



★

**GREAT WAR, FLAWED PEACE,
AND THE LASTING LEGACY
OF WORLD WAR I**

★



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

PRITZKER
MILITARY
FOUNDATION

NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

WE RETURN FIGHTING: MAPPING THE EXPERIENCES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIERS AFTER WORLD WAR I



GUIDING QUESTION: How did the lives of African American veterans change after World War I?

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WHY?

World War I had profound effects on African Americans, yet this is a topic that may be overlooked in United States history courses. Teaching World War I traditionally involves a discussion of the causes of the war, trench warfare, Wilson's Fourteen Points, League of Nations, and the Treaty of Versailles, with little attention paid to the effects of this war on people of color. It is important to teach history that reflects the racial diversity of our country. I wanted to develop a lesson plan that helps teachers develop more inclusive classrooms.

OVERVIEW

In this lesson, students will learn about the experiences of African American servicemen immediately following World War I. They will analyze W.E.B. DuBois' words, maps of racial violence, and the experiences of African American veterans to determine how World War I was a turning point in African American history. Students will map racial violence in post-World War I America and craft a speech from the perspective of African American veterans.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, students will be able to

- > Analyze the ways in which serving in the war empowered African American veterans;
- > Map the experiences of African Americans after World War I; and
- > Develop a conclusion about the post-World War I experiences of African Americans.

STANDARDS CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS TO COMMON CORE

- > CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.3 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.

DOCUMENTS USED

PRIMARY SOURCES

"Cavalry Arrives Bisbee, Ariz., To Down Race Riots," *The Evening Gazette*, July 4, 1919.

Newspapers.com (549790779)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/549790779/?terms=bisbee%2Bbrace%2Briot>

Claude McKay, "If We Must Die," 1919
Poetry Foundation
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44694/if-we-must-die>

"Disorder Spreads Despite Cavalry Guards; Wounded Soldiers in Hospital Fired Upon," *New-York Tribune*, July 22, 1919

Newspapers.com (79057317)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/79057317/?terms=the%2Bwashington%2Bbrace%2Briots>

"Guardsmen Restore Quiet," *Salt Lake Telegram*, September 1, 1919

Newspapers.com (288683876)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/288683876/?terms=knoxville%2Bbrace%2Briot>

"Mob Sets Fire to Co. Courthouse and gets Prisoner from the Roof," *Iowa City Press-Citizen*, September 29, 1919

Newspapers.com (19405599)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/19405599/?terms=ohama%2Bbrace%2Briot%2Bseptember%2B29>

"Outbreak Reported at Elaine," *Arkansas Democrat*, October 1, 1919

Newspapers.com (166304376)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/166304376/?terms=elaine%2Bbrace%2Briot%2Boctober%2B1>

“Race Troubles Near Star City are Not Feared,” *Pine Bluff Daily*, September 4, 1919
Encyclopedia of Arkansas
<https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/media/briggs-lynching-article-12259/>

“Riots Sweep Chicago,” *The Chicago Defender*, August 2, 1919
Fold3
<https://www.fold3.com/image/182725736>

“Race Riots in Chicago,” *The Washington Post*, July 28, 1919
Newspapers.com (31540041)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/31540041/?terms=Chicago%2BRace%2Briot%2Baugust%2B5>

“Six Dead, Many Injured in Charleston Race Riot,” *Winston-Salem Journal*, May 11, 1919
Newspapers.com (80962725)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/80962725/?terms=charleston%2Bbrace%2Briot>

“Soldiers Patrol Texas Town to Prevent Race Riot,” *The Sun*, July 12, 1919
Newspapers.com (66045777)
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/66045777/?terms=longview%2Bbrace%2Briot>

W.E.B. Du Bois, “Returning Soldiers” *The Crisis*, May 1919
Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale University
<https://glc.yale.edu/returning-soldiers>

SECONDARY SOURCES

“African American Soldiers in World War I”
PBS Learning Media
<https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/dpla-pss-062/primary-source-set-african-american-soldiers-in-world-war-i/>

Interactive Map, Karen Sieber, Visualizing the Red Summer
Visualizing the Red Summer
<http://visualizingtheredsummer.com/?dhp-project=map>

Written Document Analysis Sheet
National Archives and Records Administration
https://www.archives.gov/files/education/lessons/worksheets/written_document_analysis_worksheet.pdf

MATERIALS

- > Written Document Analysis Sheet
- > Computer with projector
- > A large map of the United States (can be projected and drawn on butcher paper if no map is available)
- > Sticky notes in two different colors (one for each student)

ACTIVITY PREPARATION

- > Make one copy of the following for each pair of students:
 - » Claude McKay, “If We Must Die,” 1919
 - » W.E.B. Du Bois, “Returning Soldiers” *The Crisis*, May 1919
- > Make one copy of the following for each student:
 - » Written Document Analysis Sheet
 - » Call to Action Assignment
- > Print copies of the Returning Veteran Stories so that each pair of students has a different article.
- > Divide the students into pairs.

PROCEDURE

ACTIVITY ONE: HISTORICAL CONTEXT (30 MINUTES)

- > Ask students what they know about the experiences of African Americans in World War I.
 - » **Teacher Tip:** If students need more background, check out the “African Americans in World War I” resource from PBS Learning Media.
- > Give each student a copy of the poem, “If We Must Die” and the Written Document Analysis Sheet.
 - » Read the poem out loud to students.
 - » Instruct students to re-read it silently, annotating as they go, and engage in the document analysis task.
 - » Tell students to turn and talk with the partner next to them, sharing their responses to the “Try to Make Sense of It” section.
- > Inform students that this poem captures the feelings of many African Americans returning from World War I. Ask them to list adjectives that describe these postwar feelings. Chart them on the board.
- > Distribute copies of the article, “Returning Soldiers,” and ask students to source the document, using the “Observe its parts” section of the Written Document Analysis Sheet. Tell students to highlight the author, date, and publication on their paper.
 - » Read the first two paragraphs together and ask students to paraphrase this part of the document.
 - » Chunk the remaining sections, and partner students up. Assign students different sections to read and annotate, paying attention to similarities and differences between this document and Claude McKay’s poem. Share student responses with the rest of the class.

ACTIVITY TWO: RED SUMMER OF 1919 (30 MINUTES)

- > Project the map, Visualizing the Red Summer and explain to students that violence erupted in many places when African Americans returned home.
- > Assign each pair of students one “dot” from the Visualizing the Red Summer map. Click on the dot to give students basic context to their case study.
 - » **Teacher Tip:** There are nine newspaper articles from various locations around the nation.
 - » Distribute the appropriate newspaper article to each group.
 - » Give each pair of students one sticky note of each color. Tell them that they will write two sentences on each post-it.
 - > On one color, they will summarize the “green dot” event.
 - > On the other, they will summarize the returning veterans’ story.
- > Give students time to complete this task, and then ask them to read their post-its out loud and place them on the large U.S. map. Once the events have been mapped, ask students the following questions, to be discussed in pairs and as a whole class:
 - » *What do you notice?*
 - » *What does it make you wonder?*

ASSESSMENT

- > Distribute the Call to Action Assignment to each pair of students.

METHODS FOR EXTENSION

- > Students can research the role of the National Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in advocating for anti-lynching laws and the government’s response.
- > Students can track the unsuccessful 1922 Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill’s journey through Congress.

CLAUDE MCKAY, "IF WE MUST DIE," 1919
POETRY FOUNDATION

If We Must Die (1919)

By Claude McKay

If we must die, let it not be like hogs
Hunted and penned in an inglorious spot,
While round us bark the mad and hungry dogs,
Making their mock at our accursèd lot.
If we must die, O let us nobly die,
So that our precious blood may not be shed
In vain; then even the monsters we defy
Shall be constrained to honor us though dead!
O kinsmen! we must meet the common foe!
Though far outnumbered let us show us brave,
And for their thousand blows deal one death-blow!
What though before us lies the open grave?
Like men we'll face the murderous, cowardly pack,
Pressed to the wall, dying, but fighting back!

W.E.B. DU BOIS, "RETURNING SOLDIERS" *THE CRISIS*, MAY 1919

GILDER LEHRMAN CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SLAVERY, RESISTANCE, AND ABOLITION, YALE UNIVERSITY

We are returning from war! The Crisis and tens of thousands of black men were drafted into a great struggle. For bleeding France and what she means and has meant and will mean to us and humanity and against the threat of German race arrogance, we fought gladly and to the last drop of blood; for America and her highest ideals, we fought in far-off hope; for the dominant southern oligarchy entrenched in Washington, we fought in bitter resignation. For the America that represents and gloats in lynching, disfranchisement, caste, brutality and devilish insult—for this, in the hateful upturning and mixing of things, we were forced by vindictive fate to fight also.

But today we return! We return from the slavery of uniform which the world's madness demanded us to don to the freedom of civil garb. We stand again to look America squarely in the face and call a spade a spade. We sing: This country of ours, despite all its better souls have done and dreamed, is yet a shameful land.

It *lynches*.

And lynching is barbarism of a degree of contemptible nastiness unparalleled in human history. Yet for fifty years we have lynched two Negroes a week, and we have kept this up right through the war.

It *disfranchises* its own citizens.

Disfranchisement is the deliberate theft and robbery of the only protection of poor against rich and black against white. The land that disfranchises its citizens and calls itself a democracy lies and knows it lies.

It encourages *ignorance*.

It has never really tried to educate the Negro. A dominant minority does not want Negroes educated. It wants servants, dogs, whores and monkeys. And when this land allows a reactionary group by its stolen political power to force as many black folk into these categories as it possibly can, it cries in contemptible hypocrisy: "They threaten us with degeneracy; they cannot be educated."

It *steals* from us.

It organizes industry to cheat us. It cheats us out of our land; it cheats us out of our labor. It confiscates our savings. It reduces our wages. It raises our rent. It steals our profit. It taxes us without representation. It keeps us consistently and universally poor, and then feeds us on charity and derides our poverty.

It *insults* us.

It has organized a nation-wide and latterly a world-wide propaganda of deliberate and continuous insult and defamation of black blood wherever found. It decrees that it shall not be possible in travel nor residence, work nor play, education nor instruction for a black man to exist without tacit or open acknowledgment of his inferiority to the dirtiest white dog. And it looks upon any attempt to question or even discuss this dogma as arrogance, unwarranted assumption and treason.

This is the country to which we Soldiers of Democracy return. This is the fatherland for which we fought! But it is our fatherland. It was right for us to fight. The faults of our country are our faults. Under similar circumstances, we would fight again. But by the God of Heaven, we are cowards and jackasses if now that that war is over, we do not marshal every ounce of our brain and brawn to fight a sterner, longer, more unbending battle against the forces of hell in our own land.

We *return*.

We *return from fighting*.

We *return fighting*.

Make way for Democracy! We saved it in France, and by the Great Jehovah, we will save it in the United States of America, or know the reason why.

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

"SIX DEAD, MANY INJURED IN CHARLESTON RACE RIOT," WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL, MAY 11, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (80962725)

On May 10, 1919, a riot broke out in Charleston, South Carolina. White sailors turned violent after the death of a fellow sailor. It was believed that the sailor had been shot and killed by an African American while exploring downtown Charleston. White sailors harassed black passerby and fighting ensued between the two groups.

6 DEAD, MANY INJURED IN CHARLESTON RACE RIOT

Charleston, May 10.—Two bluejackets and four negroes were reported to have been killed and a large number wounded, eight severely, in a race riot, which broke out here last night and continued until early Sunday morning.

The trouble was said to have grown out of the shooting of a sailor by a negro in a down-town pool room. In a short while more blue jackets from the naval training station here and civilians joined in the fight. It was several hours before the rioting could be quelled.

For a time the rioters practically had possession of the down town business streets. A negro barber shop on King street, was almost wrecked and in several instances street cars were stopped by pulling down the trolley poles and negroes on the cars were beaten up. One negro was shot down as he was snatched off a car.

In Beaufin street two shooting galleries were raided by blue jackets, according to police reports, and the small calibre repeating rifles were brought into play. Police were almost powerless and white civilians,

except these joining the sailors, scurried to safety. Blue jackets were rushed from the naval training camp to stop the rioting and were armed at police stations with riot guns. They were soon joined by marines. In the meantime half a dozen naval officers, running the risk of death from stray shots had forced a number of rioting sailors into line and were establishing order at various places.

All persons were ordered off the streets and under orders from Rear Admiral Benjamin C. Bryant, commandant of the navy yard, the marines and blue jackets started to round up all other blue jackets and rush them to the navy yard and to the training camp in motor trucks.

It was estimated by the police that at one time almost a thousand blue jackets were taking part in the rioting. They could not say how many negroes were involved or how many white civilians joined the sailors.

No accurate figures as to the actual number of wounded could be obtained at an early hour today and the police say the number of negroes would probably never be known exactly as many were taken home by friends as the fighting died down.

BISBEE, ARIZONA

"CAVALRY ARRIVES BISBEE, ARIZ., TO DOWN RACE RIOTS," *THE EVENING GAZETTE*, JULY 4, 1919.
NEWSPAPERS.COM (549790779)

During a Fourth of July parade in 1919, Bisbee, Arizona became the site of another "Red Summer" race riot. When members of the segregated 10th Cavalry Regiment (known as the Buffalo Soldiers) attempted to participate in the celebratory parade, racial tensions in the town exploded. Fierce fighting broke out between white police officers and African American soldiers. Shots were fired and some involved were wounded. No deaths resulted from the rioting. In the end, the 10th Cavalry Regiment participated in the parade, but racial tensions still persisted.

Cavalry Arrives Bisbee, Ariz., To Down Race Riots

Five Wounded When Negroes
And White Troops Clash
In Free-For-All.

BISBEE, Ariz., July 4.—Two troops of the First cavalry arrived from Douglas early today to assist military authorities here and the Bisbee police in preventing a recurrence of last night's riots, in which Negro soldiers, a deputy sheriff and a Mexican woman were wounded. Authorities were undetermined early today whether to permit the Negro troops of the Tenth cavalry, who came from Fort Huachuca to participate in the Fourth of July parade here today as planned.

The shooting occurred during an attempt of white officers of the regiment to disarm the soldiers after a rough-and-tumble fight near a Negro club last night. One of the soldiers was seriously wounded, two slightly wounded and Deputy Sheriff Joseph Hardwick and a Mexican woman slightly hurt.

The trouble started when George Sullivan, military policeman for the Nineteenth cavalry, advised a group of noisy Negro soldiers to go home. Civilians and Negroes clashed and later shots were fired, when the police and military officers sought to disarm the Negroes. Fourteen of the Negroes were arrested.

LONGVIEW, TEXAS

"200 SOLDIERS PATROL TEXAS TOWN TO PREVENT RACE RIOT," *THE SUN*, JULY 12, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (66045777)

Just days after the events in Bisbee, Arizona, Longview, Texas had its own race riot. A month earlier, a black man, Lemuel Walters, had been lynched. Walters had been scapegoated by the white community and the press, who painted him as a thief. He was also accused of harassing a white woman. *The Chicago Defender* (an African American newspaper) wrote a scathing article over the murder of Walters. White Longview community members turned their rage over the article on community member Samuel L. Jones, a supporter of the *Chicago Defender* and local activist. A white mob attacked Jones, who was forced into hiding. The white rioters continued to harass Jones, who had to be protected by black community members. When a white mob showed up at Jones' house, they found it guarded by black men with guns. Jones' protectors fired at the white mob, injuring some. The mob fled, only to return hours later and burn Jones' house to the ground. They turned their rage on other black community members' properties as well. In the end, Jones, and his close friend Dr. Calvin Jones, had to flee Longview in order to save their lives. When the violence got too great, the National Guard and state troopers were called in and enacted martial law in the town.

200 Soldiers Patrol Texas Town to Prevent Race Riot

LONGVIEW, Tex., July 11.—Nearly 200 members of the Texas national guard from Dalls and Nacogdoches, ordered here today by Governor W. P. Hobby to prevent further clashes between whites and negroes, were arriving tonight by train and automobile. The situation remains quiet after a clash early today in which four white men were wounded when a small party of whites were fired upon by negroes, estimated to have numbered about 75. Reports that one negro had been killed by shots fired by the whites could not be confirmed and as far as known none of the negroes were wounded.

City and county officials expressed the belief tonight that there would be no further trouble, but said the presence of state soldiers would serve as a precautionary measure. Additional troops are held in readiness at Terrell. Texas rangers are expected to relieve the soldiers tomorrow.

The trouble today occurred when 12 or 15 white men were waylaid and fired upon in the negro section of Longview, where they had gone in search of F. L. Jones, a negro school

teacher, accused of causing the publication of statements derogatory to a young woman of this county in a negro newspaper published in Chicago. The whites returned the fire of the negroes, who were hidden in vantage points, and withdrew when their ammunition was exhausted, four of their number having suffered wounds.

A general alarm was sounded and the whites, with reinforcements, soon returned to the scene to find that the negroes had dispersed. Five of the principal negro residences were then burned by the whites. Local officials, unable to cope with the situation at this time, called upon the governor for aid. The excitement soon passed, however, and since then has continued quiet.

Five planes with pilots and five army officers started for this city, but two met with mishaps, one falling at Mesquite slightly injuring Captain Charles Fouchon, who arrived later by train, and the other forced to stop at Mineola because of engine trouble.

Five negroes captured during the day are being closely guarded to prevent possible violence.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

"DISORDER SPREADS DESPITE CAVALRY GUARDS; WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL FIRED UPON,"

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, JULY 22, 1919

NEWSPAPERS.COM (79057317)

On July 19, 1919, the nation's capital experienced its own race riot during the "Red Summer" of 1919. A white mob, comprised of sailors, soldiers, and Marines, descended on African American soldiers returning from World War I. Rather than welcoming those returning veterans, the white mob attacked them out of anger for the alleged assault of Eslie Stepnick. Charles Ralls, a black man, was accused of the crime. Fighting between the soldiers exploded across the city. By the next day, little was done to deal with the fighting, and the violence continued. Innocent African Americans became victims of violent beatings. Events escalated more when black community members fought back against the white rioters. After four days, President Woodrow Wilson finally ordered guards to stop the violence in the city.

Washington Is Swept by Race Riots; Many Shot

Two Detectives and Negro Killed in New Clash; Army Called Upon to Restore Order in City

Worst Outbreak Since Civil War

Disorder Spreads De- spite Cavalry Guards; Wounded Soldiers in Hospital Fired Upon

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Race rioting broke out anew here this afternoon, and after many brawls and battles the casualty list stood at midnight: Two policemen killed.

One Negro killed, two fatally wounded.

Two men shot, two whites hurt by glass, one white beaten and a marine shot, probably fatally. Many others were slightly injured.

Cavalry, provost guards, marines, police reserves are aiding the police in an effort to prevent further trouble, but rioting still continues.

Leaders in the House and Senate announced to-night that Congressional inquiries would be started to-morrow to fix the responsibility for the riots and to formulate plans for preventing further outbreaks. Meetings of the district committee of both chambers will be held, it was stated, and the city commissioners and police officials will be called into conference.

Two Detectives Killed

Of the dead two were city detectives. Harry Wilson, the first detective killed, was shot by a seventeen-year-old negro woman who had opened fire from the second floor of a residence near Second and Q Streets, northeast. A second negro woman opened fire from the ground floor of a house across the alley when the police and guardsmen rused the house which he first was aiding. Thompson, the second detective to die, was wounded during the clash. Only one arrest was made as a result of the attack, the young negress, who was shot through the hips.

The negro killed was struck over the head by a marine during one of the numerous fights on streetcars.

In another part of the city a black burg from a garage door kept a provost guard of soldiers, sailors and Marines at bay for several minutes, but finally was shot down.

A mob, composed largely of civilians, according to the police, cornered a negro, and in the fight that followed the black was shot and his skull crushed by the butt of a gun.

Street Cars Stoned

Reports to Police Headquarters said streetcars had been stoned in various parts of the city, the assailants being both whites and negroes. One negro was shot, but not fatally, after a mob had boarded a streetcar, and in the ensuing fight two city detectives were wounded slightly.

The fighting at midnight had revolved largely to fighting between all groups, and in one of these encounters a marine was reported to have been killed. Although service men had taken part in the early clashes, the most serious were those in which the mobs were made up of civilians.

Many clashes occurred between whites and blacks on streetcars. One negro attacked on the back end of a car fired into the crowd following the car and wounded four persons, but finally was stopped by a city detective, who was reported to have sent seven bullets into the negro's body. Each of the four white men was only slightly wounded.

Crack Shot Wounded

In the clashes earlier in the day Patrolman Egan, crack shot on the Washington police force, was struck by a bullet fired by a negro in the northwest section of the city, the most exclusive residential district. The bullet struck the patrolman's arm and he was unable to return the fire. The negro escaped, attracting a crowd of civilians who had taken up the chase.

Two negroes were seriously injured during the afternoon near the House office building. One had been accused by several soldiers of having tried to kiss a marine and when he attempted to escape he was overtaken and beaten. The other negro, believed to be a chauffeur for a Representative, intervened, and was beaten into unconsciousness. The soldiers got away before the arrival of police.

A race riot of real class to night occurred about 11 o'clock in the southeast section. When a mob stopped a negro, officers of the police said the negro immediately opened fire and two white men in the crowd were slightly wounded. Police arriving on the scene, according to reports to head quarters, fired at the negro, one of the bullets hitting him in the shoulder. The black was arrested and taken to the Central station.

Most Serious Since Civil War

It was said to night by officials that the riots were of a more serious nature than anything which had occurred since the outbreaks during the period of the old "Father Duster" legislature.

Continued on page four

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

"RACE RIOTS IN CHICAGO," THE WASHINGTON POST, JULY 28, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (31540041)

Just weeks after the rioting in Bisbee, Arizona, Longview, Texas, and Washington, D.C., Chicago exploded. What started out as a seemingly innocent day at the Lake Michigan beach turned violent as a white mob took out its anger on black men and women. The beaches of the lake had long been segregated. When a group of black swimmers tried to use the white side of the lake, they met with an angry mob. On July 29, just two days later, a group of black teenagers were swimming and their raft drifted onto the white side of the lake. A white rioter picked up a rock and struck Eugene Williams in the head. Williams drowned. The white protester was not arrested for his actions. Violence escalated as black community members protested. Violence raged for close to a week in Chicago and by the end 23 black and 15 white Chicagoians had died.

RACE RIOTS IN CHICAGO

Negro Drowned; White Man Reported Dead; Many Hurt.

BEGUN AT BATHING BEACH

Clashes Spread to Negro District. Fugitive, Firing on Pursuers, Wounds Policeman—Negroes Attack Firemen on Apparatus. Many Missiles Hurlled.

(By the Associated Press.)

Chicago, July 27.—A series of riots in the negro district late today resulted in the drowning of one negro, the reported drowning of a white man, probable fatal injury of another negro, the wounding of a policeman and injury to a score of whites and blacks by bullets or missiles. Police tonight said they had the situation well in hand.

The trouble started at the Twenty-ninth street beach, where whites and blacks are segregated, and soon spread to State street, the main thoroughfare in the heart of the negro district, which extends about 5 miles. Shooting started near the beach. There was also some shooting in the vicinity of State street.

Although ill feeling between whites and blacks on the South Side has extended over a period of months, emphasized by bomb explosions, some shooting and numerous fights, today's riots seem to have had their start in petty quarreling at the beach. Reports that negroes wandered across the dividing line to the white section of the beach, and that whites amused themselves by throwing small stones at negro bathers, appeared the most plausible cause. Soon after the fighting started a negro fled, pursued by a number of whites.

Fired on Policeman.

He took shelter behind a building and began shooting at a policeman who had joined the pursuit, and who returned the fire. The negro finally surrendered. During the fight one negro was probably fatally wounded.

Twenty-ninth street was soon packed with whites and blacks, the latter predominating. More fighting occurred, and a few shots were fired as some of the negroes fled, and patrol wagons loaded with bluecoats raced to the scene. A fire broke out in a small building, and fire apparatus was blocked by the throngs. Negroes are said to have tried to drag the firemen from their seats.

During the fighting rocks, bricks and other missiles were hurled both at the beach and at various points along Twenty-ninth street and along State street. White men were frequently beaten on State street, the police said.

Body Taken From Water.

At the beach, while missiles were flying, a negro on a raft was reported to have been struck with a rock and hurled into the lake. Later the body of a negro was taken from the water. A white man, a swimmer, also was reported hit and drowned.

With the police stations emptied of reserves and scores of others rushed from North and West Side stations, Acting Chief of Police Alcock ordered every available policeman on duty to prevent further outbreaks. The small army of policemen succeeded in bringing about a fair semblance of order.

White Woman Among Injured.

Late tonight the streets of the district where disorders occurred were still fairly well filled with people, but police kept the crowds moving and no further trouble was expected.

Police were unable to make an estimate of the number injured, because in the many skirmishes names of injured could not be learned. Late hospital reports showed one negro probably fatally wounded, another slightly wounded, and a policeman shot in the shoulder. Four other persons, including one white woman, were injured.

A rifle bullet fired by a negro grazed the forehead of a white man sitting at the upper window of his home. He fell out the window.

was only slightly injured. The negro, according to spectators, had levelled the rifle at a policeman, but a bystander struck the weapon upward. The negro escaped.

Encroaching on Whites.

The negro district has been steadily increasing in recent years with the influx of Southern negroes, who came to work in big industrial plants. Their encroachment on white neighborhoods caused considerable trouble, and during the past year many clashes.

Negroes have charged that a number of bomb explosions in the district in recent months were directed against families of their race by white neighbors.

"The black belt," as it is known in police circles, now comprises approximately 25 square miles, and includes only a comparatively few small white settlements.

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

"GUARDSMEN RESTORE QUIET," SALT LAKE TELEGRAM, SEPTEMBER 1, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (288683876)

On August 30, Knoxville, Tennessee experienced its own race riot during "Red Summer." Maurice Mays, an African American man, was accused of murdering a white woman. When Mays was identified as the assailant, an angry white mob descended on the jail. They broke in and searched for Mays. The mob wreaked havoc on the jail, setting prisoners free and damaging the jail itself. When they could not find Mays, they headed for the black community in Knoxville. The National Guard had to be called in to stop the violence from escalating. By August 31, the riot ended.

GUARDSMEN RESTORE QUIET

Knoxville Race Riot Situation Under Control After Heavy Fighting; Report Several Killed

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 1.—Quiet prevailed throughout the city and suburbs today, after the race rioting of Saturday night and Sunday. Military patrols covered the business section and territory where negro population is greatest.

Minor disorders occurred in Knoxville last night following the race riots Saturday night and early Sunday, which were the sequel to the storming of the county jail by a mob intent upon lynching Maurice Mays, a negro accused of the murder of Mrs. Bertie Lindsey, a white woman.

CASUALTY LIST SWELLED.

The casualty list was increased by four negroes, who resisted attempts to search them for arms. All were wounded by national guardsmen, two being shot and the other two stabbed with bayonets.

Eleven hundred guardsmen of the Fourth Tennessee infantry, supplemented by 200 special policemen and seventy-five special deputy sheriffs, patrolled the city, dispersing crowds and searching all negroes.

The guardsmen, who were in camp near the city for annual target practice, also searched all negroes arriving on trains and have established a barred zone in the heart of the negro district, where the worst of the rioting occurred. Four machine guns are mounted at a commanding point in this district and other machine guns have been mounted on motor trucks ready for eventualities.

PARADE CALLED OFF.

Union leaders called off the Labor day parade scheduled for today.

There has been shooting in various sections of the city all day and this continued last night, causing dozens of riot calls.

Two men are known to have been killed, fourteen others—eight white and six negroes—are in hospitals. Of these, four—two whites and two negroes—are not expected to recover. Sixteen wounded white men had their slight wounds dressed at one hospital.

KNOWN DEAD.

The known dead are:
First Lieutenant James W. Payne, Madisonville, Ky., regular army.
Joe Etter, negro.

The injured include Private E. V. Henderson of the Tennessee national guard, who may die.

Lieutenant Payne was killed accidentally by machine gun bullets. He was 200 yards from the machine gunners with several other officers when the party was fired upon by negroes from a second story window. Payne and his companions replied with their automatic rifles and sought cover. Just as Lieutenant Payne stepped behind a telephone pole for protection, the crew of a machine gun further up the street opened fire upon a crowd of advancing blacks. Lieutenant Payne fell into the arms of Captain A. C. Parker of Memphis with a dozen wounds in his legs and body. He died in an ambulance.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

"MOB SETS FIRE TO CO. COURTHOUSE AND GETS PRISONER FROM THE ROOF," IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN, SEPTEMBER 29, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (19405599)

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29TH YEAR—DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

IOWA CITY, IOWA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1919.

PRICE THREE CENTS— NUMBER 209

LYNCH NEGRO AT OMAHA

Mayor of City Nearly Hanged--Courthouse Burned

MOB SETS FIRE TO CO. COURTHOUSE AND GETS PRISONER FROM THE ROOF

Omaha, Sept. 29.—Although 1600 soldiers are patrolling the streets and machine guns have been stationed at strategic points about the city, officials feared race riots would break out anew tonight. Major General Leonard Wood wired Mayor Smith from Bismark, N. D., that he will arrive at Omaha at 9:29 Tuesday to take personal charge of the situation. He also wired he would send additional troops from Camp Grant, Illinois and Camp Funston, Kansas.

Numerous clashes between whites and blacks are said to have occurred in different parts of the city today.

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 29.—Omaha was placed under martial law shortly before midnight under orders from Major General Leonard Wood at Chicago. Sixteen hundred soldiers patrol the streets, 1000 of them arriving from Camp Dodge early this morning. Machine guns were placed in the negro district and in the vicinity of the court house. This morning the soldiers were reported to have the situation well in hand.

A negro, Will Brown, identified by Miss Agnes Loebach, 19, as the man who assaulted her Thursday night was lynched and his body burned. Mayor Edward P. Smith was nearly hanged, the Douglas county court house burned, one man Francis Clancy, 19 was shot and killed and fifty-six other persons wounded in riots here Sunday night.

Courthouse Burned.

While thousands of men, women and children looked on and cheered, Brown was taken from the fourth floor of the burning courthouse, the smoke all but overcoming Sheriff Clarke and his deputies who were attempting to defend him, and taken to 18th and Bedler streets, a rope placed around his neck and hung from a telephone pole. The mob then riddled the body with bullets, took it down and burned it.

Mayor Nearly Hanged.

Mayor Smith almost suffered the same fate when he defied the crowd. His last words before becoming unconscious from the beating he received and with a rope around his neck, were "I will give my life if necessary. I will not surrender the negro. I am going to enforce the law." A tall well-dressed man saved the mayor's life by cutting the rope just as the body was being lifted off the ground. The mayor was then put in an automobile and rushed away. At the hospital today it was said the mayor was still in a critical condition but was expected to recover.

Negro's Body Burned.

After the body of the negro was taken down by the mob, it was dragged along the streets for several blocks and then thrown into a fire which other members of the crowd had started. A crowd estimated at 3000 men, women and children saw the body burned. Many crowded through the mob to get a piece of the body for a souvenir. The rioters stopped automobiles and took the gasoline from the tank to pour on the blaze. After the body was taken from the pole a fair sized piece of rope was left. It was cut up for souvenirs.

Thirty-one Arrested.

Thirty-one men were arrested by the police in connection with the rioting. All were found to be carrying guns and ammunition and are being held without bond.

Break Into Stores.

The crowd last night broke into pawn shops and hardware stores to obtain guns and ammunition. They overpowered all the police on the streets. The mob set fire to the courthouse when it was unable to break past Sheriff Clarke and his deputies. Gasoline was set on fire on the first floor. The police extinguished this but more was obtained and soon flames were darting from the second and third floors. Sheriff Clark took his prisoner to the roof. Snipes on the roofs of nearby buildings fired at the little group on the roof. When the flames reached the fourth floor and the firemen arrived, the mob took the firemen's ladders from them, climbed to the roof and forced the sheriff to surrender the negro. The prisoner was stripped of his clothing and taken to the place where he was lynched. Hardly was the body hoisted from the ground when the mob started to fire at it.

Mayor Regains Consciousness.

Mayor Smith regained consciousness today and was able to sit up a little. Physicians said he was badly beaten about the chest. The mayor declined to make a statement this morning. After the mayor was rescued by the police, the enraged mob burned his automobile.

Light sentences imposed on negroes for attacks on white women is the reason given by police officials for the mob taking the law into its hands last night. The Nebraska law does not inflict capital punishment for criminal assaults. In Omaha and Council Bluffs there have been over forty attacks on white women by negroes in the last two months and public feeling has been running high.

ELAINE, ARKANSAS

"OUTBREAK REPORTED AT ELAINE," *ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT*, OCTOBER 1, 1919
NEWSPAPERS.COM (166304376)

Elaine, Arkansas, became the site of a race riot on September 30, 1919. Black farmers came together to establish a union to fight for better wages and prices. A white mob took shots at them as they gathered. In self-defense, the black farmers fired back. The situation escalated quickly and led to an all-out massacre, which left more than 100 African Americans dead. Black community members were also scapegoated for the events, despite the fact that white rioters had played a larger role in the ensuing violence. The events at Elaine, Arkansas came at the end of the "Red Summer."

OUTBREAK REPORTED AT ELAINE

Requests for troops, in view of a threatened or actual race riot at Elaine, Phillips county, were received here about 1 o'clock from County Judge H. B. Moore and the sheriff's office at Helena. Telephone lines to Elaine had been cut. Negroes, the messages said, were massing from over the county. The request for troops was received at Governor Brough's office and was immediately transmitted to Adjutant General Lloyd England. It was asked that the troops be rushed to Elaine on a special train.

According to late reports from Helena, all telephone communication with Elaine was severed when wires were cut about noon.

At 11:30 o'clock the Arkansas Democrat was in communication with its correspondent at Elaine. No mention was made of the impending race trouble at that time, however.

The white population in the vicinity of Elaine is greatly outnumbered by negroes.

THREE MORE SHOT.

Residents of Elaine, who had organized Wednesday morning, and the negroes of the vicinity were engaged in a gun fight at Hoop Spur, about two miles from Elaine, Wednesday afternoon, according to information received from there, and during the trouble three white persons were seriously wounded. They were residents of Helena who had been part of a posse sent to the scene.

It was stated that the white people were very quick in their organization to oppose the massed negroes, and since the trouble had been in progress they have been successful in capturing 50 of the rioting negroes. Appeals have been sent to many cities of the state asking assistance, also to Camp Pike, asking that troops be sent to quiet the disturbance. At noon Wednesday no assistance had arrived and the residents and the blacks continued their battle.

Joe Solomon, president of the Helena Chamber of Commerce, said that residents of the county wanted 1,000 troops rushed there on a special train, as the condition was serious.

A Rock Island train was being held in readiness to rush the troops to Elaine at 5 o'clock.

Elaine, Oct. 1.—(Special.)—W. A. Adkins, special agent for the Missouri Pacific railroad, was killed instantly, and Charles Pratt, deputy sheriff, and Walter Monroe, a levee engineer, were seriously injured when they were fired upon by three unidentified men at Hoop Spur, a short distance from this place, Tuesday night.

It was said that the party, which fired upon the officers, was composed of two white men and one negro. They made their escape after the shooting in a touring car, which was standing near by.

A posse of citizens is searching the woods in an effort to run down the men, but they had not met with any success at noon Wednesday. Although details of the shooting could not be obtained, it was stated Wednesday that Adkins and Pratt attempted to arrest the trio when they were fired upon. Adkins was instantly killed, and Pratt was shot in the leg. His condition is not believed to be serious. The assailants evidently were not in a hurry after the shooting and stopped in the bushes at the side of the road.

Another Is Shot.

Mr. Monroe, who has been engaged in some work in the vicinity of Hoop Spur, drove by the scene of the shooting in his car. He saw the injured men at the side of the road. Not knowing what had happened to them he stopped his car and started to pick them up in his automobile when a shot was fired from the bushes at the side of the road. A shotgun was used, it was said, as the shot entered his face. Although he was seriously injured he ran to his car and drove to Elaine, where he notified the officers of the shooting and received medical attention.

Officers hurried to the scene, but found that Adkins was dead. Pratt was placed in a car and brought to Elaine for treatment. A posse of citizens were organized quickly and a search for the trio was started.

Although somewhat injured Mr. Pratt attempted to pursue the assailants. He said that he was confident that two of the men were white, and one negro.

Analyze a Written Document

Meet the document.

Type (check all that apply):

- | | | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech | <input type="checkbox"/> Patent | <input type="checkbox"/> Telegram | <input type="checkbox"/> Court document |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Identification document | | <input type="checkbox"/> Presidential document |
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Describe it as if you were explaining to someone who can't see it.

Think about: Is it handwritten or typed? Is it all by the same person? Are there stamps or other marks? What else do you see on it?

Observe its parts.

Who wrote it?

Who read/received it?

When is it from?

Where is it from?

Try to make sense of it.

What is it talking about?

Write one sentence summarizing this document.

Why did the author write it?

Quote evidence from the document that tells you this.

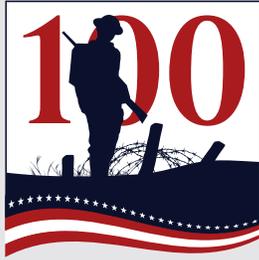
What was happening at the time in history this document was created?

Use it as historical evidence.

What did you find out from this document that you might not learn anywhere else?

What other documents or historical evidence are you going to use to help you understand this event or topic?





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