the cooperation of our civilian home front, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President of the United States, declared here Tuesday night in a speech at the 19th annual Homecoming Institute sponsored by Bennett College.

Mrs. Roosevelt, who came to Greensboro expressly to speak at the Institute, delivered her address on Tuesday. At 4:30 in the afternoon she spoke to several thousand Greensboro school children from the pulpit of the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel and at 6 o'clock Tuesday night, she delivered her main address in Pfeiffer Chapel on the institute's theme, "The Veteran Returns to His Family."

To the children the wife of the nation's chief executive, speaking in a warm and friendly manner that kept her little listeners' attention throughout, said that great responsibilities awaited them in the future. She reminded them, also, of how fortunate American children are that, unlike the children in parts of Europe, Africa and Asia, they have no known the first hand feel of total war.

Mrs. Roosevelt told her youthful hearers of the great sacrifices of all of America's soldiers "white and colored" and mentioned the enormous debt of gratitude that this country owes America's fighting men.

The President's wife, whose own sons have been in the thick of battles throughout the world, passionately urged the children to study history to find out what the things people in the past did to bring meanness and unhappiness to their fellows. Try to find out the people who led in doing good.

"Try to build character so that you can be good and useful people," she urged.

In both addresses Tuesday Mrs. Roosevelt stressed the fact that a desire to help among leaders of government alone is not sufficient. She emphasized that a universal desire for peace among peoples everywhere is necessary.

Dr. Royster Becomes Chief Of Staff Emeritus Of St. Agnes Hospital

RALEIGH — Trustees of St. Agnes Hospital have appointed Dr. Hubert A. Royster as their staff emeritus, and have appointed Dr. Hugh A. Thompson as chief of staff.

The action was contained in a resolution, adopted at the March meeting of the trustees, accepting Dr. Royster as their staff emeritus and praising him for his "45 years of faithful and very active service" in the hospital.

The resolution follows: "Whereas, after 45 years of faithful and very active service in St. Agnes Hospital, Dr. Hubert A. Royster has felt the necessity to resign as Chief of Staff of St. Agnes Hospital on account of his health, and

TEACHERS CAN-CEL MEETING

Executive Committee with Carthagen of Sections and Department will Hold business session.

Cooperating with the Office of Defense Transportation, the N.C.T.A. will hold only an executive business session this year. Forty-six officers of the general Association and its sections and departments will meet at Shaw University on Saturday, March 24, at 10:30 A. M.

Aside from the routine business of the Association the meeting will feature a discussion of "Improving Professional Relations and Larger Professional Relationships Among North Carolina Teachers" led by Mrs. Anne Louise McDonald, Vice President of the North Carolina Education and Professional Relations Association.

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Railroads' Race Bias Protected By Phillip Randolph

Washington — Declaring that thousands of trained Negroes are available, A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, insisted that there would be no manpower shortage if industry and labor unions stopped their present discriminations and hired Negroes as he spoke at hearings on a proposed permanent fair employment practices commission being held by a U. S. Senate subcommittee on education and labor.

Mr. Randolph pointed out that actual damages and obstructions to the war program are resulting because of the absence of skilled white labor and because of an unwillingness to make use of the great reservoir of qualified Negro railroad men. The fact that the percentage of Negro firemen has dropped to twenty-nine percent from forty-one per cent on southern railroads is in itself indicative of the "evasions, chicanery, and intimidations" used against Negroes," he said.

Further proof of these discriminations, according to Mr. Randolph, may be found in the fact that while certain railroads need fifteen thousand workers thousands of Negro firemen, switchmen, brakemen, machinists, boilermakers and electricians are looking for work.

NEGRO TANKERS MAUL NAZIS

With the 35th Infantry Division in Germany — When 30-caliber ammunition inside their tanks was exhausted, men of a Negro tank battalion task force, which staged a miniature "Bastogne" in Sevelen, March 4, came out from behind their steel protection and used 50-caliber tank machine guns to maul Nazi paratroopers in a savage street fighting while cut off for 18 hours.

The battalion was part of "Task Force Byrne" named after Colonel Bernard Byrne, of Bradenton, Florida.

"These colored tankers really have given a good account of themselves and our doughboys as they can fight with them," said Byrne. "They stay right up with the doughboys and maul the Nazis."

They can fight with them any day," Byrne said. "They stay right up with the doughboys and maul the Nazis like that."

The 74th Tank Battalion was fought its first offensive action beside the 35th Infantry Division. The battalion won a place in the hearts of the men of the battle-hardened 35th Division who had fought from St. Lo to Venlo and beyond by the battle it put up here and the spearhead fighting it did to get here.

The tank battalion's "Bastogne" started when Gustav J. Durand, of Barksdale Court, Bossier City, Shreveport, Louisiana, led a small tank force in a night attack on Sevelen.

"We came across the bridge and into the town in the dark," he said. "We had a couple of bazookas fired at us on the way in but it was not until we got to the town when all hell broke loose. Bazookas and shells came in from the sides. There must have been a bazooka shell every minute all night."

In the midst of the melee with street fighting going on all over town, the Germans blew a bridge behind the tank force. The men climbed on top of their tanks and cut loose with their 50-caliber machine-guns.

With the coming of daylight the men were ordered to dismount and fight on foot.

Port Men Delivered Bombs That Saved Day On Mindoro

With U. S. Forces in the Philippines — Men of the 235th Port Company got a chance to see just how important their cargo was really in last December when the Japanese shelled Mindoro Island.

Having gone in with the Infantry during the invasion, the Port Company soldiers had set up headquarters on the beach when the Japanese shells began to rain down on them from out at sea.

Ten Legislatures Considers Anti-Discrimination

COMMITTEE FOR AUBREY WILLIAMS

Washington — Joseph Daniels is a member of a Committee called Friends of Aubrey Williams which sponsored on March 12, 1945 a Washington Post advertisement inquiring whether or not political reactionaries can "decree that no presidential appointee shall take office if he opposes racial discrimination."

Aubrey Williams is the former National Youth Administration head who seeks Senate confirmation of his appointment by President Roosevelt after his resignation.

Mr. Williams is known as a fair-minded liberal. For his racial views he has been lambasted in Senate Committee hearings by the Senator Bilbo of Mississippi.

The advertisement calls attention to a letter written to a constituent by Senator Bilbo which is said to carry regarding Aubrey Williams' nomination the statement "We do not want this Negro-lover on this job."

The ad scores by interrogating implicitly the Bilbo attitude and declares that those who "stand with Bilbo must accept the Bilbo tag, and defend themselves, if they can, before their constituents and their conscience."

The ad copy reads as follows: Senator in a letter to a constituent dated February 16 regarding Aubrey Williams' nomination, says, "We do not want this Negro-lover on this job."

Should a presidential appointee be crucified by appeals to racial and religious bigotry because he puts the welfare of the small farmer above the self-interest of absentee landlords and private power companies?

The Senate will answer these questions, yes or no, when they vote on Aubrey Williams. Those who stand with Bilbo must accept the Bilbo tag, and defend themselves, if they can, before their constituents and their conscience.

(Continued on back page)

NAACP Hits Navy Bias In Personal Troubles

LOCAL CHAIRMAN FOR COLLEGE

New York — In a letter to Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal, the NAACP urged speedy revision of the Navy departments' policy governing the promotion of Negro personnel. NAACP Acting Secretary, Roy Wilkins charged insularity among Negro enlisted men and the Negro public generally was the reluctance of the Navy to recognize training and experience in civilian life make them eligible for consideration for the rating of CPO and for commissions. Negro personnel in other units at other bases make the same charge.

It is asserted by the men of the 34th Seabee Battalion that they have more than 30 men in their unit who are college graduates.

It was announced this week by Mr. Wesley Taylor, director of the Bloodworth Street USO Club, Raleigh, that Mr. William D. King, who for the last 18 months has been assigned to the staff of the Bloodworth Street USO here.

Mr. King has had considerable training and experience in both administrative and program activities in the field of education, scouting, and USO services, and is well qualified for his new assignment. He is a graduate of Georgia State College and Morehouse College in Atlanta. He was for a time teacher of Mathematics at Kings Mountain, and later became Field Scout Executive of Oconee County, North Carolina.

Mr. King will serve as Administrative Assistant and Program Director at the Bloodworth Street Dramatic Club.

These schools now face their greatest test. They will carry much of the load in the complex adjustment period that lies ahead. They will have a major role in guiding the quarter of a million Negro men and women in the Army who plan to return to school and colleges.

"The needs of these Negro colleges offer a challenging opportunity to those men and women of America and to those philanthropic and business corporations who see the wisdom of helping the Negro to help himself," Mr. Morgan concluded.

Veteran's Head Pledges Negro Equality

New York — Four freedoms are outlined by Bill, Gen. Frank T. Hines, administrator of the National Urban League forum held Tuesday night in the New York Times Hall.

He advocated for the rehabilitation and reemployment of Negro veterans of World War II freedom from discrimination in the administration of the law, freedom from educational inequalities; freedom from inequalities in facilities for health, hospitalization, and rehabilitation; and freedom from obstructions to equal work and equality.

Brig. Gen. Hines is currently under fire for the rumored poor state of the Veteran Administration hospital and medical care program. His policy of developing additional hospitals segregating Negro and white veterans who have fought together during the war have been vigorously protested by the NAACP.

Rankin Denounces Dewey For Bill

Washington — When Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York signed the New York State Fair Employment Practices bill last Monday and made a law of the "Ives-Quinn measure" he drew forth a scathing rebuke from Representative John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) for his action in providing a "recourse for those who are discriminated against in jobs on account of race, color, or creed."

Representative Rankin said that the new law was the "greatest insult to the white business men" of New York. He further criticized Governor Dewey for approving