

Wed Feb 22

9:15 am



**The Patriots Foundation®**

Senator Robert Dole  
141 Senate Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

6 February 1995

Dear Senator Dole,

On behalf of *The Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial Foundation*, thank you for having agreed to speak at our **Ceremony of Honor and Remembrance** on Wednesday 22 February 1995. The event will be held in the *Cannon House Office Building Caucus Room #345* from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.

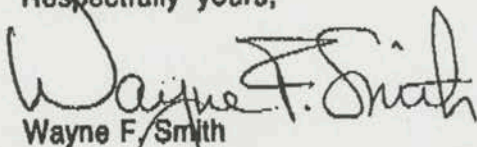
Please know that you will be warmly received and find a pleasant mixture of school children, veterans, direct descendants, business and community leaders, historians and citizens. Members of Congress will include the Honorable Nancy Johnson, Donald Payne and J.C. Watts.

We are confident that all Americans, particularly veterans and African Americans, will be grateful to you for having recognized the patriotism and courage of these long neglected veterans. Further, a great many of our fellow Americans will be proud to learn that at the dawn of our Nation, black Americans fought and died along with their white countrymen to help make America independent and free from colonial rule.

Thanks, in part, to your support, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial Foundation is authorized by the Congress to build the only national memorial to more than 5,000 African American free men, women and slaves who fought for and defended our nation during the Revolutionary War. The Memorial site is located in Constitution Gardens, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Further, the Memorial's design has received approval from all applicable bodies including the Fine Arts Commission, the National Capitol Memorial Commission and the National Capital Planning Commission.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and look forward to seeing you on George Washington's birthday. If you have any questions, please call me at 452-1776.

Respectfully yours,

  
Wayne F. Smith

P.S. In respect for your demanding schedule, we will present you upon arrival.

6<sup>th</sup> District,  
Connecticut

# Congressman Nancy Johnson



119 Cannon H.O.B., Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-4476  
40 S. High Street, New Britain, CT 06051  
(203) 223-8412  
Toll-Free Number 1-800-382-0021

Release: Immediate  
Contact: Jeffrey Denny  
(202) 225-4476

## CALL FOR SENATE BACKING OF JOHNSON BILL TO HONOR BLACK CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Rep. Nancy L. Johnson (R-6th District) will be an honored guest and speaker at a colorful and festive celebration and news conference to recognize black patriots' valor in the American Revolutionary War, and to call for a permanent monument honoring them, on September 16 starting at 10 a.m.

The fete will bring fife and drum music, actors in period garb portraying historic figures, a unique coalition of dignitaries, and crowds of flag-waving children and adults to the U.S. Capitol's west front terrace.

The pageant, which marks the 210th anniversary of a crucial Revolutionary War battle fought in part by black soldiers, coincides with Senate consideration of a House-passed measure sponsored by Johnson to erect a memorial here to the some 5,000 slaves and free black soldiers who fought for America's independence.

Johnson said the memorial and pageant will not only bring long-overdue recognition to black patriots and fill a glaring void in Washington, it also will help to raise national consciousness of black contributions to the birth and development of the country.

"In a city of countless memorials and endless lines of tourists searching for reminders of the contributions to America's past, there is but one memorial to a black person," Johnson told a reporter from the Christian Science Monitor recently. "Few Americans are fully aware of even the rudiments of historic contributions of blacks to the birth of America."

Johnson is urging Congress to allow the proposed memorial, which would be funded by private contributions, to be erected on the Capitol mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, and adjacent to a memorial to the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Of the 110 monuments there, the only memorial to a black honors Mary McLeod Bethune, the late educator.

Sponsored by the non-profit Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation of Washington, D.C., the proposed memorial would recognize those who fought in exchange for freedom and in the hopes of winning equal rights. As a memorial to the struggle for freedom, it would recognize the acts of countless slaves who petitioned for liberty and ran away from slavery between 1775 and 1783.

(more)



The Patriots Foundation®

Wed. Feb 22

Capital

8:00 am - 9:30 am

The Honorable Robert Dole  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20515

17 January 1995

The Black Revolutionary War Patriots Foundation (BRWPF) is planning a Capitol Hill breakfast ceremony on George Washington's birthday, Wednesday, 22 February, to honor the African American Patriots of the American Revolution. The ceremony is tentatively scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m. and end before 9:30 a.m. We consider Washington's birthday a most fitting occasion to honor the first African American veterans as well as our nation's first president under whom they fought for American Independence.

The Foundation would be most grateful if you would grace our ceremony with keynote remarks in the presence of about 100 people including direct descendants Revolutionary War patriots, representatives of veterans and other patriotic organizations, Members of Congress, and other celebrities.

The program will include a color guard in Colonial uniform from the 3rd Infantry "Old Guard" Regiment, brief remarks by Foundation board members, General Jerry Curry and Mrs. Margaret Johnston, Foundation President, Minton Francis, the sculptor, Ed Dwight, and one or two other distinguished Americans.

Finally, you may be pleased to learn that our Veterans Day ceremony, held at the proposed site of our memorial in Constitution Gardens on the National Mall, enjoyed strong news media coverage by the Washington Post, the Associated Press and C-Span television. We anticipate similar coverage on Washington's Birthday.

Please know that we here at the Foundation are always grateful for your past, present and future support of our effort to erect the Memorial to the Nation's first African American veterans.

With the fervent hope that you will accept our invitation, I am,

Sincerely,

Wayne F. Smith

1-20 letter  
list 1.19

3. The Patriots Foundation. [Wednesday, February 22, 8:00 a.m.  
- 9:30 a.m. -- Capitol]
- Black Veterans group, expect 100
  - Decendants of the Revoultionary War
  - Recommendation -- YES, drop by

6<sup>th</sup> District,  
Connecticut

Congresswoman  
**Nancy Johnson**



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"In a city of countless memorials and endless lines of tourists searching for reminders of the contributions to

# Ceremony Honors Revolutionary War's Forgotten Black Soldiers

By Hamil R. Harris  
Washington Post Staff Writer

A single baritone sang "Amazing Grace" yesterday afternoon from a hillside where one day a monument may stand in honor of African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War.

The platoon-size gathering at Constitution Gardens—part of the nation's Veterans Day ceremonies—included veterans from three wars, elected officials, tourists and Joanne Jones, a Northwest Washington woman who is a descendant of four people who served in the Revolutionary War.

"This memorial is important not just for

my family, but for America," said Jones, whose relative, Barzillai Lew, of Lowell, Mass., served as a fife player and drummer with the colonial army in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

"African Americans were co-creators of American civilization from the very beginning," she said.

The ceremony was both a tribute to African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War and part of an effort by the Patriots Foundation to draw attention to their efforts to raise \$6 million to build the memorial in Constitution Gardens. So far, the nonprofit foundation has raised \$2 million.

Marshall Purnell, architect for the project, said plans call for a bronze wall, 90 feet long, that would be 30 inches tall at one end and seven feet at the other.

Images of African American men and women would emblazon the curved wall.

At the higher end of the memorial, the images gradually would emerge from the wall and become free-standing statues.

The idea for the memorial came from Maurice Barboza. While researching his black and white ancestors, Barboza found that 5,000 African Americans had served in the Revolutionary War.

In 1991, Congress approved the plans for

the memorial on the Mall.

The fund-raising campaign started with a donation of \$250,000 from General Motors Corp. and \$500 from President Bush.

Since then, Barboza has been replaced as the foundation's president. H. Minton Francis, the new president, said the foundation still needs to raise \$4 million to erect the memorial. And the money must be raised within two years, or the foundation will lose the right to build at the current site near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

About half of the 50 people who gathered for the ceremony were tourists who were among the thousands who flocked to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

People silently made rubbings of names on the Wall. Vietnam veterans walked the grounds in faded fatigues and an American Indian used a feather to sprinkle water on another veteran in their own private ceremony.

Barbara Buetikofer, a tourist from Germany, paused to witness the half-hour program and inspect a print of the planned memorial.

"I didn't know blacks fought in the Revolutionary War. I thought they just fought against slavery," Buetikofer said.

Purnell leaned over and told her, "Oh yes, they served."



BY MIKE HENSOCK—CULPEPER STAR EXHIBIT VIA AP

## WAR AND REMEMBRANCE

Above, Jose Pasquero, a World War II veteran, listens at a Veterans Day service at Culpeper National Cemetery in Culpeper, Va. He served from 1942 to 1946. At right, George Eaton, 69, a World War II veteran, pays his respects at Quantico National Cemetery.



BY RICH BETHLEM—POTOMAC NEWS VIA AP

*Margaret Francis  
1976  
Dole & Associates  
Box 1 of 10  
P.O. Box 10  
P.O. Box 10  
P.O. Box 10*

## INSIDE



BY KEITH JENKINS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Specialist James Reed, of Colonial Color Guard of the Military District of Washington, joins in ceremonies at Constitution Gardens to honor black soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Photos, Pages D1, D3; story, Page D3.

### Clinton's Asia Trip

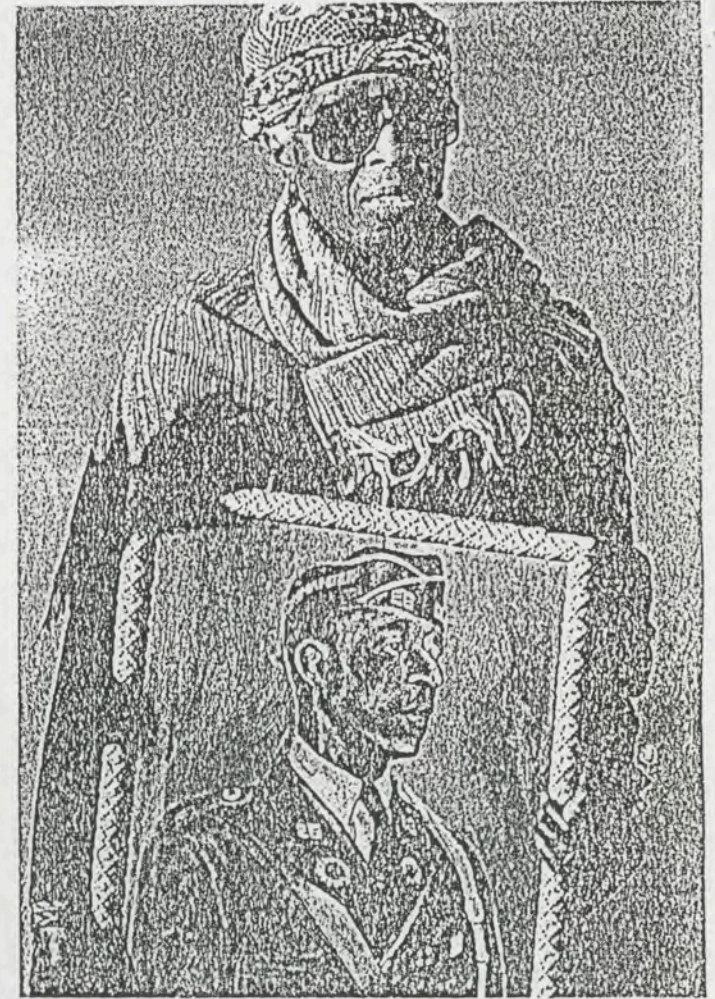
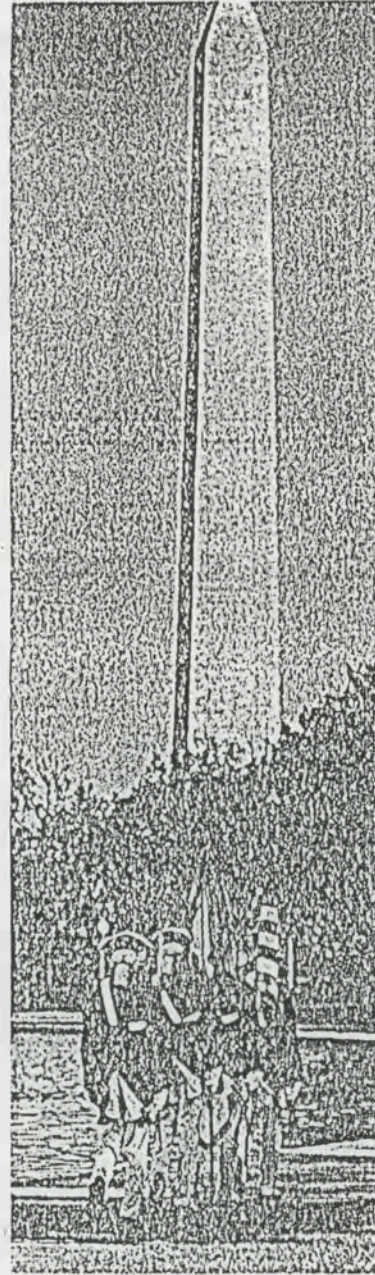
■ Before leaving for Asia, the president said he understands the message voters sent.

WORLD, Page A17

### Carmen McRae Dies

■ Carmen McRae, one of America's most individualistic jazz singers, died at 74.

OBITUARY, Page D7



PHOTOS BY KEITH JENKINS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Veterans Day was marked by numerous ceremonies in Washington, including one for African Americans who served in the Revolutionary War. At left, the Colonial Color Guard of the Military District of Washington retires the colors after ceremonies at Constitution Gardens. Above, Nia I. Kuumba, of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 26 of Washington, holds a picture of her father, Sylvester R. Woodfork Sr., who served in World War I and was the father of four veterans who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. See story, Page D3.

**I AM HONORED TO JOIN YOU  
THIS MORNING. FROM CRISPUS  
ATTUCKS TO CHAPPIE JAMES TO  
COLIN POWELL, COUNTLESS BLACK  
AMERICANS HAVE RISKED THEIR  
LIFE DEFENDING THEIR COUNTRY,  
AND COUNTLESS OTHERS MADE  
THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.**



**WHEN THE PATRIOTS MEMORIAL  
IS COMPLETED, IT WILL STAND NOT  
JUST AS A TRIBUTE TO THE  
COURAGE OF THE 5,000 BLACK  
AMERICANS WHO SERVED DURING  
THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, BUT AS  
A TRIBUTE TO ALL BLACK  
AMERICANS WHO STOOD FOR  
FREEDOM THROUGHOUT OUR  
HISTORY.**

**THE PATRIOTS FOUNDATION HAS  
ALREADY CLEARED QUITE A FEW  
HURDLES TO MAKE THE MONUMENT  
A REALITY. BUT, THERE IS STILL A  
HURDLE OR TWO YET TO CLEAR.**

**I'M ASSOCIATED WITH A LITTLE  
FOUNDATION CALLED THE BETTER  
AMERICA FOUNDATION. AND ONE  
THING I KNOW IS THAT AMERICA IS  
FOR THE BETTER BECAUSE OF THE  
COURAGE OF BLACK AMERICANS,**

**AND IT WILL BE FOR THE BETTER  
WHEN THIS MEMORIAL IS BUILT.**

**SO I ASKED MY FOUNDATION TO  
MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR  
FOUNDATION. AND THEY AGREED  
TO MY REQUEST--SINCE I'M  
CHAIRMAN OF THE FOUNDATION,  
THEY BETTER LISTEN. SO I  
BROUGHT ALONG A CHECK THIS  
MORNING, AND I'M PROUD TO  
PRESENT IT TO YOU NOW.**

**BEFORE I GO, I DO WANT TO  
SHARE WITH YOU THE  
COURAGEOUS STORY OF ENSIGN  
JESSE BROWN, WHO WAS  
AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK NAVAL  
AVIATOR.**

**IN DECEMBER 1950, ENSIGN  
BROWN WAS A MEMBER OF  
FIGHTING SQUADRON 32, ABOARD  
AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER SOMEWHERE  
OFF KOREA.**

**HE FLEW 20 CLOSE AIR-SUPPORT MISSIONS, PROVIDING COVER FOR OUTNUMBERED MARINES AT THE CHOSIN RESERVOIR. THE BATTLE WAS FIERCE; OUR MEN ON THE GROUND WERE IN A DESPERATE SITUATION.**

**ON DECEMBER 4TH, 1950, ENSIGN BROWN'S AIRCRAFT WAS HIT WHILE MAKING A STRAFING RUN AGAINST THE ENEMY. WITH**

**HE FLEW 20 CLOSE AIR-SUPPORT MISSIONS, PROVIDING COVER FOR OUTNUMBERED MARINES AT THE CHOSIN RESERVOIR. THE BATTLE WAS FIERCE; OUR MEN ON THE GROUND WERE IN A DESPERATE SITUATION.**

**ON DECEMBER 4TH, 1950, ENSIGN BROWN'S AIRCRAFT WAS HIT WHILE MAKING A STRAFING RUN AGAINST THE ENEMY. WITH**

**TREMENDOUS SKILL, HE MANAGED  
TO CRASH LAND ON A ROUGH,  
ROCKY SLOPE. HE SURVIVED THE  
CRASH, WAVING TO HIS FRIENDS  
AS THEY CIRCLED OVERHEAD.**

**THEY KNEW HE WAS IN  
TROUBLE, HOWEVER, WHEN HE  
REMAINED IN THE COCKPIT WHEN  
SMOKE BEGAN TO BILLOW FROM  
THE WRECKAGE.**

**FINALLY, A FELLOW MEMBER OF  
THE SQUADRON COULD STAND IT  
NO MORE. AS THE OTHERS  
ATTACKED AND HELD OFF  
ADVANCING ENEMY TROOPS, LT.  
THOMAS HUDNER IGNORED THE  
DANGERS OF THE MOUNTAIN  
TERRAIN AND ENEMY TROOPS, AND  
MADE A DELIBERATE WHEELS-UP  
LANDING.**



**HE RAN TO ENSIGN BROWN'S  
PLANE, NOW ERUPTING IN FLAMES,  
AND FOUND HIS FRIEND ALIVE,  
BADLY INJURED, AND TRAPPED IN  
THE COCKPIT. LT. HUDNER  
SHOVELED SNOW WITH HIS HANDS  
TO KEEP JESSE FROM THE FLAMES,  
BURNING HIS OWN HANDS BADLY  
IN THE PROCESS.**

**FINALLY, A MARINE HELICOPTER  
ARRIVED. LT. HUDNER, JOINED BY  
A CREWMAN FROM THE  
HELICOPTER, STRUGGLED  
DESPERATELY TO GET JESSE OUT.**

**I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU THAT  
EVERYTHING TURNED OUT O.K.,  
AND THAT OVER THE YEARS,  
ENSIGN BROWN AND LT. HUDNER  
BECAME THE BEST OF FRIENDS.  
BUT THAT WAS NOT TO BE.**

**ENSIGN JESSE BROWN DIED ON  
THAT SLOPE IN KOREA.**

**WHEN HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR  
HIS FELLOW SOLDIERS, JESSE  
BROWN DIDN'T CONSIDER THE  
RACE OF THOSE HE SOUGHT TO  
PROTECT. AND WHEN HIS FELLOW  
PILOTS SAW HIM IN DANGER, THEY  
DID NOT THINK OF THE COLOR OF  
HIS SKIN. THEY ONLY KNEW THAT  
AMERICANS WERE IN TROUBLE.**

**ENSIGN BROWN WAS  
POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED THE  
DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, THE  
AIR MEDAL, AND THE PURPLE  
HEART. LT. HUDNER RECEIVED THE  
CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF  
HONOR.**

**YOU YOUNG PEOPLE HERE THIS  
MORNING MAY NEVER BE ASKED TO  
MAKE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.  
BUT BY BEING GOOD CITIZENS, YOU**

**CAN STILL LIVE UP TO THE  
EXAMPLE OF JESSE BROWN, AND  
YOU CAN KEEP AMERICA SHINING  
LIKE A BEACON OF OPPORTUNITY  
AND FREEDOM FOR ALL TO SEE.**

*A National Monument  
Dedicated  
To Black Soldiers of the Revolution*



*They Risked Their Lives.  
May They Now Be Remembered  
Not for What They Received  
But for What They Sought.*

*There were more than 5,000 of them. And history never told their story. They were different. They knew that. Dark skinned. Slaves or freed men or runaways. They knew that. But they chose to fight alongside pale-skinned men: masters and former masters.*



*For only one reason. Freedom. Simple as that. The white people had come to America to escape tyranny. The black people came as prisoners of tyranny. The whites came with hopes. The blacks with chains.*

*Yet they had a common vision of the future. Freedom.*

*Among them was a large community of freed men who chose to serve -- they did not have to serve -- but chose to. They understood freedom.*

*In 1774, slaves sent a plea to the royal governor of Massachusetts saying: "We have in common with all other men a natural right to our freedoms without being deprived of them by our fellow men." Thomas Jefferson echoed the sentence in the words "that all men are created equal" with "the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."*

*So black and white fought, side by side.  
And they died, side by side. Crispus Attucks had  
escaped slavery in 1750.*

*Twenty years later he came back to help  
win for his country what he had gained for himself  
— freedom and dignity. He was the first American  
to die in the revolution.*

*So blacks fought beside their "fellow men,"*

*just as they have fought  
throughout history: In the  
charge up San Juan Hill  
with Teddy Roosevelt. In  
the trenches of World  
War I. In the charge on  
Fort Wagner in the Civil*

*War where half of a black regiment was lost. In the  
Black Eagles in World War II, who, in the words of  
a President, "soared from bigotry on Earth to  
equality in the skies."*

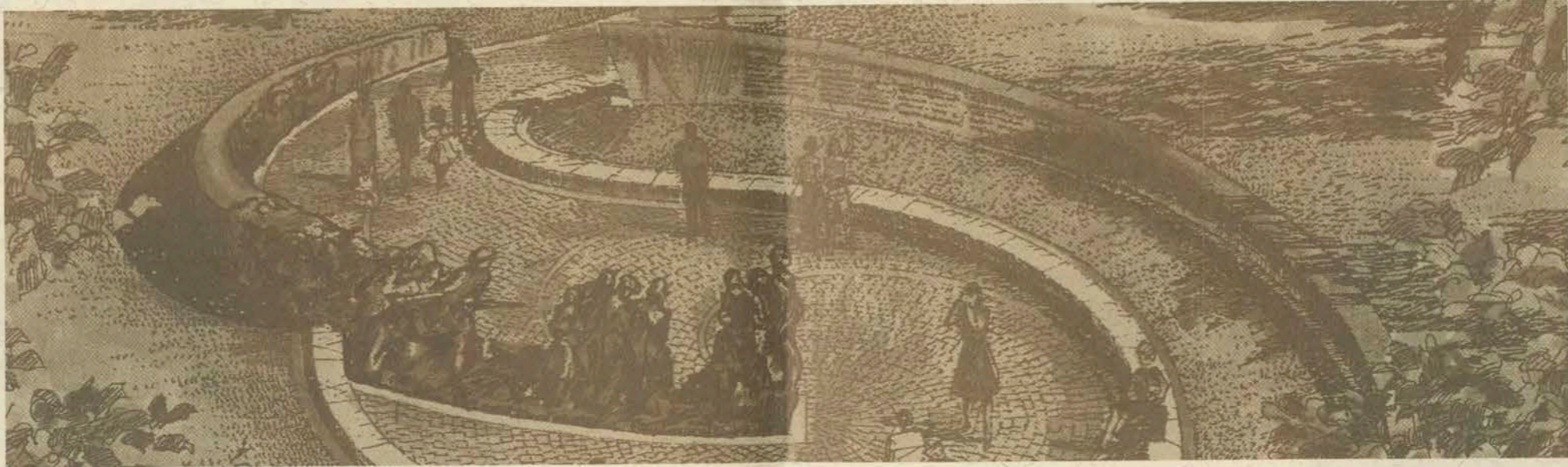


*And now a monument is planned to those  
first freedom fighters—the 5,000 black soldiers of  
the Revolution. Funding is needed. And who  
should be there to contribute? Those who fought  
by that hillock in Valley Forge? Were they white or  
black? Maybe the one who went down in that P-51  
over Germany? What color was he? Or should it  
be the one who threw his body on his buddy in  
Vietnam to shield him from the grenade? What  
color was he? What color was his buddy?  
They've already given.*





*The monument to the black revolutionary soldiers will be just north of the reflecting pool that runs from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial. In that place 100,000 people*



*came from the ends of the nation to hear Martin Luther King say, "I have a dream."*

*Ed Dwight had a dream of outer space, which led him to become America's first black astronaut. Ed Dwight also dreamed of becoming a sculptor, to probe his inner space. And he became one of America's outstanding sculptors.*

*Now his sculpture of black soldiers will run 90 feet in a curved pattern. At the beginning, it will be just two-and-a-half feet high. But it gradually increases to seven feet tall. The figures*

*take fuller form as the wall curves.*

*In the beginning the figures are slight bas-reliefs, vague in outline, as if imprisoned. As the wall grows, they gradually become more distinct, finally emerging as separate individuals, as if freed from bondage.*

*The last figure, a proud soldier, will be looking directly at the Lincoln Memorial.*

#### A CALL FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

*The price is but a small sum to readjust history, to restore dignity, to give pride to present and future generations. It's a way to rewrite history—to say to every black child that they have roots here, in the nation's capital. Their heritage is here. Their future is here.*



*This call for financial aid goes out to more than just individuals. It goes also to companies and corporations who depend on the pride of people of all colors*

*and heritage. This gesture, this gift can make a difference. It can be one more indication that this nation can change and come together—in honoring the past, assuring the future.*

*The groundwork has been done by the diligent work of The Patriots Foundation, a non-profit organization organized by Maurice Barboza. Barboza and the foundation won Congressional approval to build the memorial in 1986. The site was selected and granted by Congress in 1988. Generous donations have already been made by corporations both large and small.*

*It remains for others to come forward to fund the \$5 million still needed to complete the project.*

*Following the Battle of Bunker Hill, six white officers of the Massachusetts militia wrote General George Washington praising the bravery of Salem Poor, a black man. They urged Washington to provide him with special compensation for his courage and daring.*

*No one knows whether Salem Poor ever  
received any reward. The history books don't  
mention his deeds, nor do they mention those of  
his compatriots: the other African-Americans who  
served. It is now time to pay tribute to them all.*



*They Risked Their Lives  
May They Now Be Remembered  
Not for What They Received  
But for What They Sought.*

*Please contact:*  
*The Patriots Foundation*  
*1612 K Street, N.W.*  
*Suite 1104*  
*Washington, D.C. 20006*  
*(202) 452-1776*