

denial of constitutional rights. The doctrine of "separate but equal" facilities handed down by the Court in 1896 (Plessy v. Ferguson) was set aside. On May 31, 1955, the Supreme Court implemented this decision by stating the principle previously announced should be carried out "with all deliberate speed." This ruling permitted account to be taken of local conditions and requirements affecting the manner and timing of implementation. This principle was also found applicable in cases involving racial segregation in publicly owned recreational facilities, and adhered to in decisions of the Federal Interstate Commerce Commission embracing segregation in interstate transportation.

The Communist Party, USA, hailed the 1954 decision of the Supreme Court as a:

"...real victory for democracy in the United States, and especially for the harassed Negro people. It will have world-wide repercussions. The decision is body blow against the whole jimcrow system, which has for so many decades persecuted the Negro masses and disgraced this country. All the friends of freedom will hail this great democratic achievement."<sup>20</sup>

