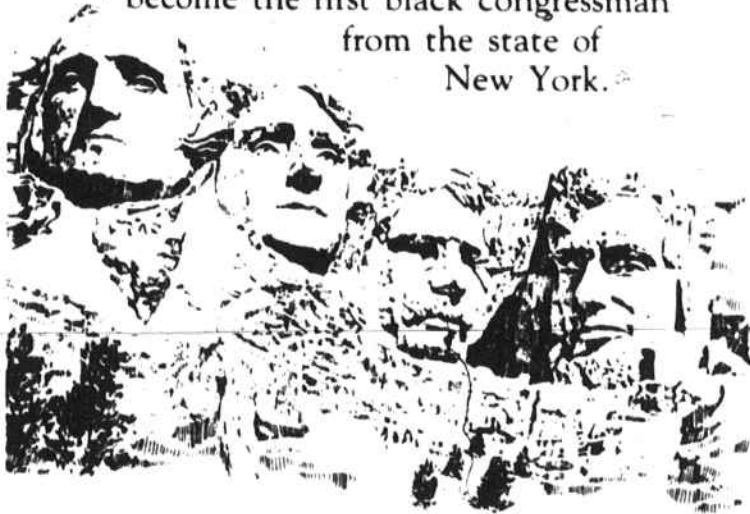


GOVERNMENT

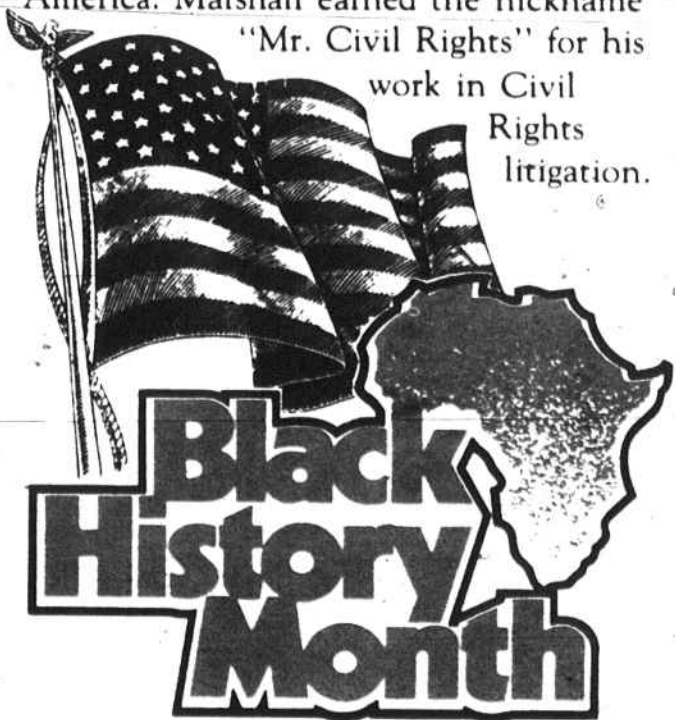
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.
1908-1972

A self described radical and fighter, Powell used boycotts and pickets long before they became fashionable. His unconventional methods left his mark on a large number of labor and education reforms. The leadership displayed throughout Powell's life enabled him to become the first black congressman from the state of New York.



Thurgood Marshall
1908

The first black to be appointed and confirmed as a supreme court justice. Reaching a position on the highest court culminated a legal career that saw Marshall successfully argue landmark cases that altered the racial fabric of America. Marshall earned the nickname "Mr. Civil Rights" for his work in Civil Rights litigation.



Edward W. Brooke
1919

Edward W. Brooke was the first Black U.S. Senator in our history. In 1966 Massachusetts, where Blacks accounted for less than five percent of the voters, Brooke was able to win the election based upon his record and not his race. From his Senate seat, Brooke fought for an end to housing bias and for the passage of the 1968 Civil Rights Act.



Barbara C. Jordan
1936

Barbara Jordan entered the political arena in 1960 working on the Presidential campaign of John F. Kennedy. In 1966, she won the election to the state Senate becoming the first black woman from the state of Texas to do so. In 1972, Jordan moved onto the national scene, winning election to the U.S House of Representatives.

Lawrence Douglas Wilder
1931

Lawrence D. Wilder was the first elected black U.S. Governor in history. Name after Frederick Douglas and poet, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Wilder was awarded the Bronze Star for heroism in ground combat as a member of the U.S. Army. He served the state of Virginia, both in the senate and as Lieutenant Governor prior to his inauguration as Governor in 1990.

