THE ORIGINS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE NORTH

The migrants left the South with great expectations, some of which remained unfulfilled. While many succeeded in building a life for themselves, poor housing, unfair employment practices and social inequities persisted, creating an increased sense of frustration. The growing black communities placed new pressures on public officials to respond to the demands of African Americans. Civil rights was now no longer just a Southern issue. Before the civil rights movement exploded in the South, for example, a fair housing movement led by organizations like the Congress for Racial Equality (C.O.R.E.) fought to integrate northern neighborhoods in the late 1940s and 1950s. Whites, facing competition for jobs, housing, and political power for the first time since the end of World War I, resisted their efforts, often violently.

QUESTION:

Why in the immediate post-War period were African Americans in the urban North more likely than their Southern counterparts to stand up and fight against the entrenched white power structure?

QUESTION:

In the film, Timuel Black said he returned from World War II with "a new vision of what the world ought to look like." Why would returning black vets tend to advocate more militantly for civil rights?