

(WARFARE, from page 4)

of the "Negro problem". The colony project proved a disastrous failure and it was necessary to send a ship to return the original Negro deportees.

The "disaster" of the colonization project proved to be, literally, a life saver for the nation. After, in the Civil War, the Negro played a similar role to that he played in World War II. In both cases, Negro troops provided a balance of power that brought victory to one side. It is no exaggeration when it is said that "without the aid of the Negro (in the Civil War) there might have been no United States now".

PROVEN FIGURES reveal that 178,975 Negro soldiers fought in the Union Army between 1861-1865. There were 161 Negro regiments--141 infantry, 7 cavalry, 12 heavy artillery, and one light artillery, and the total number of Negroes aiding the Union Army was perhaps twice that number.

It was during World War II, that Negroes pressed for equality in the armed forces, and considering the present challenge of the disproportionate ratio of Negroes serving in Viet Nam, it is interesting to note that the percentage of Negroes inducted into the armed forces during World War II was 10.7, or more than one per cent higher than whites.

There were 1,154,720 Negroes serving in the armed forces during WW II, 8,600 of whom were officers, including one brigadier-general. 206,512 served in the Pacific; 225,367 in Europe and North Africa; and 23,892 in China, India, and Burma.

Captain Charles B. Hall, who shot down a German P.40 Warhawk in Italy in 1943, was the first of 81 Negro aviators to win the Distinguished Flying Cross, America's second highest decoration for valor, in WW II.

MORE THAN 40 Negroes have been accorded the highest military honor the nation affords its heroes--The Congressional Medal of Honor awarded by Congress for the highest bravery in action. This is a fantastic figure considering that not since the Spanish-American War (in neither two World Wars) was a Negro hero permitted to be so honored because of color discrimination in the award.

Three Negroes have received the Victoria

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After the shameful stigmatic color bar was erased from America's highest military decoration, three Negroes won the Congressional Medal of Honor in the Korean War. Pfc. William Thomson, and Sgt. Cornelius Charlton (both of New York City), and William R. Charette, Navy hospital corpsman of Ludington, Michigan are the recipients.

IN-1966, (last year), Pfc. Milton Lee Olive,

a paratrooper in Viet Nam was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Lyndon B. Johnson in a ceremony at the White House. Parents of the 18-year-old Chicago youngster accepted the award for their son who died a hero's death when he threw himself on a hand grenade to save the lives of fellow soldiers.



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