CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE NEGRO REVOLUTION

A Lecture
by
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Editor of THE CITIZEN

Official Journal of The Citizens' Councils of America

Presented at
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Thank you for inviting me to the University of Hawaii. It is a pleasure to visit these beautiful islands and a privilege to meet with you during your "civil rights week" discussions.

You are residents of our newest state, while I come from one of our oldest. I do not know how long the term "civil rights" has attracted widespread attention in your state. In mine it has been hotly controversial for a hundred years. I think it has quite different meanings in Hawaii and Mississippi.

I am a guest in your state, and as such I respect your customs. I welcome your desire to know more about the customs in my state. And this is good, for the understanding of customs leads to the understanding of people, and the understanding of people is perhaps the highest wisdom attainable by man. Certainly it is the most useful for an intelligent ordering of human affairs. Custom does not exist without reason. Rather, it is the product of reason, developed by our ancestors from their hard-earned