–Uncle Sam wants you

(Continued from B-1)

states, white as well as black, were not sufficiently educated to write and spell correctly in those days.

After the Declaration of Independence was publicized all over the world, black slaves, again especially in New England, bombarded their state governments with requests and demands for their freedom, pointing out the paradox of the "Americans" claiming for themselves rights that they were not willing to extend to others. One petition dated Nov. 12, 1779 beseeched the state of New Hampshire, that "the Name of Slaves may not more be heard in a Land gloriously contending for the Sweets of freedom."

Prince Hall, a free man, otherwise remembered as "the father" of the Masonic fraternal order among blacks, was one of the leaders who took the initiative in gathering these pleas for freedom. Richard Allen and absolom Jones, who did much to establish the religious foundations of blacks in early America, headed a list of blacks that petitioned the Continental Congress to abolish slavery and thus behave consistently with their professed principles.

Occasionally, these petitions struck a responsive cord, especially among idealists and among practical men who saw the need to maxmize manpower for the war. Some of the new states that were fighting for their existence were most responsive, especially in New England where slavery was not widespread and basic to the economy. In those states blacks were freed to enlist or automatically became free upon enlisting in the revolutionary forces.

Even so, some of the fathers of our country never quite reached the moral or logical conclusion that a war for freedom must be also a war against slavery. Indeed after Patrick Henry made his famous "Give me liberty or give me death" speech, his slaves could detect no change in their status.

General Washington, though realistic as a military leader, could never bring himself to the point of freeing his own slaves. Such a moral negative is even more striking in the case of Thomas Jefferson, the "intellectual father" of the American Revolution and the principal author of the Declaration itself.

Almost all of the foreigners who volunteered to assist the American cause were shocked to discover that the War for Independence did not have as one of its aims the abolition of slavery.

Tom Paine, to his credit, saw black freedom as an integral part of the fight for American freedom. Paine, the oustanding pampleteer of the American Revolution whose stirring works, **Commonsense** and **The Crisis** eloquently expressed the spirit of the revolution, saw the fight against colonialism and the abolition of slavery as inseparable.

A poor Englishman, from a broken, Paine was a sincere idealist with a strong conception of the rights of man unfettered by nationality or race. Upon landing in Amerca he saw that the abolition of slavery "had to be" an objective of the struggle for independence.

Accordingly, as early as March 8, 1772 he published in the **Pennsylvania Journal** "that some desperate wretches should be willing to steal and enslave men by violence and murder for gain, is rather lamentable than strange. But that many civilized nay, Christianized people should approve, and be concerned in the savage practice is surprising . . . Is this doing to them as we would desire that they should do to us? If they could carry off and enslave some thousands of us, would we think it just? — One would almost wish they could for once; . . ."

However, even Paine was cautioned to moderate this attack for it might dampen the enthusiasm of slave holders for the American cause.

. . . Despite all of the ups and downs, the paradoxes and the doges blacks did profit from their own efforts to free themselves the economic situation and the idealism that was generated during the Revolutionary struggle. The biggest and clearest gain was that in all states north of Maryland, slavery was abolished. This was not done immediately and conclusively, but gradually. In the years beginning in 1780 and following for a decade or more, slavery was made illegal in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and throughout New England. Thus in half of the country, slavery as a legal system was dead. It persisted stubbornly in the South but even there there was, for a while, a strong tendency toward emanetpation.

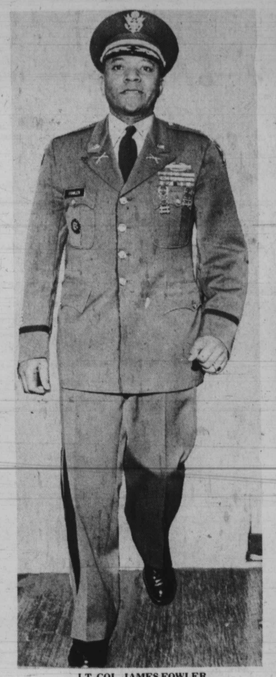
Most of the slaves who fought in the war received their freedom as promised. A few individual slave owners voluntarily manumitted their human cattle. A handful of them resettled these freed men and their families on land of their own. Moreover, the international slave trade to Africa and the West Indies was prohibited in 1808. This was a compromise between North and South. Blacks, of course, wanted this nefarious commerce in men to be stopped immediately. However, they were to wait 20 years before the question of abolition was discussed at the Constitutional Convention. Further compromises came out of this group that put together the organic law of the land. For example, slaves were counted as three-fifths a man when the question came up of the number of representatives that each state would have in the lower house of Congress.

These gains made by blacks were considerable; but were obviously insufficient to wipe out the scourge of human bondage. Moreover, continous progress was hampered by the nation's willingness to so quickly forget the contributions made by blacks to the creation of the United States of America. Even Crispus Attucks did not make the school history books, though Daniel Webster, probably the nation's greatest orator, once conceded that "the slave Attucks . . . struck the first blow for America's independence."

Edward Hector, a black artillery soldier who served during the American Revolution died in 1834.

JAN. 4

Prince Hall, founder of the Black Masons, and other black men petition the General Court of Massachusetts for funds to return to Africa in 1787.



LT. COL. JAMES FOWLER
headed Army ROTC at Morgan

BRIG. GEN. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS SR.
died in 1970

GEN. BENJAMIN O. DAVIS JR.
followed in his father's footsteps

Dates to remember

JAN. 18

Robert Weaver takes oath of office as Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, becomes the first Black Cabinet member — 1966.

JAN. 1

President Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation declaring freedom for slaves in states or parts of states in rebellion in 1863.

JAN. 2

In 1833, the first black library, the Philadelphia Company for Colored Persons, was founded.

JAN. 3

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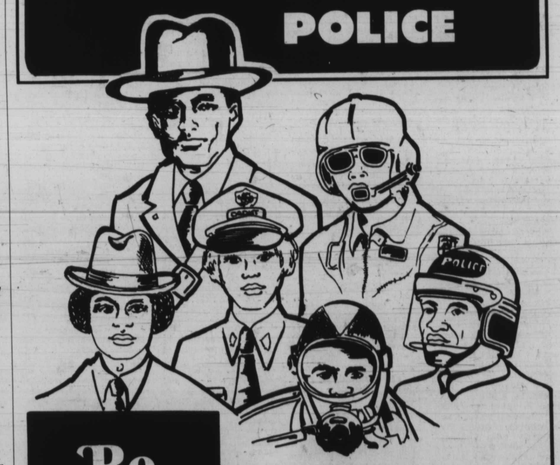

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Congressional Medal of Honor: Tribute to men who fought and died

By Clarence W. Hunter

Black men have fought in every war since the birth of this country. Some have showed courage above and beyond the call of duty which earned them the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The Medal is the highest honor paid to any serviceman. To date there are 46 black Medal of Honor recipients. However, it should be pointed out that some names do not appear on some lists.

An example is Glaine Stokes of the 24th Infantry who won the medal during the Korean War. His name does not appear in the Medal of Honor Recipients: 1863-1963, a publication that was prepared for the Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs in 1964. Nevertheless, this publication is considered the "official" roster of CMH winners.

Also unverified are the names Corporal Clinton Greaves and Sergeant George Jordon of the 9th Cavalry and Clement Dees of the U.S.S. Pontoosuc who appear on the list in the Negro Handbook: 1946-47 while leaving out the names of Sergeant Benjamin Brown, Corporal Isaiah Mays, John Lawson and James Mifflin.

The following is a biographical list of 46 winners. According to preliminary information gathered by the Reference Library of Black History, there are still 79 black recipients unverified. The Department of Defense is presently compiling a complete list.

ARMY MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS IN THE CIVIL WAR
1863

Sergeant William H. Carney, Company C, 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry: Born in New Bedford, Mass., Carney was the first black man to win the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was cited for valor on June 18, 1863 during the Battle of Fort Wagner, in which he carried the colors, and led a charge to the parapet after the standard bearer had been felled by rifle fire. During this battle, Carney was twice severely wounded. His medal was issued on May 23, 1900.

1864

(The following 13 men won their awards for valor during the Battle of New Market Heights, Sept. 29, 1864. With the exception of Sgt. James H. Harris, all were awarded citations on April 6, 1865.)

Private William H. Barnes, Company C, 38th U.S. Colored Troops; born St. Mary's County, Md.

First Sergeant Powhatan Beaty, Company G, 5th U.S. Colored Troops; born Richmond, Va.

First Sergeant James H. Bronson, Company D, 5th U.S. Colored Troops; born Indiana County, Pa.

Seegeant-Major Christian A. Fleetwood, 4th U.S. Colored Troops, born Baltimore, Md.

Private James Gardiner, Company I, U.S. Colored Troops; born Gloucester, Va.

Sergeant James H. Harris, Company B, 38th U.S. Colored Troops; born St. Mary's County, Md.

Sergeant Alfred B. Hilton, Company, H, 4th U.S. Colored Troops; Harford County, Md.

Sergeant-Major Milton M. Holland, 5th U.S. Colored Troops; born Austin, Tex.

Corporal Miles James, Company B, 36th U.S. Colored Troops; born Princess Anne County, Va.

First Sergeant Alexander Kelly, Company F, 6th U.S. Colored Troops; born Pa.

First Sergeant Robert Pinn, Company I, 5th U.S. Colored Troops; born Stark County, Ohio.

First Sergeant Edward Radcliff, Company C, 38th U.S. Colored Troops; born James County, Va.

Private Charles Veal, Company D, 4th U.S. Colored Troops; born Portsmouth, Va.

Sergeant-Major Thomas Hawkins, 6th U.S. Colored Troops: Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Hawkins was cited for valor in the Battle of Deep Bottom, Va., on July 21, 1864. He was credited with the rescue of his regimental colors from the enemy. His medal was issued on February 8, 1870.

Sergeant Decatur Dorsey, Company B, 39th U.S. Colored Troops: Born in Howard County, Md., Dorsey was cited for valor in the Battle of Petersburg, Virginia on July 30, 1864. When his regiment was driven back to Union lines, he carried the colors, and rallied the men in his unit. His medal was issued on Nov. 8, 1865.

INDIAN WARS
1870-1890

Sergeant Emanuel Stance, Troop F, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Carroll County, La., Stance was cited for valor in the Battle of Kickapoo Springs, Texas. An outstanding Indian scout, he was awarded his medal on June 28, 1870.

Corporal Clinton Greaves, Troop C, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Madison County, Va., Greaves was cited for valor in the Battle of Florida Mountain, N.M. on June 24, 1877. His medal was issued on June 26, 1879.

Sergeant Thomas Boyne, Troop C, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Prince George County, Md. Boyne was cited for bravery in action during two New Mexico battles in 1879. His medal was issued on Jan. 6, 1882.

Sergeant John Denny, Troop B, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Big Flats, N.Y., Denny was cited for removing a wounded comrade to a place of safety while under heavy fire in Las Animas Canyon, Mexico on Sept. 18, 1879. His medal was issued on Nov. 27, 1894.

Sergeant Henry Johnson, Troop D, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Boynton, Va., Johnson was cited for valor in the Battle of Milk River, Colorado on Oct. 25, 1879. While under heavy fire, he fought his way to a creek to bring water to the wounded. His medal was issued on Sept. 22, 1890.

Sergeant George Jordan, Troop K, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Williamson County, Tenn., Jordan was cited for bravery in two battles: one at Fort Tulersu, N.M. on May 14, 1880; the other at Carrizo Canyon, New Mexico on Aug. 12, 1881.

Sergeant Thomas Shaw, Troop K, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Covington, Ky., Shaw was cited for valor in Carrizo Canyon, N.M. on Aug. 12, 1881. He forced the enemy back after holding his ground in a dangerous position. His medal was issued in Dec. 1890.

First Sergeant Moses Williams, Troop I, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Carroll County, Pa., Williams was cited for valor in the Battle of Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N.M. on August 16, 1881. His medal was issued on Nov. 12, 1896.

Private Augustus Walley, Troop I, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Reisterstown, Md., Walley was cited for bravery in action in the Battle of Cuchillo Negro Mountains, N.M., on Aug. 16, 1881. His medal was issued on Oct. 1, 1890.

Sergeant Brent Woods, Troop B, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Pulaski, Ky., Woods was cited for valor in N.M. on August 19, 1881. His medal was issued on July 12, 1894.

Sergeant Benjamin Brown, Company C, 24th Infantry Regiment: Born in Virginia, Brown won his award during an attempted robbery in Arizona on May 11, 1889. His medal was issued on Feb. 19, 1890.

Corporal Isaiah Mays, Company B, 24th Infantry Regiment: Born in Carter's bridge, Va., Mays was cited for gallantry during an attempted robbery in Arizona on May 11, 1889. Like Brown, he was awarded his medal on Feb. 19, 1890.

A REPLICA OF the Congressional Medal of Honor given to servicemen who show bravery above and beyond the call of duty.

Corporal William O. Wilson, Troop I, 9th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Hagerstown, Md., Wilson was cited for bravery in the Sioux campaign of 1890. His medal was issued on Sept. 17, 1891.

Sergeant William McBryar, Troop K, 10th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Elizabeth, N.C., McBryar was cited for bravery in an engagement against Apache Indians in Arizona on March 7, 1890. His medal was issued on May 15, 1890.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR 1898

(The first four men on this list were cited for bravery at Tayabacoa, Cuba. They received their medals on June 23, 1899.)

Private Dennis Bell, Troop H, 10th U.S. Cavalry; born Washington, D.C.

Private Fitz Lee, Troop M, 10th U.S. Cavalry; born Dinwiddie County, Va.

Private William H. Thompkins, Troop G, 10th U.S. Cavalry; born Paterson, N.J.

Private William H. Thompkins, Troop G, 10th U.S. Cavalry; born Paterson, N.J.

Private George Wanton, Troop M, 10th U.S. Cavalry; born Paterson, N.J.

Sergeant-Major Edward L. Baker, 10th U.S. Cavalry: Born in Laramie County, Wy., Baker was cited for bravery in the under-fire rescue operation of a wounded comrade in Santiago, Cuba on July 1, 1898. His medal was issued on July 3, 1902.

KOREAN WAR 1950-1953

PFC William Thompson, Company M, 24th Infantry: Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Thompson was the first Negro to win the CMH since the Spanish-American War. He lost his life on Aug. 6, 1950, after fighting off the enemy singlehanded during a withdrawal operation. The medal was awarded in June, 1951.

Sergeant Cornelius Charlton, Company C, 24th Infantry: Born in the Bronx, N.Y., Charlton was the second Negro to win the Congressional Medal of Honor in Korea. On June 2, 1951, he was killed while leading a platoon attack on a Communist-held ridge. The medal was awarded on February 12, 1952.

VIETNAM 1966-1972

Pfc. Milton L. Olive III, Company B, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade: While participating in a search and destroy operation in the vicinity of Phu Coung on Oct. 22, 1965, Pfc. Milton Olive saved the lives of his fellow soldiers by falling on a live grenade, and absorbing the shock of its blast with his body. Olive was cited for conspicuous gallantry by the President of the United States at the White House on Thursday, April 21, 1966, at which time the Medal was awarded posthumously to his parents.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on Nov. 7, 1946, Olive attended parochial school in his native city, and later went to Saints Junior College High School for three years. He took basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky., and also attended a number of service schools. During his service tour, he won the Combat Infantryman Badge; the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster.

Olive died a few weeks before his 19th birthday.

Pfc. James Anderson, Jr., Company F, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Division: Like Pfc. Olive before him, James Anderson, Jr. reacted instantaneously to danger "with complete disregard for his own personal safety," grabbing a live grenade thrown into the midst of his platoon, pulling it to his chest and curling around it as it exploded. The shock was so great that other marines received shrapnel wounds from the fragmentation. Anderson was killed instantly. The highly decorated soldider (he had won the Purple Heart and several service medals) was a native of Los Angeles, Calif., where he was born Jan. 22, 1947.

Sergeant First Class Webster Anderson, Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 320th Artillery, 101st Airborne Division: Complete disregard for his personal safety and the ability to function in an exemplary fashion while under fire earmarked Sgt. Anderson for the Medal of Honor, presented him by President Nixon at the White House on Nov. 24, 1969. Anderson, a native of Winnaboro, S.C., entered the U.S. Army on Sept. 11, 1953.

Sergeant First Class Eugene Ashley, Jr. Company C, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces: A native of Wilmington, N.C., where he was born Oct. 12, 1931, was killed in action during an attempted rescue operation at Camp Lang Vei in Vietnam. Ashley lost his life while being carried from the summit of the hill from which he and his men had dislodged the enemy. He was killed by an artillery shell.

Pfc. Oscar P. Austin, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Division: On Feb. 23, 1969, Pfc. Oscar P. Austin threw himself on an enemy grenade to protect an injured Marine, and later was mortally wounded when he lunged in front of a fallen comrade who was exposed to enemy rifle fire. Austin was cited for "inspiring initiative and selfless devotion to duty." A native of Nacogdoches, Texas, Austin was born Jan. 15, 1948. He completed high school in Phoenix, Ariz., and joined the Marine Corps in April, 1968. Austin had won other medals, including the Purple Heart, before being designated a Medal of Honor winner.

Sergeant Rodney M. Davis, Company B, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Division: During a heavy battle in Quang Nam Province (Republic of Vietnam), Sgt. Rodney M. Davis and his platoon were pinned down by mortars, heavy automatic and small arms fire. Unable to withstand the enemy assault, the Marines were lodges in a trench and in danger of being overrun by the enemy. A grenade lobbed in from close range landed in the trench, threatening the lives of the entire unit. Sergeant Davis "instantly" threw himself upon it in what was described as "a final valiant act of complete self-sacrifice." Davis died September 6, 1967. Born in Macon, Ga., in 1942 he had enlisted in the Corps on August 31, 1961.

Pfc. Robert H. Jenkins, Company C, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division: Pfc. Robert H. Jenkins was killed in action on the morning of March 5, 1969 while occupying a defense position south of the DMZ. Jenkins and his comrade constituted a two-man fighting emplacement manning a machine-gun. When a North Vietnamese grenade was thrown into their midst, Jenkins seized his comrade, shielding him from the full impact of the explosion. He died later of injuries sustained on the scene. Born June 1, 1948, Jenkins was a graduate of Central Academy High School in Palatka, Fla. He enlisted in the Marines in 1968.

Specialist Six Lawrence Joel, HQ & HQ Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigaded; one of the earlier winners of the Medal of Honor, Specialist Joel was cited for "gallantry and interpidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty" while serving as a medical aidman in a combat operation on Nov. 8, 1965. Despite his own wounds, Joel left his cover to minister to several fallen comrades, giving them plasma, pain killers and other necessary medication while under a continuous barrage. Joel, a native of Winston-Salem, N.C., was born Feb. 22, 1928.

Pfc. Ralph H. Johnson, Company A, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division: As part of a 15-man reconnaissance patrol deep in enemy territory, Pfc. Ralph H. Johnson was manning an observation post on Hill 146 when a heavily-armed, platoon-sized Vietnamese force attacked his position. A grenade tossed into the three-man fighting hole occupied by Johnson and two comrades threatened the lives of all until Johnson flung himself on the device and absorbed its shattering fragments. Johnson was killed in action on March 5, 1968, less than a year after he had enlisted in the Regular Marine Corps. Johnson was a native of Charleston, S.C., where he was born Jan. 11, 1949.

Specialist Five Dwight Hal Johnson, Company B, 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, 4th Infantry Division: Climbing fearlessly out of his disabled tank, Johnson armed only with a .45 caliber pistol, engaged the heavily armed enemy and killed several North Vietnamese. After running out of ammunition, he returned to his tank, where he grabbed a submachine gun, before braving yet another enemy barrage. Johnson also rescued comrades, and killed several North Vietnamese at close range. A native of Detroit, Mich., Johnson is a graduate of Northwestern High School. He was born May 7, 1947.

Private First Class Garfield M. Langhorn, Troop C, 7th Squadron (Airmobile), 17th Cavalry, 1st Aviation Brigade: A radio operator, Langhorn lost his life after falling on a grenade thrown into the midst of a group of wounded men he was helping rescue during a helicopter missi n. Born in 1948 in Cumberland, Va., Langhorn attended Riverdale High School before being in-

(Continued on B-7)

LT. COL. DOUGLASS HALL
former AFRO reporter, turned chaplain

Dates to remember

JAN. 8

In 1968, Major Robert H Lawrence became the first black astronaut chosen for a moon trip. He died in a plane crash shortly after he was selected.

JAN. 16

The Continental Congress accepts George Washington's reverse proposal and allows free blacks to enlist in the Revolutionary Army in 1776.

Dates to remember

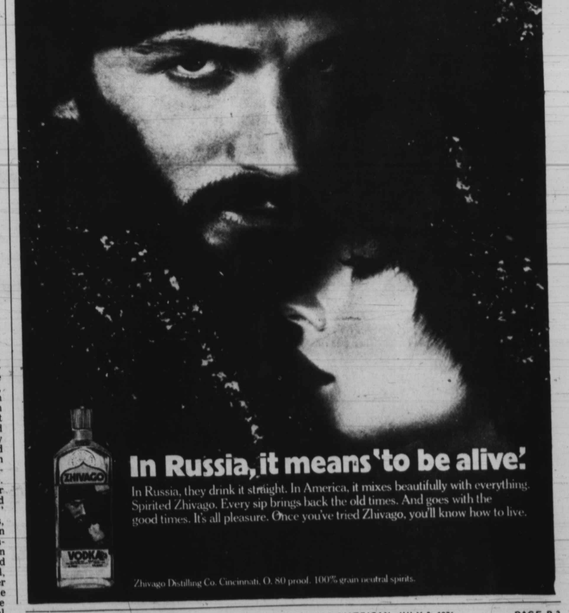
OCT 27

The term black cabinet was first used during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal era and consisted of black advisors and specialists who kept Roosevelt informed on the problems affecting the black population.

NOV. 3

Lewis H. Latimer, born in Boston in 1848, was the only black inventor to work with Thomas Edison's group known as the Edison Pioneers. He also drew the plans for Alexander Graham Bell's telephone patents.

ZHVAGO VODKA



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