

# Negroes And The National Guard

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NEGRO PRESS INTERNATIONAL

## HISTORY OF SEPARATISM

The history of the Negro in the U.S. military, as in almost every other field, has been a history of separatism, discrimination and subjugation.

The utility and treatment of Negroes as soldiers is an issue that has been argued and fought over since George Washington and the Revolutionary War in 1776. This treatment ranged from separatism and discrimination in housing, training, promotions, and social acceptance, to outright lynchings.

In war and throughout the peace, the Negro has been held as something different, something apart from the mainstream of American idealism. As recent as World War II, there were unwritten rules preventing Negroes generally from receiving promotions above the rank of first lieutenant.

Many of the men who served in the war have stories to tell of how the racism and discrimination was carried abroad by white soldiers, and were manifested in many different ways.

Protest to these and many other conditions in the military by the Negro Press brought some changes during and after the war. President Harry S. Truman was pressured into making the greatest efforts to date in trying to bring about a greater degree of equality.

In the National Guard, where appointments, promotions and reorganizations changes have political influences, the Negro has suffered most.

A 1965 report revealed that of the 411,533 Army National Guardsmen in the country, 5,590 were Negro--less than two per cent. Some states, like Alabama with 15,000 Army National Guardsmen, had 14 Negroes; Georgia, with 7,639 troops, had three.

IT IS significant to note that perhaps if those

# 5%

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BERKELEY, Calif. - (NPI) -- While some cities are turning thumbs down on school busing, three are considering and implementing busing plans.

Berkeley, home of the University of California, plans total school integration including busing. Los Angeles proposes a program of limited voluntary busing, while Philadelphia has some 12,500 pupils quietly taking part in an integrated busing plan.

## Warned Of "Hang-Up"

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - (NPI)--Negro college students have been urged to avoid the "hang-up" of spending so much time unnecessarily criticising their college that they destroy themselves.

Sounding the warning was Carver A. Portlock, 1955 graduate of Bethune-Cookman College and community affairs coordinator, Smith, Kline, and French Laboratories, Philadelphia.

Portlock spoke at the institution's "New Careers Opportunity Conference."

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