Black Veterans, Politics, and Civil Rights in Twentieth-Century America: Closing Ranks. Ed. by Robert F. Jefferson Jr. (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2019. xxii, 125 pp. $95.00.)

This first volume in the War and Society in Modern American History series from Lexington Books contains five essays, along with a foreword by Hal M. Friedman, an introduction by the editor Robert F. Jefferson Jr., and an afterword by Peter Karsten—all highly regarded military historians. Friedman and Jefferson cite as an inspiration Rayford Logan, who was my undergraduate adviser many years ago at Howard University. Logan's academic career was shaped by service as an officer in World War I, and he emphasized the importance of military service in the struggle for civil rights. The essays themselves, as Friedman observes, illuminate how military service influenced veterans' lives, motivated them to take up the struggle, and taught them skills in organization, leadership, and communication.

The first three essays cover the period before President Harry S. Truman directed desegregation of the armed forces. Kevin D. Greene's "'We Never Get to Be Men'" considers the life of the bluesman Big Bill Broonzy as emblematic of Black men who were oppressed in the pre–World War I era Jim Crow South, enlisted and served in Europe, came back to find conditions unchanged, and joined the migration to northern cities. Jefferson's "Frames Refocused" concerns blinded Black and white former soldiers and their extraordinary coexistence at a Bureau of Veterans Affairs facility in Connecticut during World War II. The third essay, "Have Gun, Will Travel" by Selika M. Ducksworth-Lawson, describes a group of veterans called the Deacons for Defense and Justice. This armed self-defense group emerged in the bayou country of Louisiana after the war. The author argues that the organization was a precursor to the Black power movement of the 1970s.

The remaining two essays deal with Black veterans after Truman's 1948 desegregation order. Jeremy P. Maxwell's "The Military No More" concerns the souring of Black views of the military as a place of opportunity during the late 1960s, partly due to President Lyndon B. Johnson's decision to pursue the Vietnam War instead of Great Society programs. This disappointment, Maxwell contends, led directly to the racial turmoil within American forces at the beginning of the 1970s. Elizabeth F. Desnoyers-Colas, in her "African American Leadership's Tug of War with Black Military Service Members," looks at the war against Iraq known as Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, when African American military personnel participated in the 1990–1991 liberation of Kuwait while denied equality at home.

Karsten's closing summary adds little. Like the other contributions, his afterword is casually edited. He calls his essay an afterword but Friedman's a "Forward," refers to workdays extending from "sunset to sundown," and provides a footnote referring to something Jefferson wrote as being in Friedman's work. Such sloppiness extends from the table of contents (a dropped definite article) to a typo in the next-to-last line in the contributors' biographies. All participants in this enterprise, including employees of the publisher, should remember that no one is obligated to read their work—except a good copy editor.

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Ground Crew: The Fight to End Segregation at Georgia State. By Maurice C. Daniels. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2019. xvi, 177 pp. Cloth, $99.95. Paper, $29.95.)

In this slim but important volume, Maurice C. Daniels illuminates a momentous civil rights lawsuit in Georgia that predated the more well-known case brought by Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter that desegregated the University of Georgia in 1961. In 1959, in *Hunt v. Arnold,* three plaintiffs who sought admission to Georgia State College of Business Administration (now Georgia State University), in Atlanta, persuaded a federal court to rule that two methods of perpetuating racially segregated colleges were unconstitutional. The *Hunt* decision also helped James

Meredith in his fight to desegregate the University of Mississippi in 1962.

Daniels is well prepared to tell this story, as he has published books on related topics, notably, *Saving the Soul of Georgia: Donald L. Hollowell and the Struggle for Civil Rights* (2013) and *Horace T. Ward: Desegregation of the University of Georgia, Civil Rights Advocacy, and Jurisprudence* (2001). He also produced the documentary film *Foot Soldier for Equal Justice: Horace T. Ward and the Desegregation of the University of Georgia* (2000).

Daniels argues that courageous and determined Black students, savvy local and national attorneys, and gutsy officials of Atlanta's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) branch, as well as national officials, proved too much for white segregationists. For the first time, a Georgia federal court ruled against segregated education and accepted the precedent set by *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954). Judge Boyd Sloan decided in January 1959 that the Georgia State segregation policy violated the plaintiffs' Fourteenth Amendment rights to due process and equal protection. The judge held that the college must stop using white alumni character references as criteria for admission and that Georgia's payments to Black students to attend out-of-state universities was an illegal substitute for admitting Black students to white colleges in Georgia. Daniels highlights the pivotal roles played by local Black attorneys, A. T. Walden, Donald Hollowell, E. E. Moore (the lead attorney in the *Hunt* case), and NAACP attorneys, notably Constance Baker Motley, as they overcame obstructionist segregationists. The author shows that *Hunt v. Arnold* played a critical role in helping end segregation in higher education in Georgia.

Nonetheless, following the *Hunt* ruling, white educators, lawyers, and legislators exploited a loophole created by the judge's decision to preserve racial segregation in public education in Georgia. The decision permitted the college to reject applicants whom they deemed to lack moral character, and white officials used this loophole to reject Black applicants. To further undercut Black hopes for integrated higher education, the Georgia legislature passed a bill requiring all entering undergraduates to be under age twenty-one, selectively excluding Black applicants while granting exemptions to this new rule for older white applicants.

The author tells a compelling story that reminds us that the legal struggle to overcome segregated public education did not end with *Brown*. Backed by impressive research in court records, manuscript collections—including extensive use of the NAACP Papers—federal and state government records, over two dozen interviews, and newspaper articles from both the Black and white press, Daniels shows that Black students and attorneys were pivotal freedom fighters in the battle for equal access to education in the United States.

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Stirrings: How Activist New Yorkers Ignited a Movement for Food Justice. By Lana Dee Povitz. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019. xiv, 344 pp. Cloth, $90.00. Paper, $29.95.)

In *Stirrings* Lana Dee Povitz argues that the fight for food justice in New York City led not to corporatization of grassroots efforts but rather to the creation of a service-oriented movement in which nonprofit organizations engaged in responsive, coordinated, and community-based social activism and direct provision of food. Her research centers on four case studies: United Bronx Parents, an antipoverty organization that worked to improve school lunches and establish a free summer meal program; Park Slope Food Coop in Brooklyn, the largest worker-member food cooperative in the United States today; God's Love We Deliver, a meal delivery service for homebound people with AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome); and Community Food Resource Center, which attempted to address shortfalls due to federal cuts in social welfare in the 1980s. When taken together, these case studies provide an in-depth study of food activism in a single city, challenge the narrative that nonprofits co-opted grassroots activism, and highlight the leadership of