American Revolution
Negro Patriot Given First Congressional Medal of Honor

"In considering the services of the colored patriots of the Revolution," Harriet Beecher Stowe said in the introduction to a 1862 book (William C. Nell, The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution), "we are to reflect upon them as far more magnanimous, because rendered to a nation which acknowledged them as citizens and equals. It was not for their own land they fought, not even for a land which had adopted them, but for a land which had enslaved them, and whose laws, even in freedom, often oppressed as protected. Bravery, under such circumstances, has a peculiar beauty and merit.

The monuments at Lexington and Concord in April, 1775, roused the New England colonies and, in the days that followed, some 850,000 Americans marched on Boston to protest against and resist any further British military expedition. The Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, seeing for the 13 colonies, appointed George Washington "to command all the Continental forces." But before the General reached the camp forming around Boston, another collision between the Redcoats and the Patriots occurred on June 17, 1775.

Invincible Redcoats?
The opening rounds found to occupy two elevations which commanded the city. The colonists were first to reach and forti fy Bunker Hill as it was known. The British com mander realized they must take the hill and, more important, welcomed the opportunity to bring the rebellion once and for all — the Americans would not stand up to a full scale assault. This contempt for the fighting qualities of Americans was coupled with a pride in the heretofore invincibility of British arms.

A heavy cannonading from both land and sea preceded the attack. About this time the First Massachusetts at Bunker Hill. The citation was signed by 16 of his white fellow officers and men, including Colonel William Prescott ("Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes!"). The field commander of the battle: "Under our own observation, we declare that a negro man called Salem Poor, behaved like an experienced soldier, as well as an excellent soldier. In the person of this man, we see an able and gallant soldier. The reward due to so great and distinguished a character, we submit to the Connexion.

In effect, Salem Poor was nominated for this nation's first "Congressional Medal of Honor." After Bunker Hill, Peter Salem continued his military service for seven years, serving action again at the Battle of Saratoga, 1777. Back to civilian life, he settled in Leicester, Mass., gained the reputation of basket-maker, and married in 1780 married Kitty Benton. Successfully returning to Bunker Hill, he died on August 16, 1853.

Featured At Capital
In Trumpet's great historic reenactment of Bunker Hill, the roosters of the Capitol at Bunker Hill, Rooster D. C., Peter Salem is one of the conspicuous figures. In the words of the Presiding Officer of the Senate, "Peter Salem was one of the most prominent men in the Revolution. He was one of the leaders of the American Negro in a hemisphere and his example is a beacon of courage and a warning to those who would oppose freedom and justice for all."
The Way It Works

The city of Jackson recently decided to spend a million dollars to construct a new and larger jail for the city. Now, we do not doubt that the city fathers have very definite reasons for building such a building at such cost. But, if you please, we happen to disagree with their reasons. We feel that there might be a more reasonable, more useful way of spending that million bucks rather than building a prison for people who might happen to be arrested while trying to gain their rights as citizens.

Just for instance, do you have a sidewalk on your street? When your children go to school, how much of the time do they have to spend in the street? It is pretty awful when you think of it.

But let’s think of it. Children walk to school every day in streets with fast moving traffic and dangerous accidents. How long are you going to be lucky?

Children walking to school every day in streets with fast moving traffic when it is raining spoils wet, unhappier children. But most importantly, children walking to school in the street in Jackson spoils Negro and being second-class. Because only Negroes do not have sidewalks. Every day your children are reminded that they are second-class because they are Negroes.

How many feet of sidewalk do you suppose that million bucks would build? A good many, we would guess. But Jackson is going to build a prison. Not sidewalks.

The people voted it that way. And the representatives that the people elected like the idea. And no amount of griping is going to make any difference. Because facts are that is not how Jackson government works, nor any other government in these United States, as a matter of fact.

The right of the people to decide on how money is to be spent and who the representatives are supposed to be is, in a right that many Americans have fought hard for on foreign soil, including, perhaps you and members of your family. That is to say that many of us are not in a position to make the proper use of that right. Many of us are not voting. For Negroes living in rural Mississippi, voter registration is difficult, sometimes dangerous business. But here in Jackson, we really are trying to register.

It is possible to get into a position where you can have an idea about how the tax money is spent. And when you do, you can help begin to change things so there will be no more reason for griping.

In other words, put your vote where your grip is.

VICTORIA J. GRAY
Senatorial Candidate from Hernando
FANNIE L. HAMMER
2nd Cong. Dist. Candidate from Tupelo
JAMES M. HOUSTON
3rd Cong. Dist. Candidate from Vicksburg
JOHN CAMERON
5th Cong. Dist. Candidate from Hernando
are the Four Freedom Candidates—
They Are
YOUR CANDIDATES AND NEED YOUR SUPPORT
The four Negro candidates for Congress need financial support in order to be able to wage effective campaigns in the coming weeks before the primary election June 2, 1964.

Send To:
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I enclose $ to be used by the Freedom Candidates who are running for Congressional offices.

Name: 
Address: 
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Register Today and Take A Friend With You
ONE MAN—ONE VOTE

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MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS
Saturday, May 2, 1964
ONE LITTLE VOTE

By Andy Mitchell

Bay, have you heard about the new service of the White Citizens Council? I think they call it dial for justice or something like that. Anyhow, you dial 911 and the man starts talking to you about how lucky you are to be able to listen to him and then he says that he has some important things to say to the white people. Then he says he is going to let a great American talk to you. Guess who? No, your wrong, it’s not Ole Ross, it’s another Great American. George C. Wallace. He says he doesn’t like the Civil Rights Bill and some other things.

Oh, I just felt like dialis’ for a little trouble and they changed the speech on me, in order to keep up with the trends of the money to keep dialing.

You have always heard about how the white folks don’t want to “mix” their children in the school with Negro children because it will mess up the learning.

However, an article in the Wall Street Journal reveals that Dixie pupils learn well in integrated schools. A survey of northern teachers indicates that while Negro children entering formerly all-white schools often lag behind their white classmates academically at the start, they usually study hard to close the gap. The white child often studies harder to avoid having the Negro youngsters pass him.

Typical Result: Tests made the year before and the year after integration in Louisville, Ky., show substantial gains in scholastic achievement for both Negro and white second, sixth and eighth graders, with the Negroes making proportionately the larger gains.

Remember, when Gov. Orval Faubus was making all the big fuss about those colored children going to Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas several years ago? Well, there are really some making programs over there.

Just recently the school board agreed to integrate all 13 grades. The decision did not follow the threat of a school boycott by Negroes. But the board agreed to the demands for faster integration without being forced by the courts.

But what do you expect with a Dixie Yankee state like Arkansas.

Remember what they used to say about the Old South? Well not only is it getting older, but it seems to be getting smaller.
NAACP FREEDOM SPECTACULAR

Thursday, May 14, 1964

Star-studded closed circuit television program, to observe 10th anniversary of Supreme Court School Desegregation ruling and to raise bail bond money for arrested freedom demonstrators.

* National Co-Chairmen

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**Two-Hour Program Features:**

**HOLLYWOOD AND BROADWAY STARS**

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<td>Duke Ellington and his Orchestra</td>
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**SPECIAL CITATION TO JUDGE THURGOOD MARSHALL**

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MASONIC TEMPLE

Telecast: 8 P.M.

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Editor Reports USSR Prejudice

A Negro magazine editor, recently returned from a visit to Russia, said today that African students complained bitterly to him about racial prejudice in the Soviet Union.

Writing in the current issue of Look Magazine, editor Ernest Dumber reported that African students recently have been carrying knives to protect themselves from attacks by Russian bandits.

Russian hostility against African students, Dumber said, has resulted in gang beatings, mysterious deaths and general harassment.

Much of the friction, he wrote, started when Russian girls in increasing numbers began dating the Africans.

"Taking their cue from the government's line, Russian police frequently knocked away white students attacked by blacks."

"As racial antagonism has sharpened in the Soviet Union," he noted in Look, "growing numbers of African students have left in disgust to return home or to take scholarships in Western Europe."

"Still, many Africans whom I interviewed indicated they had decided to make the best of the situation in order to get the experience."

Club Presents 38th Annual Festival

The Harmonia Music Club is presenting its 38th Annual Music Festival in observance of National Music Week which begins annually the first Sunday in May. An Extravaganza Musical Tea will be held at the YMCA at 800 North Fairview Street from four to six P.M. Sunday, May 3.

A beautiful program has been arranged for the afternoon. Special features include a fashion show, selections from city talent groups and the musical selections by Mrs. Doris Greene, a member of Harmonia Music Club.

The program for the week includes a local piano contest on Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. at Christ the King School Auditorium, vocal competitions at Jackson State College Auditorium Sunday, May 3, at 6:30 P.M., and the United Church Choir Program at Prout Memorial Church on Thursday, May 7 at 7:30 P.M. with Dr. B. H. Shaw, the church choir of Jackson participating.

Dr. A. D. Beittel, Tougaloo Pres., Retires Sept. 1

The president of Tougaloo College, Dr. A. D. Beittel, has announced that he will retire September 1. The board of the college says that it has elected him as "President Emeritus."

Dr. Beittel has been active in groups that have been concerned with promoting understanding and relations in the South. He is a member of the Mississippi Council on Human Relations, secretary and member of the Mississippi Assembly of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, and a director of the Southern Regional Council.

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Remember Mom May 10th

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LARGE EGGS
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"Star in the Dust" with John Agar.
"Silent City Kid"
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No. 5—902 Dalton Street