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Tribute to the Greensboro Four Celebrating the Past and Shaping the Future 1960 - 2000

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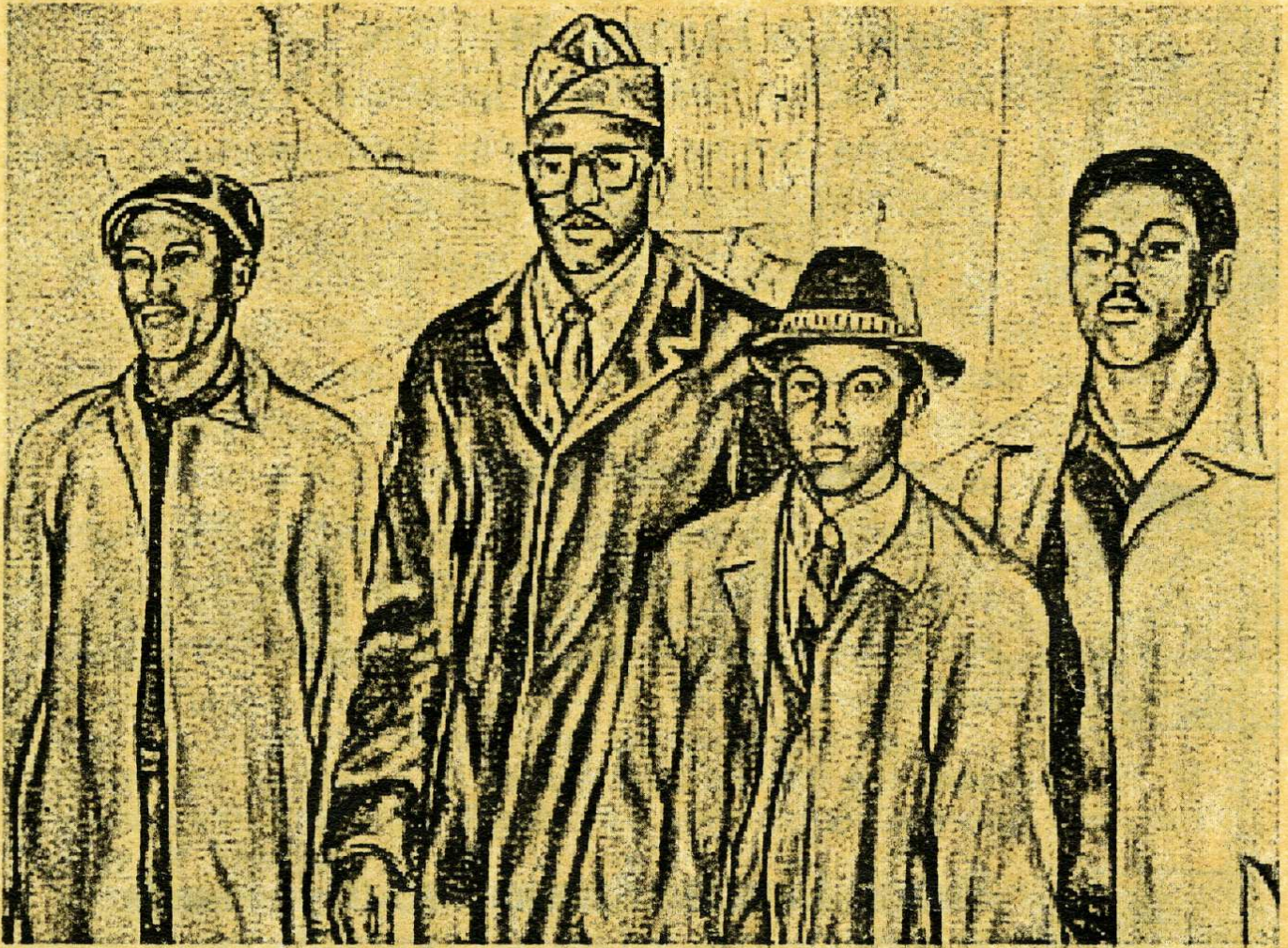
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**CELEBRATING THE PAST
AND
SHAPING THE FUTURE
1960 – 2000**



BREAKFAST WITH THE FOUR

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2000
7:30 TO 9:00 A.M.**

**STUDENT DINING HALL
F.A. WILLIAMS CAFETERIA
NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**



JIBREEL KHAZAN (EZELL BLAIR, JR.)

A native of Greensboro, North Carolina, Mr. Khazan graduated from Dudley High School. He earned a B.S. degree in sociology from A&T in 1963.



FRANKLIN EUGENE MCCAIN, SR.

Mr. McCain was born in Union County, North Carolina, but he grew up in Washington, DC. After graduating from Eastern High School, he entered A&T and earned a B.S. degree in chemistry and biology in 1964.



JOSEPH ALFRED MCNEILL

A native of Wilmington, North Carolina, Mr. McNeill graduated from Williston Senior High School. He earned a degree in engineering physics from A&T in 1963.



DAVID LEINAIL RICHMOND (Deceased)

Mr. Richmond was born in Greensboro, North Carolina and graduated from Dudley High School. At A&T, he majored in business administration and accounting.

All four gentlemen were conferred honorary doctoral degrees by North Carolina A&T State University during the commencement ceremony in May 1991. (Mr. Richmond's degree was awarded

People, Aggies & Woolworth's

By ERNEST L. JOHNSON, JR.

On The Question Of Food And Service

A Case Of Aggies And F. W. Woolworth

Wandering Aggie: I thought I would take a walk uptown in order to purchase a valentine greeting for my girl friend.

After reaching the Square, I decided to see the "Gene Krupa Story" which was playing at one of the local theaters. After coming out of the theater, I decided to cross the street and spend the remainder of my money for a valentine greeting for my girl and then get something to eat.

After purchasing the card, I sat at the counter and ordered a steak dinner and a glass of milk. After eating my food, I paid the waitress and proceeded back to Aggicland.

Things To Remember About College Days: The day the Four Freshmen Strolled into F. W. Woolworth and Company and sat down without being asked to get up.

Here Nor There: Add names that should get together: F. W. Woolworth and A&T Students; news reporters and the manager of Woolworth.

Biting Bulldog: Now I wonder where I could have been when they passed that law? I mean the one requiring Aggies not to sit down at the lunch counter in F. W. Woolworth. Oh, yes, is all comes back to me now. It must have been while I was away attending the Convention of the Society Opposed to Cushioned Seats at Lunch Counters.

Whatever Became of: The TV cameras, the photographers, the news reporters, and the on-lookers that are usually present during the morning demonstration? It seems as if all of this disappears during the evening.

Rozier

Action For Justice Lauded

Several students here have engaged in what they term a passive demonstration protesting the failure of the F. W. Woolworth dime store downtown to offer service to Negroes at the luncheon counter.

It has been stated by Woolworth's front office in New York that they do not control local policy on matters of any kind. They state that the local store's policy is to "abide by local custom" in regard to matters involving the races.

In view of the fact that the heads of the chain indicate they will go along with any change in such policy, dictated by a corresponding change in local custom, then it would seem that it is left with the local manager here to come to some conclusion, or at least confer with these students in an effort to liquidate the problem.

There has been local editorial comment to the effect that the "sit down" demand for service, which went unheeded, served the cause of race relations badly." This is obviously a pessimistic stand intended to cast a shadow of "intimidation" on the movement.

The group has stated that they hold no resentment toward the company, but "hopes for a mutual understanding of the gross inequality and discrimination placed by one American upon another American who happens, by the Will of God, to be of another color."

Also, in evidence to the fact that the students are allegedly within their rights to seek fair treatment is the support they are beginning to receive from students of local white institutions. It must be realized by our elders, both white and colored, that it is the students of today — both white and colored — who will occupy the positions they now hold.

Since this is inevitable, then these youth should have something to say now about the country — the world that will be in their hands in the very near future.

The time has indeed come when we must all face up to the facts, and realize that America can not continue its present position of leadership in world affairs with the stigma of race prejudice and discrimination on the one hand, and grin-in-the-face tactics on the other. The season is here now.

There is no longer place in America for second-class citizenship and first-class jeopardy.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

by James Weldon Johnson

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet Come to the place for which our father's
sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on our way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light; Keep us forever in the path we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;
Lest our hearts drunk with the wind of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

EXTRA

REGISTER

"The Crown of College News"

EXTRA

VOLUME XXXI No. 9

THE AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1959

FOR SERVICE

Reprinted by Special Permission — THE REGISTER Staff, February 1, 1959

Students Stage Sitdown Demand



Get In Study Chores

Students from ART College began Monday afternoon what they called a "passive sitdown demand" for service at the canteen lunch center at Woodworth's downtown five and dime store in Greensboro. Shown above are five students who while they sit are getting in a little study time.

The canteen has approximately forty stools, and at times during the third day (Wednesday, when this photo was taken) there were only three or four seats left vacant by the students.

What It's Like At Woolworth's Lunch Counter

By BILLY SMITH

From my observations, it isn't that the white patrons mind standing up and being served at the same counter, but sitting down next to Negroes is unheard of in a segregated society.

There were several incidents that I observed, in the following sequence:

- (1) One white patron came, sat down, and asked to be served. The waitress immediately served him. During this incident he even asked for the sugar and I quote: "Pass me the sugar, please." I gave him the sugar, he thanked me in a courteous manner, finished his meal, and left.
- (2) A couple of white women came in, sat down and were asked by the waitress what they would have. They told her and were served promptly.

The time has come that the young people take up this issue as the origin of what's to come in the future.

This is a Christian movement not inspired by any outside organization and you as students can believe me when I tell you this will benefit every one of us who sit at the Woolworth counter, that abstract something, worth more than I have ever encountered.

I talked with several of my friends while seated at the counter and only a couple of times asked for a cup of coffee and doughnuts. The waitress ignored us and kept serving the white customers. However, this is no great surprise to me because I have been exposed to segregation at lunch counters for 15 years and the situation is still predominately unchanged.

PROFESSOR JOYCE H. JOHNSON, PRESIDING

Director, Transportation Institute

Breakfast Served Cafeteria-Style

Music (Freedom Songs) Ms. Jamie Harrison
NCA&TSU Junior Political Science Major

Welcome

Presentation of the Colors . . . U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army R.O.T.C.

Prayer Mr. Eugene Ebron
Senior, James B. Dudley High School

Music *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Greetings

from the Students Miss Kendra Hill
NCA&TSU SGA President

from the University Dr. James C. Renick
Chancellor

from the Greensboro Sit-In 40th Anniversary Committee
. Mrs. Claudette Burroughs-White
Greensboro City Council

Music Miss Gabrielle Hurtt
Miss A&T

Reflections: The Significance of February 1, 1960, Today

The Origins Dr. Joseph McNeill

The Challenge Then Dr. Jibreel Khazan

The Challenge Today Dr. Franklin McCain, Sr.

The Challenge for Tomorrow Mrs. Lynn Richmond
Mr. David Richmond, Jr.

Special Presentations

Passing on the Torch Open Dialogue
Students and the Greensboro Community

Committee thanks each of you for your presence today. We urge the Aggie Family, as well as the greater Greensboro Community, to continue the tradition of remembrance and rededication to truth, democracy, justice, and freedom annually on February First. Let us continue in the Year 2000 with recommitment to that vision of human dignity that the four A&T students held out for our entire nation 40 years ago.

On behalf of Chancellor James Renick, the sponsor of today's program, we would like to thank the many students, faculty, and staff from the Student Government Association, the Division of Development and University Relations, the Division of Student Affairs, the Department of Political Science of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Transportation Institute of the School of Business and Economics for their enthusiastic support of this effort to pay tribute to four of the University's standard bearers.

We look forward to seeing all of you once again on Thursday, February 1, 2001, at 7:30 a.m. Hopefully, we will have moved closer to that vision etched in our hearts on February 1, 1960.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Claude W. Barnes, Jr.
Mr. Lewis Brandon III
Lt. Col. Larry Burnette
Dr. Margaret Dwight-Barrett
Mr. Otis Hairston, Jr.
Dr. Dorothy Harris
Miss Kendra Hill
Mrs. Joyce H. Johnson (Chair)
Dr. Jibreel Khazan
Dr. Franklin McCain, Sr.
Dr. Joseph McNeill
Mrs. Cassandra K. Rogers
Mrs. Mable Scott
Lt. Col. Thomas Sinclair
Dr. Ronald O. Smith
Dr. Velma Speight

UPCOMING EVENTS TODAY

9:30 a.m.
Gravesite Tribute to David Richmond
Carolina Biblical Gardens
10:00 a.m.
Dialogue with Sit-In Participants
The Bottom Line with Dr. Bob Davis
WNAA 90.1FM
11:00 a.m.
Star-Net Telecast
from F.W. Woolworth Lunch Counter
Downtown Greensboro
12:30 p.m.
Sit-In 40 Luncheon
Greensboro Hilton Hotel
7:00 p.m.
Civil Rights Forum
F. "C."