Thurgood Marshall

THE ANNOTATED BOBBLEHEAD

"Plaintiffs are entitled to a decree enjoining the defendant, William F. Adams, his servants, agents, assistants and employees, and those who might aid, abet, and act in concert with him, from denying the plaintiffs and others similarly situated the right to enroll in the University of Alabama and pursue courses of study thereat, solely on account of their race and color." Lucy v. Adams, 134 F. Supp. 235 (N.D. Ala.), injunction reinstated, 350 U.S. 1 (1955).

"All persons are equal before the law and are entitled without any dis[c]rimination or distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, to equal protection of the law." Proposed Draft Bill of Rights, Kenya Const. Conf. (Feb. 2, 1960), in Mary L. Dudziak, Thurgood Marshall's Bill of Rights for Kenya, 11 Green Bag 2d 307 (2008).

The box for this doll highlights four more matters — in Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, and Tennessee — in which Thurgood Marshall stood up for people in need.



Brown v. Board of Education: Racially segregated schools in Delaware, Kansas, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Watts v. Indiana: Coerced confession in Indiana

Shelley v. Kraemer: Racial covenants in real estate in Michigan and Missouri.

Smith v. Allwright: White primaries in Texas.

Murray v. Pearson: Race discrimination at University of Maryland law school.

Q: Do you have any further impressions of General [Douglas] MacArthur? Do you feel he was definitely biased or just opinionated?

Marshall: He was as biased as any person I've run across.

Q: In other words, he felt basically that blacks were inferior?

Marshall: Inferior. No question about it.... I told him about all these instances [of race discrimination in the U.S. Army in Korea and Japan in 1951]. I said, "Well, General, look — you've got all those guards out there with all this spit and polish and there's not one Negro in the whole group." He said, "There's none qualified." I said, "Well, what's qualification?" In field of battle, et cetera." I said, "Well, I just talked to a Negro yesterday, a sergeant, who has killed more people with a rifle than anybody in history. And he's not qualified?" And he said, "No." I said, "Well, now, General, remember yesterday you had the big band playing at the ceremony over there?" He said, "Yes, wasn't it wonderful?" I said, "Yes. The Headquarters Band, it's beautiful." I said, "Now General, just between you and me, goddamn it, don't you tell me that there's no Negro that can play a horn?" That's when he said for me to go.

Mark Tushnet, ed., Thurgood Marshall: His Speeches, etc. 452-53 (2001).