



Robert Franklin Williams Speaks: A Documentary History

Edited by Ronald J. Stephens

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Includes a collection of writings by and about Robert Franklin Williams as an internationalist, pragmatist, and civil and human rights champion.

Williams was a compassionate man. He was an intelligent American citizen and Korean war veteran, who claimed his right to American citizenship. Acutely aware of the broken promises of the US government, he remained fully invested in the rights, privileges, and responsibilities the Constitution guaranteed all of its citizens. As many of his contemporaries now confess, Williams's strength and appeal, as explained by his second son, John Williams, was his uncompromising stance and determination to act on the American dream he imagined for social, economic, and political equality for African Americans. The skills he acquired as a journalist and propaganda specialist were key to his political development, evolution, and transnational collaborations with Cuba and China, which he used to challenge domestic policies in the United States, and way beyond the imagination of his supporters in the United States. Williams ultimately used these strengths, strategies, and collaborations to deliver liberating messages of freedom, resistance, and social and economic equality on behalf of the rights of African Americans. Williams significantly contributed to the Black freedom struggle and should not be forgotten. This book includes a collection of writings by and about Williams as an internationalist, pragmatist, and civil and human rights champion.

Readership

Professors, undergraduate and graduate students interested in African American studies, Civil Rights Movement, Black Power Movement, and twentieth-century African American history.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Ronald J. Stephens is a professor of African American studies in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies and College of Liberal Arts at Purdue University.

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