

made by old men and fought by young men who often have no concept, whatsoever, of what the war is about and they go because they are ordered to go. We have reports coming in now about eight murders that were committed by American troops when they committed an improper and unlawful invasion of Panama. Two of the young soldiers are believed to have committed suicide. War, as one individual said, is hell. Wars become glorified and their goals become perverted and changed after they are over and the victors become those who can charge others with war crimes when the ones charged with war crimes, in some instances, have done nothing any different from that done by the victors, such as Dwight David Eisenhower, who committed war crimes in German prisoner of war camps. But those things are not to be discussed. They are not to be talked about. I see one of these panels, the first one talking about the Ideal of Freedom, and it says that Americans and Nebraskans have gone to war to achieve the emancipation of slaves. I hope when they talk about putting a panel in there, they will have something to reflect the 186,000 black men who fought; the fact that Harriet Tubman was a spy, a black woman, a spy for the Union, and led raids into the Confederacy; the fact that 14,000 black men served in the Navy of the Union; and that over a dozen got Congressional Medals of Honor; that our children, who are black, are told in the public schools and other places that white people fought for our freedom and that is why the Civil War started. No, it started to preserve the Union and Abraham Lincoln and all of the political leaders of this country said that if the South would give up its secessionist ways they could have slavery where it was, they just couldn't advance it any further. But the war did not become a war to free the slaves until Lincoln was forced by military necessity to use black men to fight on the side of the Union, and he said repeatedly in his writings, and in his speeches, that if America, if the Union gave up every foot of land that black men had won for this country, and now held for this country, they could give up the effort because the North would lose the war in two weeks. Black men provided the balance of power, the difference between winning and losing the Civil War, but that is never taught in the schools, and if this panel does not carry that message, then I would be very offended. There was a black man writing about African-American history. He talked about having gone to the American Museum of Art and he saw no indications of anything black people had done in the history of this country except for one depiction of a Civil War scene and, in that Civil war scene, there was a picture of a black man and he was loading the musket of a Confederate