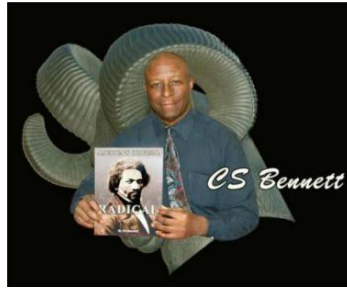


Leading the Charge

By CS Bennett



In the original draft of our Declaration of Independence (which was a formal list of grievances against the King of England explaining why we decided to become an independent nation, free from the control and influence of England and her King), Thomas Jefferson gave notice to England that the colonies were intent on doing away with slavery which had been allowed to take root under the king's rule. Directed solely at King George III, for creating and sustaining the slave trade, describing it as "a cruel war against human nature," Jefferson wrote...

"He has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life & liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating & carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither."

The passage, however, was edited out by request of the delegates from South Carolina and Georgia. Jefferson, for good reasons, remained upset about the removal of the condemnation of slavery right up until his death. Of the thirteen states who voted on this measure in the original draft, eleven of the states voted to do away with the institution of slavery in America. In other words, the some of the same Founding Fathers, and the same slave owners we revile and demean and treat with disdain today out of ignorance, were willing, ready, and prepared to abolish slavery during their time. But two southern states managed to block its passage. The fact of the matter is this; if that draft had passed then, we could have ended this race issue well over two hundred years ago. Odd that we were never taught about this in government run schools. Jefferson has taken a lot of flack today for owning slaves and bedding and impregnating one, but they overlook the fact that he wanted an end to slavery. That he had slaves was prevalent during his time, that's the fact. It did not mean he was for it. However, though he failed, he was one of the first to lead the charge against this inhumane system.

As for General George Washington, had he not prevailed in the Battle of Long Island, New York; Yorktown, Virginia; and survived a long freezing winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, against the Red Coats, we would all be subjects of the Queen of England today. As America's first president, after the Articles of the Confederation era, Washington ushered in the peaceful transfer of power as an example for other presidents to follow. As for President Abraham Lincoln (R), he presided over the Civil War, a war which cost him his life. Under his presidency, the 13th Amendment was signed, abolishing slavery in the United States once and for all.

Then there is General Ulysses S. Grant (R), who as a Union general, won the Civil War, ending the seditious departure of the South from the Union. As president, it was Grant who

went after the KKK with a vengeance right smack in the heart of a racist democrat controlled South and crushed them during his first term. He was the one president who led the charge in exacting corporal justice in defense of freed slaves. It was Grant who facilitated the 15th Amendment guaranteeing freed slaves the right to vote. And it was Grant who ushered in the Civil Rights Acts of 1870 & 1875, which guaranteed equal rights for Blacks. Over all, it was Grant who made it a priority to preside over the last vestiges of slavery and its toxic byproducts.

In this country's current cultural/political/philosophical civil war, it is the Black conservative who is on the front-line, leading the charge, alongside of President Trump. It is our way of reciprocating for what the Republican Party, and the 1860s Radical Republicans, did on our ancestor's behalf in the 1860s. It's our way of saying thank you, and our way of contributing to the continued survival of this great republic. But we cannot do it alone. We need everyone to reach out to the Black community in some way, if only to share the true history of the two parties.

There are great things going on in Black conservative circles. Some of us are working collectively, others individually, but we all have one goal and that is the defeat of this country's enemies, both foreign and domestic. Just know that there is a growing Black silent majority and come November, they will make their presence known loudly via their vote for Trump. Led by Black voices known, and unknown, the sounds of freedom, the day after the upcoming election, will once again trumpet across the fruited plains much like the shock waves the day when defeated Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant. It was April 9th, 1865. Oh, what a joyful sound that rang throughout the land that jubilant Victory Day...

And to think that they are tearing down the statues of these great American patriots...