

# Ethiopian Air Ace Named III. Aviation Consultant

## To Direct Aeronautics Unit At Poro School

CHICAGO—(ANP)— Col. John C. Robinson, former Ethiopian Air Force chief, has been selected by the National Youth Administration as aviation consultant for the air mechanics schools now in operation and to be established at various points throughout Illinois.

Colonel Robinson will have personal direction of the aviation school at Poro Institute, which he had operated for colored youths as a private, non-profit venture until it was taken over by the NYA under whose sponsorship the scope of instructions will be increased and facilities enlarged by the addition of a large building to house several full sized airplanes and new mechanical equipment.

About \$250,000 worth of surplus and obsolete aviation from army and navy stocks have been allocated to Colonel Robinson's school, including several full sized complete airplanes, one of which is already on the grounds of the institute. This equipment will be used to give instruction of a purely industrial nature and the commercial aspects of the aviation picture will be stressed rather than the military.

### ONLY ONE OF RACE

The noted flyer was the only one of his race to attend the institute of nationally prominent civil instructors held at the Air Corps Technical school, Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, from October 3-12. In speaking of the work of the institute, Col. Robinson spoke highly of the cooperation of U. S. army authorities, especially Col. Davenport Johnson, air corps commandant of Chanute field, Major Alvin C. Kimeald and 1st. Lieut. Joseph A. Miller who were directly in charge of the instruction course

Col. Robinson stated that the equipment, tools, special fixtures, engines and airplanes furnished him were exactly the same as those furnished other schools and the Negro youth would have exactly the same kind of trained instructors and curriculum as used by the youth of other races, thus having equal opportunity.

In explaining the functions of the NYA work selector program, the flyer said "An important part of the program of the NYA is aviation mechanics training, and numerous state and regional resident projects are being provided with air shops and class-room facilities. Through the cooperation of the U. S. Army Air corps, a group of instructors from 15 eastern and southern states, and five middle western states, attended a teacher's institute at the Air Corps Technical school. As a large number of the men were reserve officers, living facilities were provided on the field.

### ALL AIRMEN

All of the NYA instructors are airmen—pilots, ex-army and navy fliers, airplane shop superintendents, etc., who have a thorough background in aviation. The function of the institute was to familiarize these men with the latest methods of teaching as developed by the Army Air Corps Technical school. The courses of instruction were given in various shops and class-room units under the direction of the regular civilian and enlisted instructors.

Col. Robinson said he hoped his school in the Poro building would have an eventual enrollment of 2,000. He declared any young man from 18 to 25 years of age is eligible and suggested that those interested might write to him at 4401 South Parkway, Chicago. He also pointed out that provisions have been made to care for students who lack funds by giving such students jobs of the type to which they have been accustomed.

## He's Appointed



COL. JOHN C. ROBINSON, former Ethiopian air ace, who has been named aviation consultant for the air mechanics schools now in operation and to be established at various points through Illinois. He will also have charge of the air unit of the Poro School in Chicago.