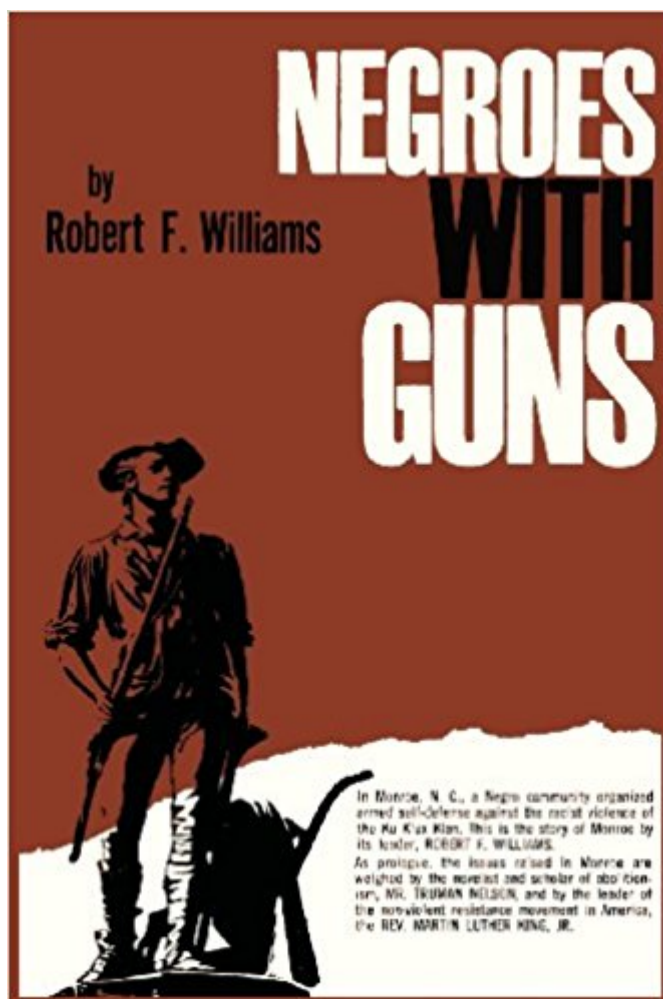


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Negroes With Guns



Synopsis

2013 Reprint of 1962 Edition. Exact facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. Contains two essays by Martin Luther King Jr. concerning the role of violence in the civil rights movement. During the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Robert Williams organized armed self-defense against the racist violence of the Ku Klux Klan. This is the story of his movement, first established in Monroe, N.C. As prologue, the issues raised by events in Monroe are weighted by Truman Nelson and Martin Luther King Jr. Illustrated.

Book Information

Paperback: 130 pages

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Customer Reviews

A southern black community's struggle to defend itself against racist groups. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

First published in 1962, "Negroes with Guns" is the story of a southern black community's struggle to arm itself in self-defense against the Ku Klux Klan and other racist groups. Frustrated and angered by violence condoned or abetted by the local authorities against blacks, the small community of Monroe, North Carolina, brought the issue of armed self-defense to the forefront of the civil rights movement. The single most important intellectual influence on Huey P. Newton, the founder of the Black Panther Party, "Negroes with Guns" is a classic story of a man who risked his life for democracy and freedom. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I am a fan of 2A history. This book tells a story that is seldom told. Firearms are portrayed as tools

of oppression and violence. There is a very strong tradition of Blacks owning and using firearms for sport and self defense. Think of the iconic photo of Malcolm X sitting by the window with an M1 Carbine to repel a possible threat to himself and/or his family. I wish politicians and self appointed 'community leaders' that use firearms as a scapegoat for other problems in the Black community would read this book. I wish people that use terms like 'Saturday Night Special;' knew the true meaning of these terms and the racist intent. I wish they knew the real origins and purposes of gun control. These people should then understand that firearms ownership is not just a 'white thing' it is an AMERICAN thing and a basic civil right of ALL CITIZENS no matter what race. Irony-- those people living in high crime areas who don't understand 'stand your ground' laws and the 'castle doctrine' and want to repeal these protections are the very people who would most benefit from them. Know your history so that you will remain a free citizen, not a slave or a subject.

This in depth rendition of the Robert F. Williams saga supplemented the little "Radio Free Dixie" book that was written in the 1960s by Williams. Negroes With Guns is a much more complete story, which covers the broader context and finishes Williams' story through his exile to Mao's China, his return to the US and his ultimate death. I have been involved in most progressive movements since the Vietnam War, and had mentors from the early non-violent Civil Rights movement, but I was unaware of both the extent and the success of the armed black resistance movement that was contemporary with the better publicized SCLC/SNCC movement of MLK et al. Highly recommended.

Robert F. Williams shared the story of how people in his small town stood up against injustice and terrorism in the U.S. which was supported by government agencies and enacted by the KKK. His perspective highlights how some situations may necessitate engaging in self-defense versus turning the other cheek- that when faced with the threat of harm, people should have more options than that of simply being non-violent. Indeed, with some people, such as bullies, abusers, and war-mongers, respect is given when respect is earned. A great read, I highly recommend Negroes with Guns.

This book should be required for anyone with any interest in modern American History, history of American Culture and Race Relations, or anyone who has any desire to study or get involved in politics. It turns the standard political wisdom of "Democrat vs Republican" and "Conservative vs Liberal" on its head and takes a hard view of the life and death struggles of African Americans on the front lines of the struggle for racial equality. This book also shows how well meaning and arrogant political officials and community organizers from all sides of the political spectrum turned

their backs on the African American community of Monroe, NC, what that felt like, and highlights the few populist organizations that stood with this community and with the author. The sides different organizations and politicians took in this life or death struggle is surprising and insightful.

I loved this book as it gave another side of the Civil Rights struggle and showed that not all were simply willing to "turn the other cheek"

A book every black man who wants to understand the second amendment and how it relates to black people should read. Its a quick read and gives a powerful perspective on the civil rights movement that isn't told at all. Not everyone was holding hands and singing we shall overcome, some black men and women had rifles and defended themselves valiantly during such evil and trying times.

This book is one of several that refute the notion that our nation's tradition of firearms is solely the province of the white man. Black people in this country used guns, enjoyed guns, and all too often needed guns for self-defense, especially in situations where law enforcement was in cahoots with local racist elements. I recommend it to one and all.

Although a short book it is packed with insightful information about Mr. Williams and the struggles in Monroe North Carolina.

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