

Negro Jailed As 'Traitor'

Reported to Have Said: 'This Is a White Man's War'

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16.—A Negro truck driver was held yesterday on charges of treason by Magistrate Thomas O'Hara. He was accused of saying "this is a white man's war."

He is Harry Carpenter, 34. He was arrested by Negro MPs from the 76th Coast Artillery, in a raid on a reputed South Philadelphia gambling house frequented by soldiers.

According to testimony before O'Hara, Carpenter told Sgt. Edward Simms, Negro MP, 25 years in the Army:

"You're a crazy n...r wearing that uniform—you're only out fighting for white trash. This is a white man's Government and war and it's no damned good."

O'Hara, who freed 11 others on bail on gambling charges, held Carpenter without bail on a charge of treason on the advice of A. V. Cortese, Assistant District Attorney.

Cortese later said:

"The charge probably should have been sedition. Sedition is where a person incites disruption of the machinery of Government."

The state antisediton law provides penalties up to 20 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine. But the Carpenter case, apparently regarded as a hot potato, is being referred to U. S. Attorney Gerald Gleeson, who said he would investigate and prosecute "if the facts warrant it." Gleeson had no comment to make on Attorney General Biddle's instructions that no sedition prosecution be begun without his approval.

Carpenter is a Republican, 3-A in the draft. His wife Mary says he's "ready to go, and never talked against the Government. Drinking might have made him loose-tongued."

PHILADELPHIA
Daily
FIVE CENTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1942

OldMagazineArticles.com