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Planning For Haiti Freedom

(St. Louis Argus)

Washington, D.C., June 13th—
Senator King Dem. of Utah, who
has long championed the cause of
freedom from United States mili-
tary occupation and absolute self-
government for the Negro Repub-
lic of Haiti, in a bold and out-
spoken statement here Friday, de-
clared American commercial in-
terests are getting possession of
the land of the country and the
people are showing a growing dis-
satisfaction with the state of af-
fairs. Senator King has said that
President L. Borno's favor of U.
S. military occupation has been
prompted by selfish political am-
bition.

Lauding the history of the
country from the victory of the
great General Toussant L'Ouvre-
ture, who out-generaled the migh-
ty French armies of Napoleon
Bonapart, Senator King pleaded
for greater freedom for the pre-
sent Haiti.

Possession of Land Passing.

Under American occupation,
large areas of land have passed
under the control of American
corporations. The right to Hai-
tians to occupy lands which had
been occupied by them and their
forefathers for hundreds of years
has been assailed," Senator King
said.

"Thousands of Haitians, fear-
ing American rule, have left Haiti
and sought employment in Cuba
and other surrounding countries.
Political organizations which did
not believe in American occupa-
tion have been dissolved and a
situation developed which pro-
vokes resentment against an ill
will towards the United States,
and constitutes an obstacle to
genuine progress and to the poli-
tical development essential to the
maintenance of a free and inde-
pendent Government.

"When the United States took
possession of Haiti her obligation
did not exceed \$16,000,000. Un-
der American occupation a bond
issue of \$40,000,000 has been au-
thorized and bonds to the amount
of nearly \$30,000,000 have been
issued. These have been acquir-
ed largely, if not entirely, by fi-
nancial interests in New York City.

"The National City Bank un-
der American rule, is the fiscal
agent of the Government, and it
is claimed by some that the Uni-
ted States will be required to re-
main in Haiti until all of the \$40,
000,000 bonds issue have matur-
ed and have been paid. These
bonds do not mature until 1956,
and under the agreement the Uni-
ted States will be required to
continue its occupation of Haiti
until that date if not longer.

Brutal Murder of Innocent Negro

New York, June 15th.—The Na-
tional Association for the Ad-
vancement of Colored People, 69
Fifth Avenue, has just received a
detailed report casting new light

upon the brutal murder near Al-
exandria, Louisiana, of two inno-
cent colored men, Lee and Dave
Blackman, brothers of William
Blackman, who was shot to death
after allegedly killing a deputy
sheriff. No crime was charged
against the two Blackman broth-
ers lynched, except that of being
brothers to William Blackman.

The facts as recited in the re-
port sent to the N.A.A.C.P. and
vouched for by leading colored
citizens of the community, are as
follows:

"1. William Blackman was
wounded by unknown deputies
before he even attempted to de-
fend himself. He was called to
his door and shot twice. Closing
the door he crawled into another
room. Securing his gun he shot
and killed—alleged to have—de-
puty sheriff J. F. Phillips.

"2. The high sheriff went to
the scene of the alleged crime and
persuaded two brothers of the de-
ceased William Blackman to al-
low him to have them confined
in jail to keep down 'mob law'
and to afford them protection.
This they unwillingly agreed to,
even though they were over a mile
from the scene of the alleged kill-
ing and knew nothing of the
crime until informed by the sher-
iff.

"3. Upon the date of the lynch-
ing the high sheriff left the city
of Alexandria to convey two pris-
oners to the state penitentiary in
Baton Rouge, La., thus setting a
precedent as prisoners are usually
sonveyed to the penitentiary by
deputy sheriffs. The two pris-
oners larried to the penitentiary
were not so desperate that it was
necessary for the high sheriff to
accompany them, as is shown by
the fact that one of them had re-
cently returned from Chicago
that he might surrender to a
charge of petty larceny, and had
he been desperate this act he
would not have performed.

"4. Practically one week after
the lynching only one newspaper
has had any comment to make
and no efforts have been put forth
by any parish or state officers to
even start an investigation, no ef-
fort has been made to replace the
burned homes or reimburse the
wives of the men.

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