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VOLUME 2

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VJ Day Catches Restaurants, Homes Short

At last the day that everyone has been looking for arrived, people yelled for joy, horns tooted and wailed, absolute strangers embraced each other on the streets, V-J Day was here. The enthusiasm of the first really good news to have heard in years lasted well into the night of Tuesday and would have continued unabated except for one thing that proved to be all important as the first of the proclaimed holidays wore on. The one item that cast a shadow over the celebration was FOOD. There was none to be had.

When the news of V-J day became reality most of the population was at work. The excitement of the next few hours brought thoughts of everything but food to hundreds of people. No one thought of buying a supply of food. The general public seemed to forget that the food merchants were just as glad to see V-J Day as anyone else. Some did realize that even V-J Day brought its readers three-day requirements and did go to their local store only to find that it had already closed. The next thought of course was to go to the nearest restaurant. Several thousand people evidently had the same idea and kept it all night as they went from restaurant to restaurant to find them either closed, out of food or over-crowded. Half of the restaurants in the area were closed to give the workers a holiday, others had no food to cope with the unusual influx of trade and there were no stores open for the purchase of food. Result—many hungry celebrants over the holiday.

Flowers!

Mr. Ralph Faulk,
2636 N. E. Rodney,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Faulk:

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you for what I consider an unusually fine edition of your paper. The edition of August 3, 1945, which carried an account of the City Club report, a tribute to Dr. Unthank, and an editorial on Cooperatives, was tops! This was extremely constructive, high-type journalism.

Sincerely yours,
EDWIN C. BERRY,
Executive Secretary.

Central Library Office
Attn: Miss Nell Unger
801 SW 10th. Ave.
City 5

Open Letter to U S Senators

Gentlemen: Today there appeared in the Stars and Stripes the following statement by Sen. James O. Eastland of Mississippi: "The Negro soldier has been an utter and abysmal failure in the war." It is indeed a sad commentary on a nation which permits a member of one of its most august legislative bodies to be upheld in such demoralizing and libellous statements. Is a man any less dead because he is a Negro? Is the grief of his loved ones any less poignant and bitter because he is a Negro? In fact is not that grief accentuated by the knowledge that their son, brother, husband, or father's life was given in vain instead of for a democratic way of life? Can the Senator from Mississippi continue to rise in that body and condemn uncounted men who will yet die in the Pacific? If the answer to these questions is yes, then the much praised democracy of the United States is a farce and a total loss to the civilized world. We, some of us who will die in future campaigns, DO NOT salute you. Why not either ask the Senator to resign or cease making remarks which can only lead to riot and more bloodshed?—Pfc. DAVID W. EVANS AND 50 GIs IN THE PACIFIC.

Negro Workers Helped Create Atomic Bombs

WASHINGTON—A large number of Negroes were included among the 179,000 workers recruited by the Manpower Commission from all over the country for the super-secret atomic bomb project, WMC revealed this week.

Because of the extreme secrecy, WMC officials said, the recruiting job was one of the most difficult undertaken by WMC and recruiting still is continuing.

Unlike most such programs, which originate on the local level and are routed through state and regional offices to Washington, the request for workers for the super-bomb project was placed directly before WMC by the Army in Washington, according to the Recruitment and Transportation Section of the WMC.

Workers recruited for the project were unaware of the nature of the job even after they had been employed some months, and USES officials recruiting workers were told merely to refer them to a "highly secret project."

Of the 179,000 workers recruited, approximately 80,000 were for the Hanford project, approximately 90,000 for the Clinton project and approximately 9,000 for all the other parts of the Manhattan District activity as it was referred to by the Army.

Returning GIs Laud Negro Chefs

WASHINGTON — The hard-working chefs, butchers and bakers on converted cargo vessels bringing soldiers back from Europe were being acclaimed this week by the troops themselves on the excellent quality of the freshly prepared American food on homeward voyages.

The soldiers' reactions to the troop-feeding plan was revealed by the War Shipping Administration, as that agency urged thousands of Negro civilian cooks and bakers to sign up for at least one trip in order to relieve the manpower shortage in the steward's department of the maritime service. No previous sea experience

Bilbo's Popularity Zero; Ouster Movement Grows

The "Ouster Bilbo" movement has taken hold of the city and voices from all quarters are being raised either in protest or for the impeachment of the Mississippi Senator, whose "Dear Nigger" letter published last week, was the culmination of a series of insults to minority groups. New York's City Council this week heard a resolution introduced by its vice chairman, Joseph T. Sharkey, and addressed to members of Congress from New York City, condemning Bilbo's campaign of hate and urging them to fight vigorously against his "nefarious activities."

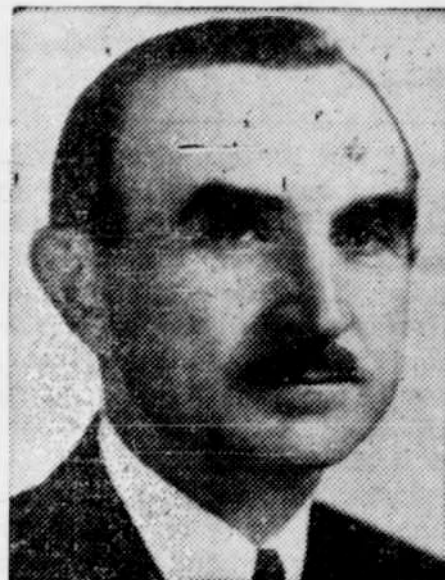
From the National Maritime union membership meeting last week came a resolution to Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, urging him to start immediate impeachment proceedings against his colleague. The Jewish People's Committee pointed out that Bilbo's remarks were designed to "influence the lunatic fringe to acts of violence and bloodshed just as Hitler did in Germany against Jews, Catholics, and Negroes."

The National Negro Congress called upon all its councils to join in a campaign of public pressure to result in Bilbo's impeachment. A year ago, Thelma Dale, acting secretary of the Congress, pointed out, their Washington DC, council had begun an "oust Bilbo" campaign following his proposal to send Negroes "back to Africa."

The young people of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth sent a lengthy letter last week, signed by their chairman, Woodrow Lewis, informing Bilbo that he is "all wet", and predicting the passage of a permanent FEPC in the next session of Congress.

A WSA survey revealed that of 498 passengers aboard the SS EDWARD RICHARDSON (first converted Liberty Ship to return to the United States, 357 pronounced the food excellent, 140 said it was good, and only one passenger said it was fair.

Senator Morse Visits City



SENATOR MORSE

Hon. Wayne Morse, Republican Senator from Oregon, is home on a vacation to rest from his labors and to look after business, both private and official.

The Senator was a guest at a picnic at Laurelhurst yesterday, under the auspices of the Local Republican Party, where coffee and refreshments were served all.

He is making a splendid record during his first term of office and voted favorably for the FECP bill when the final vote was taken in the Senate.

He will return to Washington in time to be present at the opening of Congress, September 5th.

U. S. Marine Corps Vets Daring Swimmers

By Sgt. Charles B. Cunningham,
A Marine Corps Combat Correspondent

SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC (Delayed)—A leap into blazing gasoline floating on the sea climaxed a swimming exhibition here by a small group composed principally of Marine Corps veterans of Iwo Jima.

Completely dressed and wearing full battle equipment, including helmets and packs, Marine Corp. Covert L. Smith and Marine Pfc. James R. Jones, both Washington, D. C., negroes, were among those who demonstrated before high-ranking Marine Corps and army officials how combat troops could survive shipwreck with battle equipment intact.

Smith, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Smith, 1619 Third street, N. W., enlisted in October 1943. He was formerly an employe of the U. S. treasury.

Jones' wife, Dorothy, and their daughter, Beverly Ann, 5, live at 1212 Half street, S. W. Prior to his enlistment in May, 1944, he was employed by the quartermaster department of the U. S. army. He is 25.

Both are veterans of Iwo Jima. Their demonstration came at the end of an arduous course now used for Marine Corps combat units.

Negroes in ETO Rose During Year

WITH U. S. FORCES, European Theater — Negro troop strength in the European Theater of Operations increased nearly 100 percent between D-Day and V-E Day, Headquarters, U. S. Forces, European Theater announced today.

One week before the Normandy invasion, there were 133,765 Negro troops in Europe. The monthly increase is recorded in the following figures:

July, 1944	144,546
August, 1944	156,104
September, 1944	169,847
October, 1944	173,112
November, 1944	210,795
December, 1944	219,687
January, 1945	235,332
February, 1945	236,688
March, 1945	250,190
April, 1945	257,267
May, 1945	259,173

COMBAT TROOPS

Slightly under nine per cent of the 259,173 Negro troops reported in the European Theater of Operations on May 15, one week after V-E day, belonged to combat organizations.

Twenty-two Negro combat units participated in the operations of the 349th, 350th, 351st, 578th, 586th, 777th, 969, and 989th Field Artillery Battalions; 452nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Battalion; 761st and 784th Tank Battalions; 614th and 827th Tank Destroyer Battalions; 183rd, 184th, 1695th, 1696th, 1697th, 1698th, 1699, and 1700 Engineer Battalions.

INFANTRY

In December, 1944, several thousand Negro soldiers answered a general appeal for volunteers for training as infantry riflemen. Some 2500 volunteers from Negro units of Communications Zone were trained at a Ground Force Reinforcement Command Depot at Noyone, France, and committed to action with infantry and armored divisions of the First and Seventh Armies as assigned platoons and companies.

The setting of a quota for these Negro infantrymen resulted in the rejection of nearly 3,000 other Negro GIs who wanted to fight at the front.

SIGNAL CORPS

During the campaign against the German Army in Europe, 5,500 Negro Signal Corps troops belonging to 20 signal units participated in the vital battle of communications.

These Negro troops worked in two main types of Signal Corps units—light and heavy signal construction battalions and companies.

Negro units that participated in various campaigns were the 25th, 29th, 37th, 40th, 41st, 43rd, and 4th Signal Construction Battalions, and the 258th, 259th, 261st, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 275th, 534th, 535th, 537th, and 496th Signal Construction Companies.

Negroes composed seven and one-half per cent of the total Signal Corps personnel in the

(Continued on page 3)