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National Museum of African American History and Culture

Pamphlet: Jim-Crow in Uniform

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Spain "to get the murderer, Mussolini, in his lair." Ask Sterling Rochester, Negro machine-gunner and hero.

Today in China, Chinese people for over two and one-half years have been heroically fighting a genuine war for democracy, against Japanese imperialism, back by 80 per cent of American Products.

These are wars of national liberation. These wars are modern versions of the type of wars that Toussaint L'Ouverture fought for the independence of the black thousands in Haiti.

Enemies of Peace

There are many enemies of peace. There are those who cry peace and simultaneously stir up racial hatred and intolerance. There are those who cry "civil liberties for all" and proceed to deny to communists and others, their civil rights. Where was Dies in the case of Angelo Herndon? Or the Scottsboro boys? He has been a Congressman for some twenty-two years, now.

We can record many instances of the rise of anti-Negro violence, to a higher pitch today. Only recently from South Carolina came reports of several vicious attacks on Negro citizens exercising their constitutional right to vote.

Yes, the K. K. K. Rides Again with "Gone With the Wind" in the Saddle.

But anti-Negro violence is limited not alone to the South. For over two years, John Williams, 23-year-old Brooklyn Negro youth, was confined to prison on a trumped-up charge of rape despite the fact that the decision was twice set aside by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

The jury which did not have a single Negro on it found John Williams guilty and he was sentenced to from 7 1/2 to 15 years.

At the second trial the presiding judge was the anti-Negro, anti-labor Justice Peter J. Brancato. In passing sentence, the judge declared: *"I would give him 20 years if I could. Remember she is a white woman."*

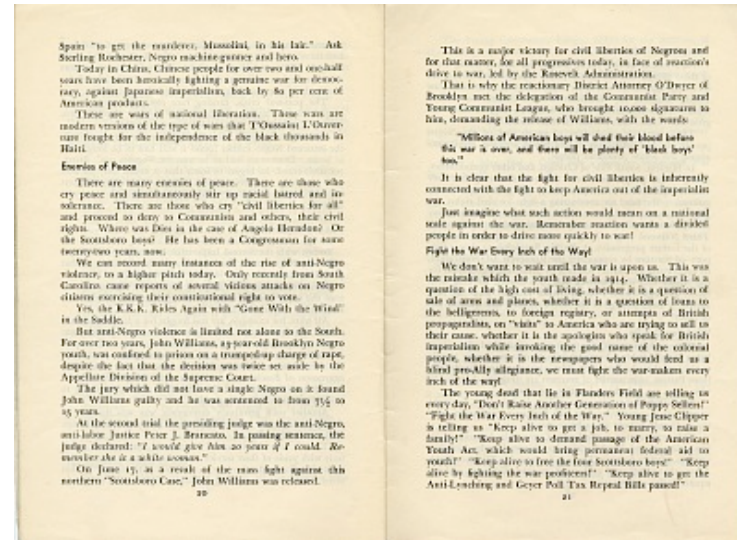
On June 17, as a result of the mass fight against this northern "Scottsboro Case," John Williams was released.

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This is a major victory for civil liberties of Negroes and for that matter, for all progressives today, in face of reaction's drive to war, led by the Roosevelt Administration.

That is why the reactionary District Attorney O'Dwyer of Brooklyn met the delegation of the Communist Party and Young Communist League, who brought 10,000 signatures to him, demanding the release of Williams, with the words:



"Millions of American boys will shed their blood before this war is over, and there will be plenty of 'black boys' too."

It is clear that the fight for civil liberties is inherently connected with the fight to keep America out of the imperialist war.

Just imagine what such action would mean on a national scale against the war. Remember reaction wants a divided people in order to drive more quickly to war!

Fight the War Every Inch of the Way

We don't want to wait until the war is upon us. This was the mistake which the youth made in 1914. Whether it is a question of the high cost of living, whether it is a question of sale of arms and planes, whether it is a question of loans to the belligerents, to foreign registry, or attempts of British propagandists, on "visits" to America who are trying to sell us their cause. Whether it is the apologists who speak for British imperialism while invoking the good name of the colonial people, whether it is the newspapers who would feed us a blind pro-Ally allegiance, we must fight the war-makers every inch of the way!

The young dead that lie in Flanders Field are telling us every day, "Don't Raise another Generation of Poppy Sellers! "Fight the War Every Inch of the Way." "Fight the War Every Inch of the Way." Young Jesse Clipper is telling us "Keep alive to get a job, to marry, to raise a family!" "Keep alive to demand passage of the American Youth Act, which would bring permanent federal aid to youth!" "Keep alive to free the four Scottsboro boys!" "Keep alive by fighting the war profiteers!" "Keep alive to get the Anti-Lynching and Geyer Poll Tax Repeal Bills Passed!"



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