

ALASKA—U.S. HIGHWAY



NORTHERN CANADA—Soundphoto—A portion of the International highway, from the United States to Alaska, being completed through virgin forests. It will make a military road protected by a chain of coastal mountains from the Northwestern United States to our Alaskan defense area, through the Dominion of Canada.

MORE PRAISE FOR TROOPS BUILDING ALASKAN HIGHWAY

Washington, Oct. 8 (ANP)—Once again the Negro troops who did most of the work in the construction of the Alaskan highway, officially known as the Alcan highway, came in for high praise from the war department. A special announcement was made through the office of the near-completion of this important link in the national defense.

"The construction of the pioneer route through the virgin wilderness in such a short space of time constitutes an engineering feat by the army of first magnitude. It was not accomplished without physical hardship and privation on the part of the officers and men, but no handicaps of weather or terrain were sufficient to dampen the enthusiasm of the troops or retard progress.

Aside from the endurance and efficiency of the force, among whom a large detachment of Negro troops acquitted themselves with special distinction, three main factors contributed to the speed with which construction had been carried on, said the war department.

A month ago, the feats of the Negro troops in this difficult task were recounted by the Associated Negro Press, which learned of the fine work those men were doing.

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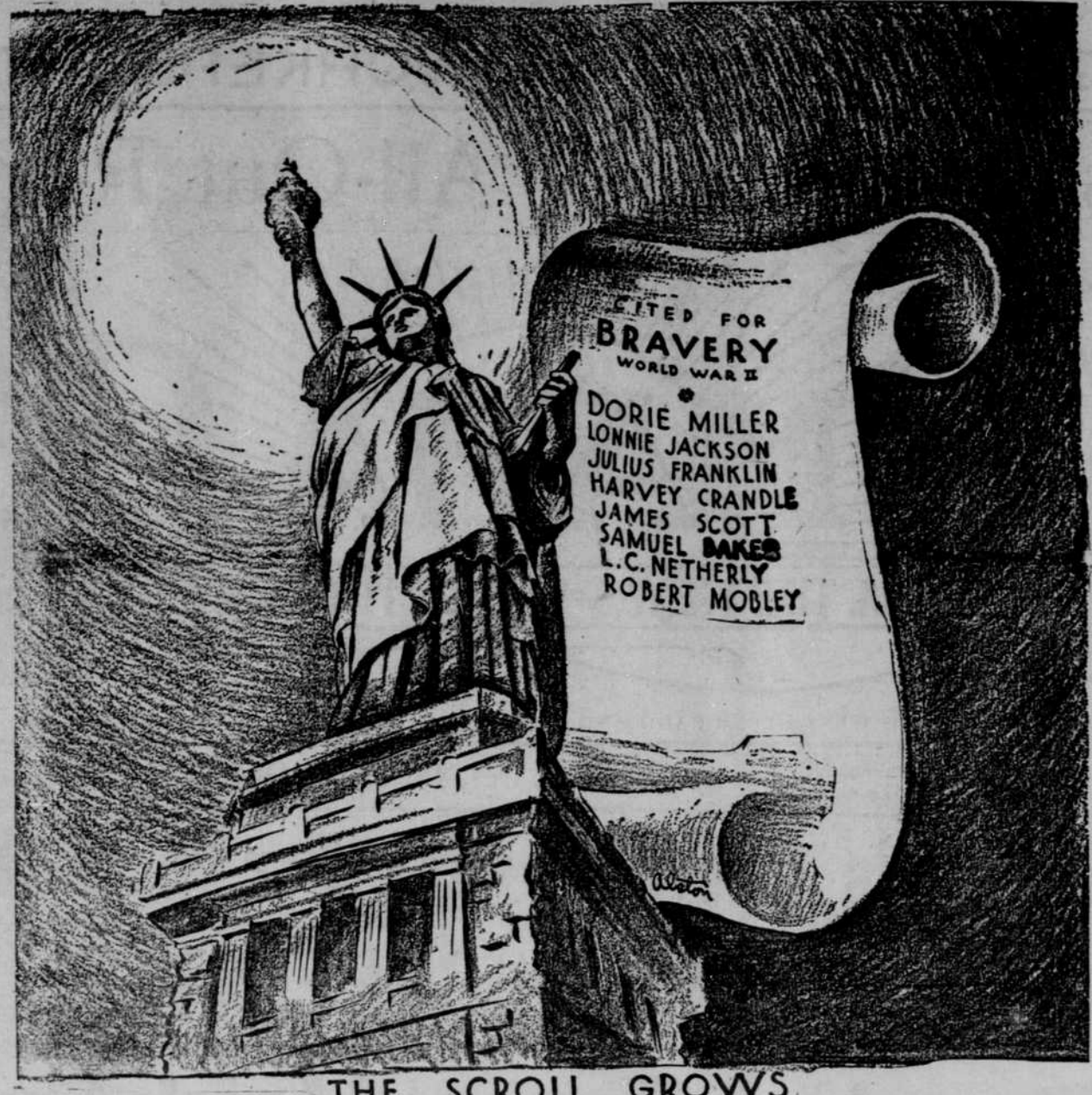
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THE SCROLL GROWS

NEGRO SOLDIERS MISTREATED IN ENGLAND?

on my part the points of view of all concerned will be mutually understood and respected. If this means that the prime minister is heeding the pleas of the southern contingent reported to be in the majority in the British Isles, then he will give India and the darker races another puzzler in their demands to know why they are fighting.

It is reported that several outbreaks have occurred in the British Isles never reported fully to the American public. Such racial outbreaks are not helpful to the cause of democracy and when they reach a point that they have to be discussed on the floor of the house of commons, it is highly reminiscent of the Bourbon southern members of our own legislative body who know no better than to halt important legislation with racial bickerings.

Nothing short of an official explanation will satisfy the American Negroes who are being called upon to serve without question and with out promise of redress. Too many "incidents" are also occurring right here in America to permit this particular thing to go unchallenged and unnoticed.

Southern whites are taking their creed of hatred into the armed forces and instead of fighting against the foes of civilization, are helping the cause of the axis powers by their own benighted ideals, an official of the war department says.

Wherever they go, they carry their prejudices and hatreds and try to inculcate other peoples with them. It is believed that the rank and file of English subjects are not in accord with Mr. Churchill's policy of adopting the American procedure. This is proven by the comradeship which exists among the fighting men themselves, something unknown to the bluebloods and brass-hats at the top.

Sec. Stimson was absent Thursday morning and the scheduled press conference was cancelled, or some questions concerning the matter would have been addressed him.

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Rae Lee Jones (continued from page 1)

girls. "During a trip East in Washington, D. C. she met Dan Gary, who was making some engagements for the band. She was much older than Dan and in ordinary language got 'stuck on him'. He is alleged to have been a petty racketeer with a cunning mind which enabled him to live off his wits. I heard this after he had helped cause this trouble.

"This guy, Dan Gary, saw the possibility of exploiting an all girl band in the commercial world and starting conspiring with Rae Lee to take control of the band. In the fall of 1941, his services in making dates for the band were discontinued and the band returned South. The school then started making engagements because it knew the southern territory.

"During the fall and winter, the band, in charge of Rae Lee, was filling some engagements in Georgia, Florida and Alabama, when Dan Gary made several trips south and visited with Rae Lee and the orchestra telling them if they would come out of the south to Washington, D. C., he would put them in the union, use them a great deal in New York and the East and this would bring them fame and fortune. In brief, they could have "all this and Heaven, too."

"In about March or April, 1942, the school sensed something was smelly and gave Rae Lee a longer vacation than it gave the girls of the orchestra, using another chapter for the balance of the time until the girls were to go out on their vacation."

Dishman said he met the girls in Pensacola, Florida, together with the mother of one of the girls in the band who was to be the chaperone. He informed Rae Lee Jones that she was released of her job so she could have an even longer vacation than she thought.

"Late that night" Dishman said, "through pretense of wanting to get into the back of the bus for something, she secured the keys from the driver took off the ignition key and sent them back to the driver who put the keys under his pillow and went to sleep.

About 3 a. m., while everybody was asleep, including the girls of the band, Rae Lee swiped the bus with the girls, instruments, music, and what not and proceeded north." Dishman said he and the regular bus driver were asleep in another part of the territory and didn't know what had happened.

"Rae Lee took the band to Pensacola, Fla., where they were located at the time, leaving a couple of weeks of unfinished engagements. They drove that night to Huntsville, Ala., where Rae Lee met Dan Gary, who was already in the South

and had been conniving with her a day or two before. They did not go any further in the school bus, but transferred the girls, instruments and music to a commercial bus and fled on to Jackson, Tenn., on their way to Washington."

Dishman said a recent schedule of the itinerary, published in a colored newspaper, enabled him to know where the orchestra would be and therefore had the leader, Rae Lee, arrested here in Jackson at the Army.

Lodged in the Madison County jail at this time, Rae Lee's rhythm in sharps is in the jail flats and the measures of her bars are the length of the jailbars, her notes are small quarters and her rests will be longer than usual.

MUST INCREASE NEGRO WOMEN WORKERS Says McNutt

Over 5,000,000 women, including an increased number of Negro workers, must be added to the total now employed by the end of 1943, Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission told the Commission's new Women's Advisory Committee at its first meeting here Thursday, October 1, 1942.

Four-fifths of all war jobs can be performed by women, Mr. McNutt pointed out, but a long tradition has limited their employment. Employment of women is an immediate necessity in some war production centers, he added, because overburdened housing and transportation facilities will not permit further immigration of outside workers.

The country's womanpower problem, Mr. McNutt said, goes far beyond signing women up for jobs. It includes training, plant living arrangements which take account of the presence of women, and revision of industrial processes to increase the number of jobs women can perform.

The Women's Advisory Committee was appointed early last month by Chairman McNutt to consider important questions concerning the War Manpower Commission program for effective use of women in the war effort. Its membership includes twelve prominent women.

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long identified with labor, industry, or public activities. Mrs. Maude Bousfield, Principal Wendell Phillips High School, Chicago, is a member of the committee. The group will submit its recommendations to the Chairman of the Commission and will work in close collaboration with the Commission's National Management Labor Policy Committee which advises the Chairman on matters of manpower policy.

Other Commission officials heard by the Committee, an all-day discussion of the War Manpower organization and problems related to the employment and training greatly increased numbers of women, included Fowler V. Harper, Deputy Chairman of the Commission; Arthur J. Altmeyer, Executive Director; General Frank J. McSherry, Director of Operations; Sara Southall, and Thelma McKelvey, of the Operations staff of the Commission; Charles Schottland, Director of the Day Care Sections of the Office of Defense Health and Welfare; Arthur Flemming, Civil Service Commissioner and Chairman of the National Management Labor Policy Committee; and Raymond Rubicam, Special Assistant to Chairman McNutt. Subsequent meetings of the Committee will be held each month in Washington.

"MARCH ON WASHINGTON" MOVEMENT WORKS LEADERS MEAN BUSINESS HARLEM OFFICE WORKING FULL TIME

(By Peter Dana) New York (Calvin's News Service) —Harlem offices of the "March on Washington" movement, on the ground floor of the Hotel Theresa building, 7th avenue at 125th st., are busy full time these days, as the idea of protest in the name of democratic unity and full mobilization of American manpower, symbolized by the movement, reaches throughout the country. A Philip Randolph and his associates, who have been speaking in a score of metropolitan areas throughout the country in recent weeks, are now a force for democratization of America's war effort which, whatever the embarrassments of the Administration at Washington, must, it is generally believed, count for the total national good.

If there should be any question of the sincerity of the "March on Washington" movement as a result of the calling off of the projected march in the summer of 1941, after certain concessions from Washington, most notable of which was the establishment of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, it would appear that there is not sufficient acquaintance with the continuing work of the movement's staff and the increasing enthusiasm with which the idea guiding the movement is meeting among colored citizens throughout the nation.

About one thing there can be no doubt: the energetic and efficient staff of the movement, mostly volunteer workers, entertain no doubt as to the value and timeliness of

their enterprise. Their belief in their leader, A. Philip Randolph, which apparently is spreading to more and more people, is unquestioned and should appear to extend the vigor with which they carry forward the work of the organization.

THE TIME IS NOW!

Typical of the feeling of the people carrying on the organization's work is the comment of Theophilus Lewis, recently put in charge of the movement's publicity. Mr. Lewis says: "The March on Washington idea must be understood, if at all, in terms of the need to mobilize our total citizen power. The March is no mere pressure group, motivated by selfish impulses, trying to win an advantage over other citizens. While the movement is attempting to bring pressure to bear on our responsible government authorities... and this is a notable and approved democratic practice... the pressure is completely democratic and patriotic. It is said on every hand that America needs her full resources and strength to win this war. We of the March on Washington movement take this as the literal truth; and we believe that the time is now to do what we can to see that no prejudice or previous shortcoming in our national life is allowed to hinder an all-out effort for victory."

Continuing, Mr. Lewis asserted that he did not for one instant agree with those colored Americans who say this is no time to be kicking up a fuss about the situation here at home, when we are fighting a war. On the contrary, he said: "So far from this kind of talk being patriotic or sound, it is of a piece with the complacency of our pre-Pearl Harbor days."

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