

U.S. Department of Agriculture FOREST SERVICE

Region 6 (Oregon & Washington)
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, Oregon 97208

salutes Afro-American History Month



BLACK HISTORY IN NORTHWEST FORESTS

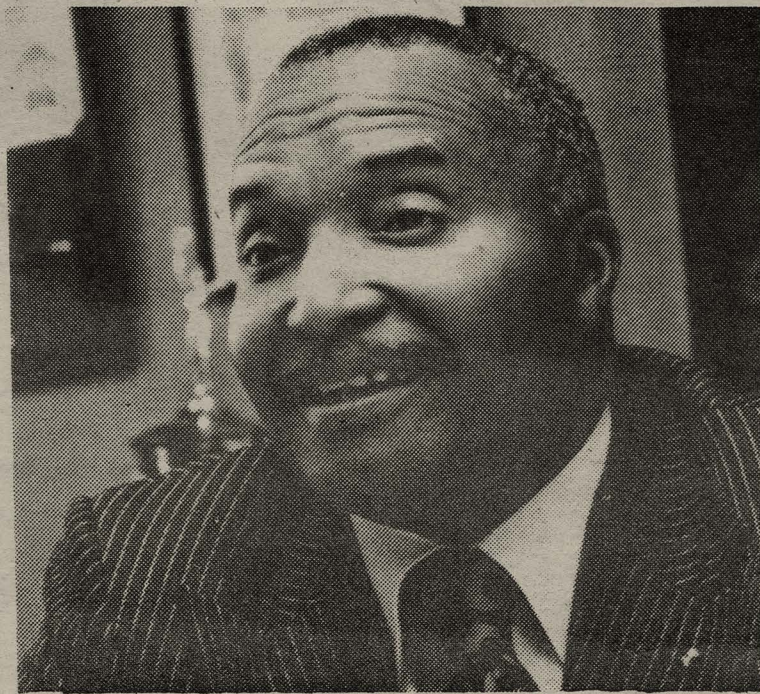
In 1945, Black paratroopers of the 555th Battalion were trained in timber jumping and firefighting to combat Japanese balloon fires. The training was conducted at Pendleton, Oregon. The balloon threat never materialized, so the 300 paratroopers were used as auxiliary forest fire suppressors throughout the West. In July 1945, 97 of these paratroopers were dispatched from the North Cascades Smokejumper Base to the Dean Creek fire on the Okanogan National Forest.

Saluting ...

Seattle's Black Councilpersons



Norm Rice



Sam Smith

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