Royal federal Blues
The Story of the African American in the Civil War

by Greg Mc-Campbell
Racially Targeted Places

The Story of the African American War

P.D. Carew Campbell
"Royal Federal Blues" is a documentary about the 175,000-plus African-Americans who served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Over 70,000 of them died in uniform.

They were called the United States Colored Troops, consisting of 166 regiments: 145 infantry, seven cavalry, 12 heavy artillery, one light artillery and one engineer regiment.

Favoring the use of African-American soldiers were Abolitionists. They believed that slavery was the primary cause of war and felt that there should be a crusade against the institution of slavery.

President Abraham Lincoln's first call for African-American troops was thought to be too soon. Under pressure from constituents, advisors and his political peers, Lincoln backed off from the idea, concluding that the idea of Negro soldiers was more productive of evil than good.

However, maverick-thinking military commanders of the Union Army took chances by allowing former slaves, who had been captured and previously relegated to menial tasks, to fight in battle without congressional approval.

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Royal Federal Blues 1st add...

Not long after, with President Lincoln becoming a proponent of African-American soldiers, troops were organized and trained for battle.

Frederick Douglass, who was once a slave, became the spokesman for recruiting African-American Civil War soldiers. Despite this new wealth of manpower, many Northerners or Federals, refused to fight along side African-Americans would do as Nat Turner and Denmark Vesey did in spearheading uprisings of slaves, killing whites at will.

Additionally, many white union troops did not respect ranking African-American soldiers, some openly stating their jealousy and disrespect.

For their first two years of active participation, they were not compensated equally with white troops. Historical documents show that African-American soldiers were winning honors for courageous actions on the field of battle, while their families suffered from poverty at home.
Royal Federal Blues 2nd add...

Despite an assortment of hardships ranging from inadequate battle supplies, to inadequate clothing, African-American soldiers gained inner peace and strength by singing songs about their bravery and determination. They wanted to see victory -- not only for the North, but mostly for their own kindred.

Of the three officially counted years of the Civil War, African-American soldiers participated in at least 39 major battles and 410 minor engagements.

South of the Mason-Dixon line, the Confederate Army used many slaves as laborers and servants, but did not employ them as combat troops.

In November of 1864, Confederate President Jefferson Davis considered the limited use of slave combat troops, and General Robert E. Lee agreed that the idea had merit.

In March 1865, the Confederate congress passed a law authorizing that up to 300,000 slaves be called for military service, without mention of their being freed in connection with duty. The next month, a few companies were organized but the surrender of the Confederacy came before any of them were used.

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ROYAL FEDERAL BLUES

THE STORY OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN CIVIL WAR SOLDIER

by

Gregory M. Campbell

"Royal Federal Blues - The Story of the African-American Civil War Soldier", is now a National Telly Award Winning documentary in the Regional Non-Broadcast T.V. category for Education and General Population, is about how nearly 200 thousand African-American soldiers helped win America's bloodiest war.

 According to one of the foremost experts on African-American Civil War Soldiers, Dr. Gregory J. W. Urwin says, "By combining dramatic action, appropriate historical music and an accurate narrative, it (RFB) engages the viewer both emotionally and intellectually. It educates without leaving you feeling overwhelmed." "Royal Federal Blues" makes an ideal vehicle for introducing students in primary and secondary schools to an important and interesting aspect of the Civil War."

Glynn Turman, actor in the T.V. series, "A Different World" and starred in the movie "Cooley High" says, "Royal Federal Blues" is Excellent! It shows great talent and promise. It will go far in the industry..."
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AFRICAN-AMERICAN CIVIL WAR
SOLDIER'S STORY DOCUMENTED IN NEW VIDEO

PITTSBURGH, Pa. -- The compassionate story of the more than 175,000 African-American who played a spirited and intricate role in securing victory for the Union Army in the Civil War has been told in a new video documentary "Royal Federal Blues: produced by Video F/X Productions, Inc. in Pittsburgh.

The 30-minute documentary is the most comprehensive history on the degree and the extent of African-American participation in the nation's bloodiest war.

"Royal Federal Blues: unveils the trials and tribulations of the African-American Union soldiers and the impact of their presence in the war.

It chronicles the congressional and presidential decisions which led to bringing them into the Union Army ranks, and the influence of Frederick Douglass in helping recruit them.

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Of the 175,000-plus African-Americans serving President Abraham Lincoln and the Union Army, over 130,000 of them were ex-slaves who escaped Confederate Territory to answer the call, the documentary reveals.

In all, there were 166 regiments of United States Colored Troops: 145 infantry regiments, 12 heavy artillery, seven cavalry, one light artillery and one engineer regiment.

At least 26 African-Americans were decorated as Union Army Civil War heroes, receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor, with African-American units engaging in 39 major battles and 410 minor skirmishes.

In addition to the heroes on the battlefield, "Royal Federal Blues" also references the support roles of Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth in peripheral activities to liberate African-Americans from slavery.

With actors and reinactments smartly integrated with historical facts and information, the Video F/X Production documentary tells of the spirit and the courage of African-American soldiers and their stalwart desire to play a role in defeating the Confederacy and the system of slavery.

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"Royal Federal Blues" depicts the unwavering determination of African-American soldiers despite compensation discrepancies between them and their white counterparts, as well as racism from Union Army officers.

"Royal Federal Blues" was researched, produced, directed and narrated by Greg McCampbell, the president of Video F/X Productions, Inc. McCampbell is a former television newscaster.

McCampbell's research work was done in close counsel with Dr. Gregory J. W. Urwin, history professor at Central Arkansas University. Dr. Urwin earned his doctorate in history at the University of Notre Dame.

"Royal Federal Blues" video cassettes may be obtained for $19.95 from Video F/X Productions, Inc., 7221-1/2 Kelly Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208.
BIOGRAPHY


He is a veteran of 15 years in the news media industry, which includes serving as a regional talk show host, news anchor, news and sports reporting, video and film photography and film editing.

McCampbell served as a television news reporter for six years in the Pittsburgh area covering major news events throughout the tri-state area, with some reports appearing on the three major television networks (CBS, NBC, ABC) as well as on "Nightline," "Good Morning America," and International News Network. His special report on the 99th Fighter Squadron is on files at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.

He is an award-winning journalist, and has written articles which appear in national magazines.

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McCampbell attended Alabama A&M University, where he became the first-ever student-producer of a talk show about traditional African-American colleges and universities.

He is a United States Army veteran, where he became a radar expert responsible for overseeing field operations of radars at tactical sites in Korea. He also performed as an instructor of radar to foreign military students from the Middle East, Denmark and other United States allies at the Missiles and Munitions School at Redstone Arsenal U.S. Army installation in Huntsville, Ala.

He is married with one daughter and he and his family reside in the Penn Hills area. He is a native of Maryland.

His company, Video F/X Productions, Inc., creates state-of-the-art commercials, industrial and specialty video productions for businesses, non-profit agencies and individuals. It is a multi-faceted operation with A-to-Z capabilities in taking projects from concept to completion with scripting, filming, special effects, and editing.