

THE BLACK EYE



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MBA MBULU, EDITOR

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Black Nationalism is the only practical answer for Black People in the United States of America.

Let's Get Busy!

A WORD OR TWO THE CAISSONS

There is an old song that is dear to many Americans. It is a military song,

and its title is "The Caissons Keep Rolling Along." It speaks in glowing terms of how consistent U. S. soldiers are when it comes to keeping the caissons that are full of artillery moving until they reach the battle fields.

No matter the obstacles, no matter how difficult the situation might be, America is serious about fighting and making war on people. But the irony, perhaps unbeknownst to the song's creators, about the song is the use of the term caisson. While caissons are used to transport artillery, caissons are also used to transport dead bodies.

Over here, over there, the caissons keep rolling along. Because the caissons full of artillery keep rolling along, the caissons full of dead American soldiers keep rolling along. What verses can we come up with to describe the individuals and entities (like corporations) that benefit from the caissons full of artillery that keep rolling along? And what verses can we come up with to describe those individuals who put themselves at risk to fight battle that will be of little benefit to them?

The individuals who benefit from the caissons full of artillery tend to be among the least socially developed of human beings. Rather than act as if they are part of the human whole, they fancy themselves as better than most other human beings, think they are entitled to more than than most other human beings, and are eager to reap the benefits of the blood, sweat and tears of most other human beings. To them, worth is all about money and status, and armed conflict is one of the most effective ways of achieving both. As long as the caissons full of artillery keep rolling along, they are excited, but the caissons full

of dead bodies that keep rolling to the grave yards don't concern them at all?

The caissons full of dead bodies. Why did those individuals put their life on the line; why do individuals such as them continue to put their life on the line? I wrote about this in my book, *An Introduction to White History: The History of White America*.

"Governments, businesses and business persons rarely put their lives on the line when they have little or nothing to gain or lose. Why, then, do everyday people who have nothing to gain or lose fight in a war? That would be the million dollar question if it were not answered so often. At one turn, they fight because they identify with and are influenced by the propaganda of the elites in their locality. At another turn, they fight because they believe in the propaganda of patriotism more than the individuals and governments that generate that propaganda. At a third turn, they fight because they are more idealistic and less self-centered than the elites. Individuals who have little or nothing to gain or lose also fight because they are convinced they will be punished if they don't fight. And, all too often, they fight because they expect to be paid. Yes, for far too many individuals, the only opportunity they get to work and receive a paycheck on a regular basis is during a war. This was certainly the case in the American colonies on the eve of the Revolutionary War period.

"Because of all of the above reasons, the everyday man and woman in the American colonies would bear the burden of the Revolutionary War. While most of those who would benefit from the war held meetings in obscure buildings in obscure towns and debated obscure issues, everyday people met on the battlefields, where they terrorized, bludgeoned, maimed and killed each other. They marched count-

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less miles, exposed themselves to the harsh elements on countless days and nights, heard cannons and guns explode on countless occasions, felt their flesh rip and blood rush out during countless battles--- and were left to face the wrath of the enemy alone when they suffered a countless number of ill-timed injuries. They left parents, spouses, siblings and offspring alone and unprotected during the most dangerous of times; left them to shed tears that should not have been shed, suffer levels of privation that should not have been suffered, and endure life draining degrees of stress that should never have been endured. And, after all was said and done, after the war had been fought and insanely reached its end, those who had not been killed returned to the same inadequate plot of land, the same inadequate food, clothing and shelter, the same unjust system of indebtedness, the same mediocrity and the same utterly hopeless existence that they had left at the beginning of the war.”

Can it be said that the caissons keep rolling along because society keeps on manufacturing stupid human beings? Yes, I think that can be said, but it might be gentler to say society keeps on manufacturing human beings who make stupid decisions. Because you have made a stupid decision when you go into an employment contract that empowers your employer to execute you if you fail to obey an order. You have made a stupid decision when you go into an employment contract that empowers your employer to imprison you if you fail to obey an order. You have made a stupid decision when you go into an employment contract that empowers your employer to stigmatize you, disfranchise you and ruin your ability to earn a decent living for the rest of your life if you fail to obey an order. Stupidity is definitely a factor here.

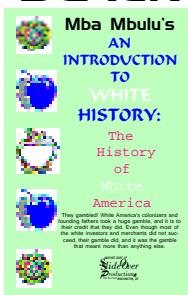
So the caissons keep rolling along, full of some of the individuals who entered into an employment contract that no intelligent human being would agree to. Full of “some” of those individuals. And the others? They return “to the same inadequate plot of land, the same inadequate food, clothing and shelter, the same unjust system of indebtedness, the same mediocrity and the same utterly hopeless existence that they had left at the beginning of the war.” Their only “gains” are reduced functionality, maimed physiques, damaged minds, and guilt laden spirits.

"They won't pick up the gun for Black Power, but they will for white power."

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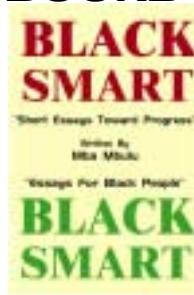
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