

FREE CLINICS AVAILABLE

The Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County is sponsoring Free Clinics at 940-A West Owens, in the East Mall of the Golden West Shopping Center.

You are invited to utilize the following services:

FAMILY PLANNING - Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Family Planning includes Pap Smears, Pregnancy Testing, Birth Control, Counseling, Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Disease.

IMMUNIZATION - Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 2:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

The Immunization Clinic provides shots for diphtheria, smallpox, whooping cough, measles, Tetanus (lock-jaw) and the polio drink. Given by the Public Health Nurse—your child should begin his shots at 2 months but they can be given to anyone under 21 years old.

FAMILY COUNSELING—Family Counseling provides professional counseling to those who are experiencing emotional stress.

For further information or transportation to the clinic, call 648-3280.

Black Man In The Navy

PART II:

SEGREGATION APPEARS, THEN ERASED BY WORLD WAR II

(Ed. Note: This is the second of a three-part series describing the historical participation of the black American in the United States Navy. Part two traces his role in seapower from 1865 to the present.)

In the 40 years of peace that followed the War between the States, black Americans continued to serve in the United States Navy. Some distinguished themselves as heroes, but most just did their jobs, and did them well.

Joseph B. Noil, a native of Nova Scotia, was one of the heroes. He was a crew member on the USS POWHATAN when that ship was anchored off the coast of Virginia on Dec. 26, 1872. About 11 p.m., Noil heard a shipmate fall overboard. Without hesitation he jumped into the 25-degree water and pulled boatswain's mate J.C. Walton back on board. Walton was exhausted, but safe. For this heroic act, Noil became the sixth black sailor to win the Medal of Honor.

When the Spanish-American War broke out in 1898, the Navy continued its policy of enlisting black Americans into the ranks on a fully-integrated basis. Black enlisted men and petty officers served in the engineering departments and at the guns of ships that defeated the Spanish at Manila and Santiago in the Philippines.

It was the Spanish-American War that established the United States as a power on the seas. Two black American sailors were cited for extraordinary courage during this War and won Medals of Honor.

On Feb. 11, 1898, just a few days after war was declared, Daniel Atkins, a ship's cook from Virginia, was on board the USS CUSHING en route to Cuba. Huge waves swept the deck. A lifeline broke, and a young officer was swept overboard.

After a rescue attempt by boat failed, one crew member tried to swim to him, but was exhausted by the time he reached the officer's lifeless body.

(To be continued)

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