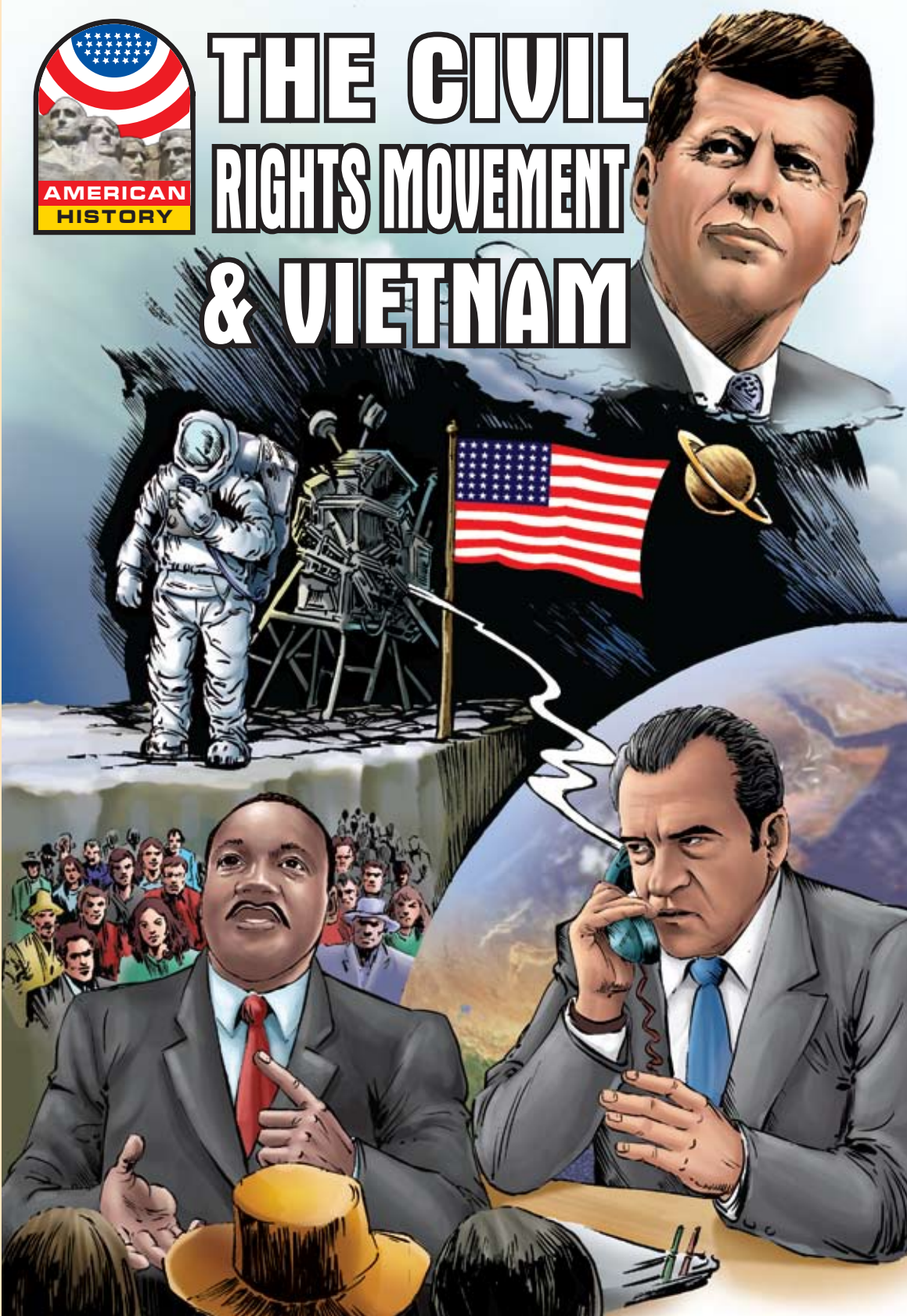
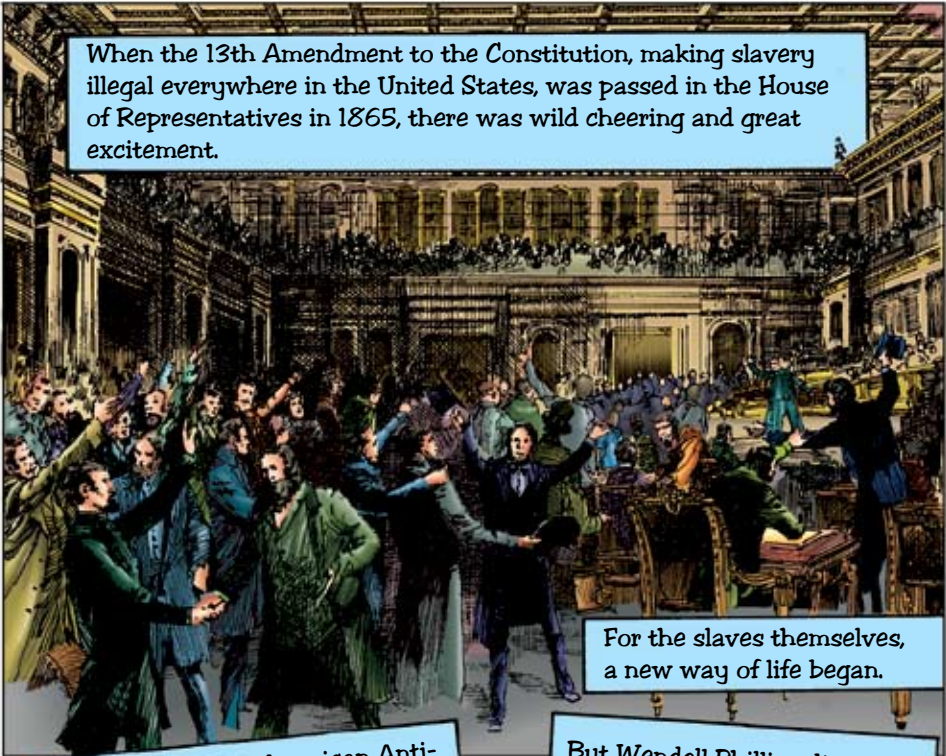




# THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT & VIETNAM

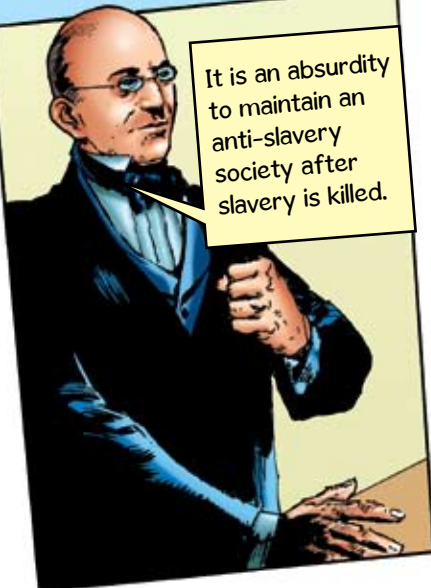


When the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, making slavery illegal everywhere in the United States, was passed in the House of Representatives in 1865, there was wild cheering and great excitement.



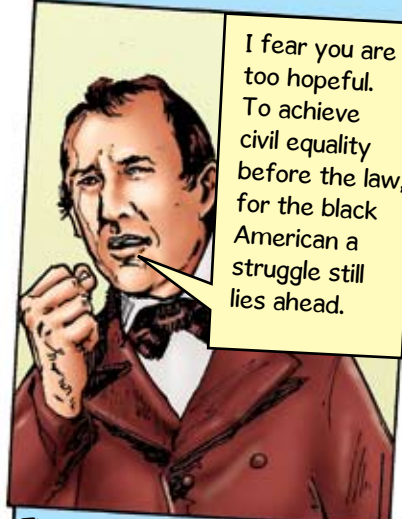
For the slaves themselves, a new way of life began.

At a meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society in New York, William Lloyd Garrison proposed disbanding.



It is an absurdity to maintain an anti-slavery society after slavery is killed.

But Wendell Phillips disagreed.

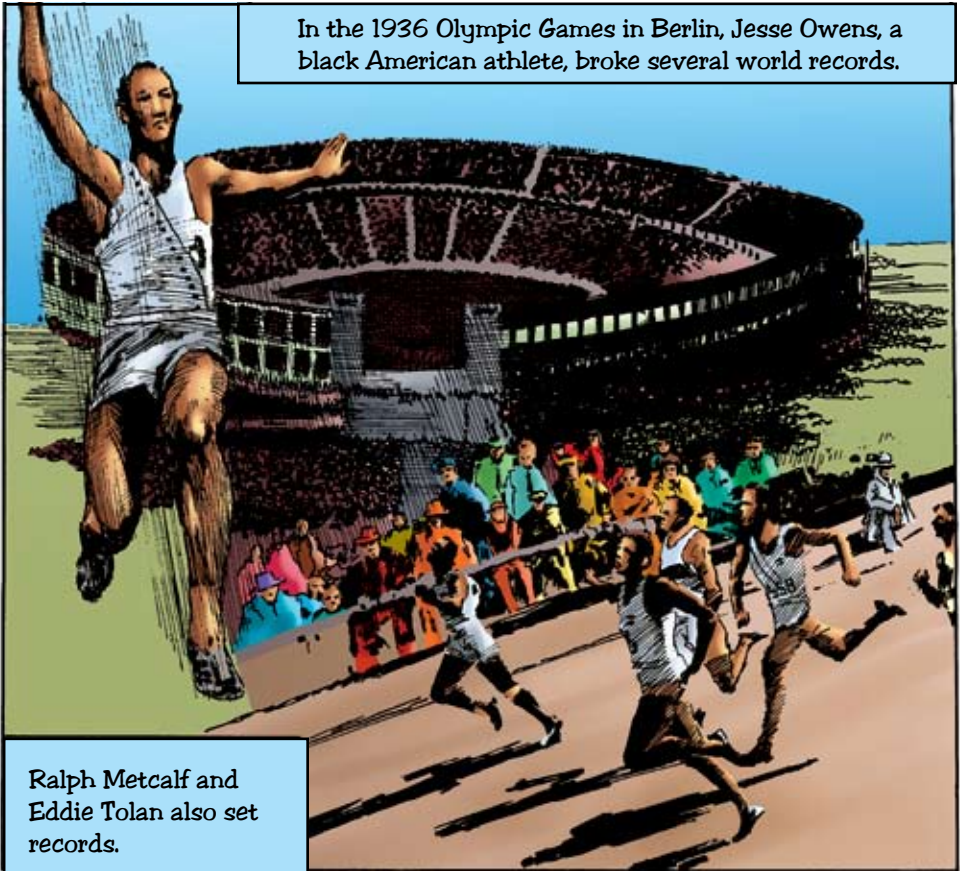


I fear you are too hopeful. To achieve civil equality before the law, for the black American a struggle still lies ahead.

The struggle did continue. Some of the greatest civil rights achievements have taken place since World War II.



In the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Jesse Owens, a black American athlete, broke several world records.



Ralph Metcalf and Eddie Tolan also set records.

Adolph Hitler, the most bigoted racist leader of modern times, was furious. He left the stands rather than watch Owens and other African Americans receive their medals.



In World War II, more than a million African Americans fought in the armed forces against Hitler and the Nazis. Gradually, types of service and training were opened to them that had been closed to them in previous wars.



Integration in army ground troops began in 1945 when volunteer black infantrymen fought beside white soldiers in Germany.

Eighteen Liberty ships were named for African Americans.

Captain Hugh Mulzac, reporting to the SS Booker T. Washington to take command.



Yes, sir.



In the Merchant Marine, 24,000 African Americans served in mixed crews, some commanded by black officers.

Under Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the 332nd Fighter Group, all black, flew more than 3,000 missions in Europe.





By executive order, Truman ended segregation in the armed forces and federal government. But his effort to push stronger civil rights laws through Congress were defeated by southern Democrats and conservative Republicans.

The next civil rights milestone came from the Supreme Court on May 17, 1954.

In the field of public education, the doctrine of "separate but equal" has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal!

George Hayes, Thurgood Marshall, and James Nabrit Jr., black lawyers who led the fight against school integration, congratulated each other.

Governor Byrnes of South Carolina gave a Southern reaction.

I am shocked. I urge all our people, white and colored, to exercise restraint and preserve order.

In 1956, campaigning for reelection, President Eisenhower made a speech at the Miami Airport.

Equality must be achieved finally in the hearts of men rather than in legislative halls.



Between 1954 and 1956, several hundred school districts throughout the country abandoned racially segregated classes.

On September 3, 1957, a court-approved desegregation plan was to go into effect in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The NAACP doesn't like this plan—the admission of only a few black children to one senior high school.

But the night before, Governor Faubus made a surprise television address.



It will not be possible to restore or to maintain order if forcible integration is carried out tomorrow.



It's not enough of course, but at least it's a beginning.

I am therefore posting National Guardsmen outside Central High, to act not as segregationists or integrationists, but as soldiers.



A message came from the school board.



The school board will appeal to the federal judge that Governor Faubus has not used the troops to preserve law and order.



Alone, Elizabeth Ann walked back past the jeering, threatening crowd to the bus stop.



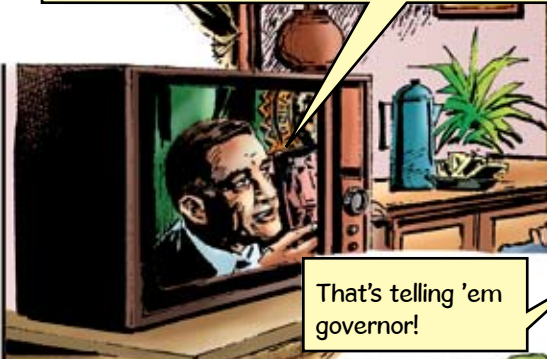
She's scared. She's just a little girl!

What are you doing, you loner?



By the next day, the FBI had agents at Little Rock investigating the situation. Governor Faubus spoke again.

I have wired the president to stop the unwarranted interference of federal agents!



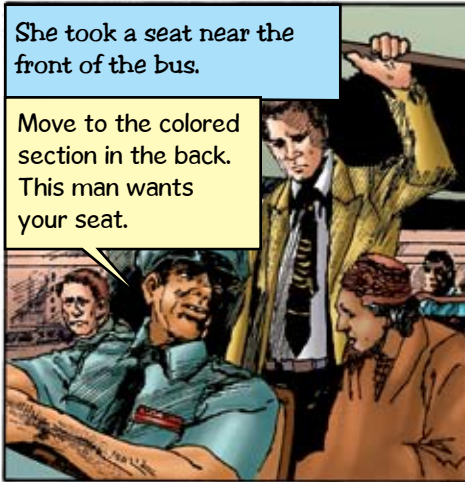
That's telling 'em governor!



President Eisenhower made public his reply.

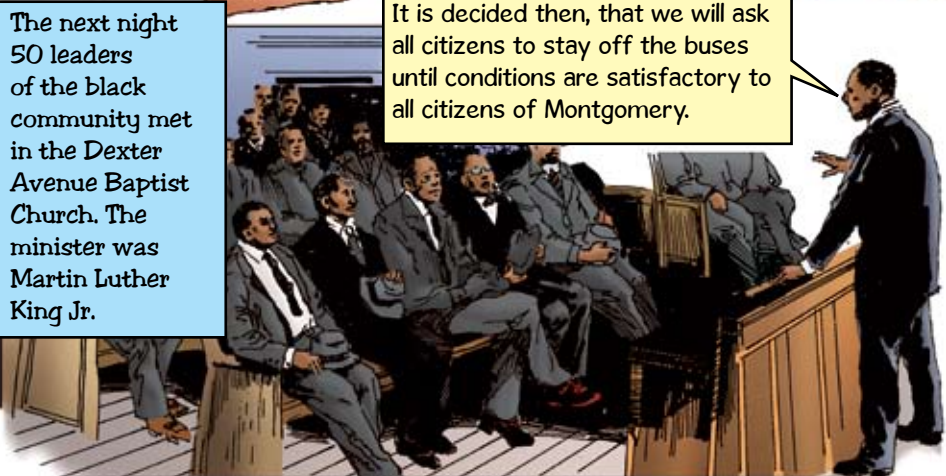


The only assurance I can give Governor Faubus is that the Federal Constitution will be upheld by me by every legal means at my command.



The next night 50 leaders of the black community met in the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. The minister was Martin Luther King Jr.

It is decided then, that we will ask all citizens to stay off the buses until conditions are satisfactory to all citizens of Montgomery.





Shortly after federal troops were sent to Little Rock in 1957, there was news of a different sort.



The Soviet Union announced that it successfully launched a man-made satellite into space yesterday.

They're making history!

Can we see it?

Satellite tracking became a popular pastime.



Look! There it is!

Imagine, 500 miles up! And traveling at 18,000 miles per hour. It's hard to believe!

In 1958, Congress set up the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.



It is the policy of the United States that activities in space should be devoted to peaceful purposes for the benefit of mankind.



But it was more than a competition in space travel.

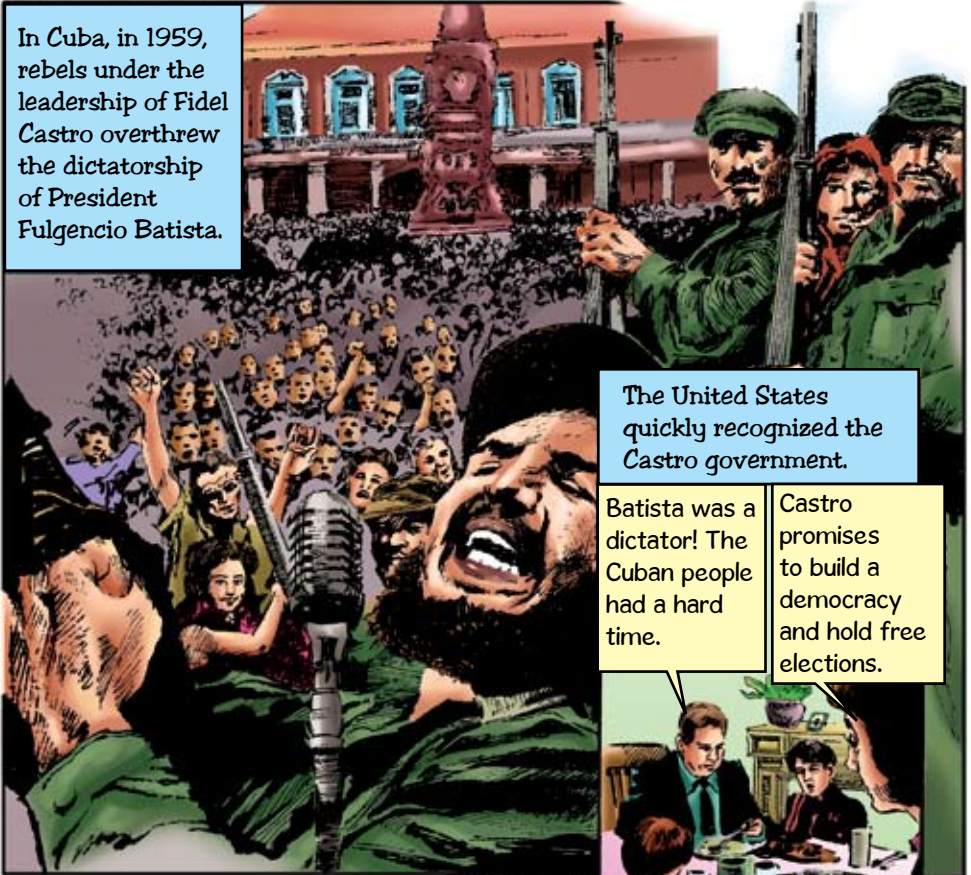
We've given priorities to long-range bombers. But if the Soviet Union can build such powerful rockets, she can launch missiles to reach the United States.

We'd best get on with our inter-continental missile program.



The race to put a man on the moon was on.

In Cuba, in 1959, rebels under the leadership of Fidel Castro overthrew the dictatorship of President Fulgencio Batista.



The United States quickly recognized the Castro government.

Batista was a dictator! The Cuban people had a hard time.

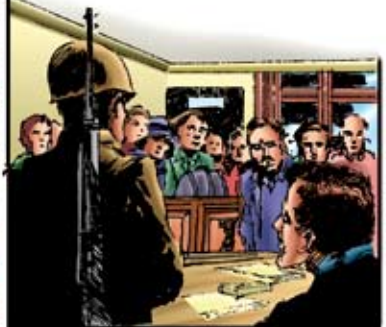
Castro promises to build a democracy and hold free elections.



But Castro postponed the elections. He executed hundreds of his enemies. And he became increasingly dependent upon the Soviet Union.



Many thousands of refugees fled from Cuba to Florida.





Kennedy asked Congress to extend unemployment insurance, especially in areas like Appalachia where jobs had been scarce for a long time; to increase the minimum wage; for federal aid to education; more public housing; aid to farmers; and for medical insurance for people over 65.

In his campaign, he had committed himself to the explosive race-relations revolution.

Only a president willing to use all the resources of his office, can provide the leadership, the determination, and the direction to eliminate racial and religious discrimination from American society.

Much of this responsibility fell upon the attorney general, the president's brother, Robert Kennedy.

You'll be accused of favoritism if you appoint me attorney general.

Should I lose the best man for the job, just because he is my brother?

Robert Kennedy brought into the Justice Department a strong staff, including Burke Marshall.

I want you as my assistant in charge of the civil rights division.

There is a lot to be done.