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Chris Drawdy, Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

BOOK: LINCOLN SOUGHT TO DEPORT FREED SLAVES

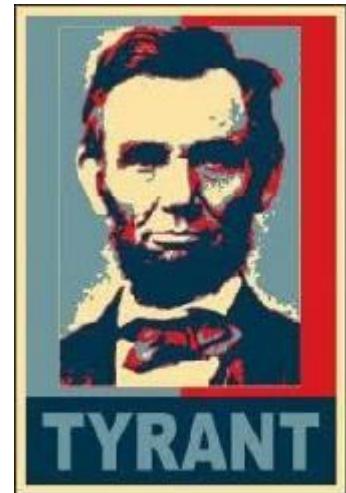
By, Stephen Dinan, The Washington Times

The Great Emancipator was almost the Great Colonizer: Newly released documents show that to a greater degree than historians had previously known, President Lincoln laid the groundwork to ship freed slaves overseas to help prevent racial strife in the U.S.

Just after he issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, Lincoln authorized plans to pursue a freedmen's settlement in present-day Belize and another in Guyana, both colonial possessions of Great Britain at the time, said Phillip W. Magness, one of the researchers who uncovered the new documents.

Historians have debated how seriously Lincoln took colonization efforts, but Mr. Magness said the story he uncovered, to be published next week in a book, "Colonization After Emancipation: Lincoln and the Movement for Black Resettlement," shows the president didn't just flirt with the idea, as historians had previously known, but that he personally pursued it for some time.

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VOICES: THE TRUTH ABOUT SHERMAN'S MARCH

By, Lewis Regenstein, Guest Columnist for The Atlanta Jewish Times Online

The Aug. 3 "Point/Counterpoint" articles by Dan Israel and Scott Sherris describe the infamous "March to the Sea" by Union Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, one of history's great war criminals.

But those articles hardly touch the surface in conveying the extent of suffering caused to Southern civilians, the starving, homeless families left in Sherman's wake, and the cruelty of the invading army toward unresisting civilians, black and white alike.

Sherris goes so far as to write, with astonishing inaccuracy, that Sherman "did not level any town; he did not massacre civilians," and he compares the courageous Confederate resisters to disobedient children being disciplined by their parents. Sherman "wasn't the monster Southern stories make him out to be," Sherris writes.

For starters, let us observe that he largely burned our own city of Atlanta, full of defenseless civilians, which would seem to constitute "leveling" a town. And even strict parents don't usually murder their children.

Consider the well-known facts set forth by Brian Cisco, author of the new book War Crimes Against Southern Civilians:



Leon Fischel – Jewish Confederate

"Women and children, black and white, were robbed, brutalized, and left homeless in Sherman's infamous raid through Georgia. Torture and rape were not uncommon. In South Carolina, homes, farms, churches, and whole towns disappeared in flames. Civilians received no mercy at the hands of the Union invaders. Earrings were ripped from bleeding ears, graves were robbed, and towns were pillaged. Wherever Federal troops encountered Southern Blacks, whether free or slave, they were robbed, brutalized, belittled, kidnapped, threatened, tortured, and sometimes raped or killed by their blue-clad "liberators."

Some of this I know almost firsthand from the memoirs of my great-great-grandmother Octavia Harby Moses, who had five sons fighting with the Confederate forces at the time. One of her sons, my then-16-year-old great-grandfather, Andrew Jackson Moses, rode out to defend his hometown of Sumter, S.C., along with some other teenagers, invalids, old men, and the disabled and wounded from the hospital. A battle-hardened Union force, outnumbering his 20-to-1, had just burned nearby Columbia and was approaching Sumter, presumably to do the same to it.

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

During the night of February 17th the greater portion of the city of Columbia was burned. The lurid flames could easily be seen from my camp, many miles distant. Nearly all the public buildings, several churches, an orphan asylum, and many of the residences were destroyed. The city was filled with helpless women and children and invalids, many of whom were rendered houseless and homeless in a single night. No sadder scene was presented during the war. The suffering of so many helpless and innocent persons could not but move the hardest heart. - An excerpt from "Sherman's March from Savannah to Bentonville."

This month, 146 years ago marks one of the darkest chapters in Columbia SC's history. On Feb 17, 1865 the City of Columbia surrendered to Union Gen William T Sherman leading to decimation that would certainly seem un-recoverable. Anything deemed of military value was burned, torn down or otherwise destroyed. Civilian property was ransacked, looted and left in ashes. Union and Confederate

alike site high winds, heavy drinking and general disarray within the city. And while it is hotly debated as whether retreating Confederates or pillaging Union soldiers started burning the city, accounts of vandalized fire hoses prove there was little to no interest in containing an inferno. Columbia had met the wrath of an invading army determined to make an example of the birthplace of secession.

Each year the Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance commemorates the anniversary of this event by hosting a reenactment of the firing on Columbia and a Civil War Expo at the State Museum. The firing on Columbia begins at 8:45 am. Yankees will be located at the parking lot across from the Cayce Amphitheater on Alexander Road. The American troops will be located on the Columbia side of the river across from Edventure Children's Museum. The Civil War Expo will follow in the atrium area of the State Museum from 9 am until 4 pm. The Expo will feature writers including David Aiken, CSS Hunley demonstrations by Dan Downy and, of

course, our friends at the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum – Krissy Dunn Johnson and Joe Long. During the event, the Wade Hampton Camp will join fellow 6th brigade camps with a recruiting and artifacts station located in the Museum's atrium.

This year's event coincides with the National SCV march in Montgomery AL, which some reading this plan to attend. I encourage all Compatriots not making the trip to Montgomery to plan time attend this interesting and exciting local event. While you are there come by the SCV station and join us in talking about history, ancestry and have a laugh or two.

Our next meeting is Feb 17 at Seawells. Dinner and fellowship at 6pm. Our meeting starts at 7. This month's speaker will be Mike Dawson, Executive Director of River Alliance. His program will be on the Battle of Congaree Creek. I hope to see ya'll there! ☺

CHAPLAIN'S WITNESS

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHAT PART RELIGIOUS LEADERS PLAYED IN THE CIVIL WAR?

"The consecrated cross I'll bear till death shall set me free; And then go home my crown to wear; for there's a crown for me."

The call rang out in 1861 as the Presbyterian ministry gathered in Augusta, Georgia to form the CSA Presbyterian Church. The Southern Baptist churches joined in also. It was decided that divine directors play a big part in the kingdom of Jesus Christ and that His kingdom should prosper. In so doing, this would assure the Confederate Congress of their sympathy and confidence.

About the same time it was noted that The Northern Catholics no longer acknowledged the social bonds that they once shared. Then the Confederate Clergy became very supportive of the war. This war was a war of Southern Independence. *There was no mention that this war had anything to do with slavery.*

Pastors began to organize leaders within their congregations to go off to battle. Volunteer companies were organized and they marched away shouldering rifles. Bishops gave up their congregations to take command of armies and head up the technical aspects as well as other duties.

A most famous Bishop, The Rev.

Bishop Polk of Louisiana, announced that he would leave his church to go off to war. He was buckling the sword over his gown as he stated his intentions.

One of the first companies that came to Virginia in 1861 was made up of 50 members from the same church.

The Arkansas Parsons Regiment was made up of 42 ordained ministers going to the battlefield serving under Colonel Bradley, a Methodist Minister. Also following were 19 theological students and ministers, one being over 70 years of age.

We see college presidents, ministers from the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal religions. Soon to follow were those of the Lutheran faith. Showing us how strongly church leaders felt about the Confederate War, and what it was really all about.

Mingled with the troops were a large number of noted and devoted officers and laymen agreeing with the pastors that the cause the south was fighting for was definitely just.

Among those we some noted Christians and one doesn't have to guess why Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson named first. Not to mention the likes of T. R. Cobb, A.H. Colquitt and J.B. Gordon, to mention a few.

The southern soldiers had to depend on the North for their first bibles. With the help of some friends from the North, printing plates were smuggled in and then started to

prepare to print the First Confederate Bibles. In 1861, the bibles were now being printed in Nashville, Tenn. by the Southeastern Publishing House, forming the Confederate Bible Society. The pocket bibles were now being distributed to our troops.

The demand for these bibles could not be met so Dr. William Hoge, a pastor of The Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond defied the blockade to bring in thousands of bibles from England. Along with the bibles were other copies of various scriptures.

During this time came some very strong, touching sermons delivered by Pastor Dr. Benjamin Morgan Palmer, as the Crescent Rifles prepared to depart. Quoting from Psalm 144 1. "Blessed be the Lord, my strength, which teacheth the hand to war and my fingers to fight".

President Jefferson Davis, president of The Confederate States, proclaimed Friday February 28, 1861 as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. Inviting the clergy and people of the Confederate States prepare their place of public worship to humble themselves before Almighty God. Does it not surprise you that our most famous Generals, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee were the most influential religious leaders in the Southern Armies. ☺

WALTER W. LINDLER

"The way that Lincoln historians have grappled with colonization has always been troublesome. It doesn't mesh with the whole 'emancipator,'" Mr. Magness said. "The revelation of this story changes the picture on that because a lot of historians have tended to downplay colonization. ... What we know now is he did continue the effort for at least a year after the proclamation was signed."

Mr. Magness said the key documents he and his co-author, Sebastian N. Page, a junior research fellow at Oxford, found were in British archives, and included an order authorizing a British colonial agent to begin recruiting freed slaves to be sent to the Caribbean in June 1863. By early 1864, the scheme had fallen apart, with British officials fretting over the legality of the Emancipation Proclamation and the risk that the South could still win the war, and with the U.S. Congress questioning how the money was being spent. Roughly a year later, Lincoln was assassinated.

The Belize and Guyana efforts followed other aborted colonization attempts in present-day Panama and on an island off the coast of Haiti, which actually received several hundred freed slaves in 1862, but failed the next year. Michael Burlingame, chair of Lincoln Studies at the University of Illinois at Springfield, said there are two ways to view Lincoln's public support for

colonization.

One side holds that it shows Lincoln could not envision a biracial democracy, while the other stance — which Mr. Burlingame subscribes to — says Lincoln's public actions were "the way to sugarcoat the emancipation pill" for Northerners.

"So many people in the North said we will not accept emancipation unless it is accompanied by colonization," said Mr. Burlingame, adding that Lincoln himself had always made clear colonization would be voluntary and nobody would be forced out of the United States. The newly released documents underscore just how hot a topic colonization was in the 1800s, when prominent statesmen debated whether blacks and whites could ever live together in a functioning society.

Earlier in the century, the American Colonization Society already had organized efforts to ship thousands of black Americans to Africa to the colony of Liberia, and the debate over colonization raged even within the black community. Frederick Douglass, one of the country's most prominent free blacks, generally opposed colonization, though Mr. Burlingame said on a couple of occasions he showed signs he might embrace it — including appearing open to a venture in Haiti during the Civil War.

Still, Douglass also rejected the

argument that blacks and whites couldn't live together, and he pointed to places in the North as examples of where it already was happening. Mr. Burlingame said some abolitionists viewed colonization as a plot to preserve slavery by getting rid of free blacks in the North, while others saw it as a way to undermine slavery by fundamentally questioning the principles slavery was based on.

Mr. Magness, a researcher at the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, said he first got wind of Lincoln's efforts while researching a meeting between the 16th president and Union Gen. Benjamin Butler in the waning days of the war, at which colonization had been discussed. Most of the U.S. documents about the Belize and Guyana deals have gone missing, but Mr. Magness and his co-author tracked down what he called an "almost untapped treasure cache of Civil War-era records" from the British side that showed Lincoln's deep involvement in the planning and authorization.

With 4 million blacks in the U.S. at the time of the war, colonization would have been a tricky and pricey move. The Belize project's first shipment of laborers would have only been 500, and even if the project had been seen through to fruition, it would have accommodated just 50,000. ¶

VOICES

My family's home in Sumter was taken over by Sherman's troops, and Octavia's account (and others of that terrible time) includes the brutal killing of "poor old Mr. Bee (a refugee from Charleston) who had been murdered by drunken soldiers," apparently while trying to prevent his daughter from being gang-raped by Union troops.

Of course, Sherman's March was pretty mild compared with the virtual genocide inflicted on the Native Americans during "the Indian wars," going on while the march was taking place, and carried out later under Sherman and other Union generals. No mention is made by your columnists of Sherman's genocidal views of the Indians, such as writing in 1866, "We must act with vindictive earnestness against the Sioux, even to the extermination, men, women, and children."

Nor is there a single word about the virulent hatred of Jews unashamedly demonstrated by Sherman and other Union officers, well known at the time, and culminating in America's worst official act of anti-Semitism: On Dec. 17, 1862, Union

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant issued his infamous General Order No. 11, expelling all Jews "as a class" from his conquered territories within 24 hours.

A few months earlier, on Aug. 11, Sherman had warned in a letter to the adjutant general of the Union Army that "the country will swarm with dishonest Jews" if continued trade in cotton is encouraged. And in a letter written in 1858, Sherman described Jews as "without pity, soul, heart, or bowels of compassion."

Sherman's hatred for Jews, Indians, Southerners and blacks is well documented and not really in historical dispute, despite the politically correct version of the war and the man that is now dominant and has appeared, unfortunately, in the pages of the JT.

Lewis Regenstein is a native Atlantan. More than two dozen members of Regenstein's extended maternal family fought for the Confederacy, including the first and last Confederate Jews to fall in battle ¶

ADJUNCT REPORT

1. I need all camp members to send me an update of their email address to:
: carl@cmpotter.us
2. With that, I need to know who is willing to receive the Legionary via e-mail, postage is killing us. We spend over \$200.00 a month on the Legionary and postage
3. Onions sales. We will need all orders for the Vidalia onions to me not later than the March Camp meeting. All orders must be in multiples of 5 bags. The Camp needs this fund raiser to keep us from raising camp dues or the price of our meals at the meetings. We are beginning to spend more than we are bringing in.
4. If anyone has an idea for a fund raiser, please bring it to my attention at our next meeting.

-- Carl Potter

Important Dates in The Cause for Southern Independence:

- Feb. 1, 1861: Texas secedes from the Union
- Feb. 4, 1861: The Confederate States of America is organized at the first session of the Provisional Confederate Congress.
- Feb. 6, 1863: U.S. Government refuses a French offer of mediation between North and South.
- Feb. 9, 1861: Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens are elected President and Vice President of the Confederate States of America.
- Feb. 12, 1861: Provisional Congress of the Confederacy provides a Peace Commission to the United States.
- Feb. 16, 1861: Pro-Confederate forces called the "Committee of Public Safety" seize the U.S. Military Post and the Federal Arsenal in San Antonio, TX.
- Feb. 17, 1864: Charleston, SC. The Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley* becomes the first submarine in history to sink an enemy ship in combat.
- Feb. 17, 1865: Columbia, SC is surrendered to Federal troops under the command of Gen. W.T. Sherman. The city is subsequently sacked, looted, and burned by those under the Sherman's command.
- Feb. 18, 1861: Jefferson Davis inaugurated Provisional President of the CSA.
- Feb. 20, 1865: Confederate House of Representatives authorized the use of slaves as soldiers. Gen. R.E. Lee endorses the idea.
- Feb. 23, 1865: Gen. Joseph E. Johnson assumes command of the Army of Tennessee.
- Feb. 27, 1863: President Davis names three commissioners to Washington to attempt negotiation with the Federals. He also calls for a day of fasting and prayer.

February Camp Meeting

THURSDAY, FEB 17TH
6 O'CLOCK P.M.



SEAWELL'S
RESTAURANT
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

SPEAKER
Mike Dawson,

Executive Director of River Alliance

www.wadephampontoncamp.org



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C/O Adjutant Capt. Peter

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1st Gen. Wade Hampton III Camp No. 273

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