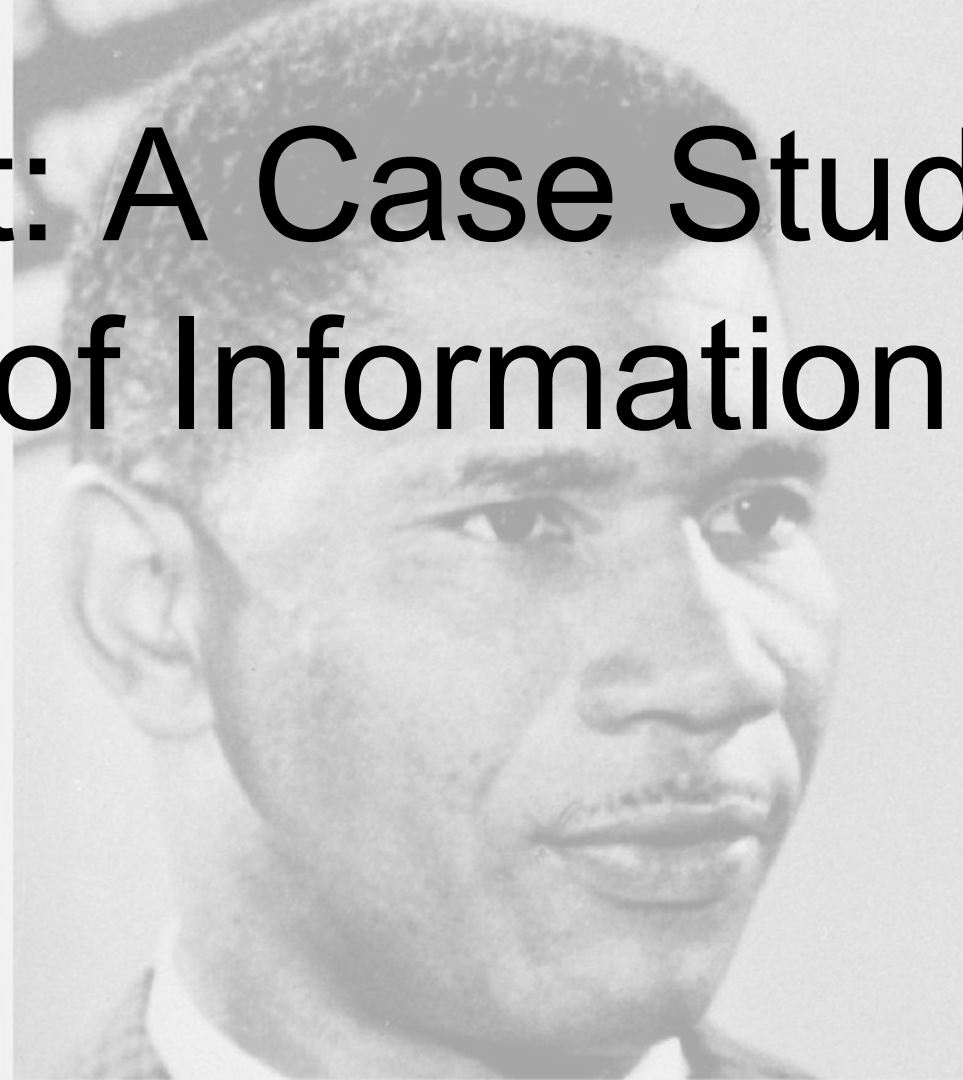
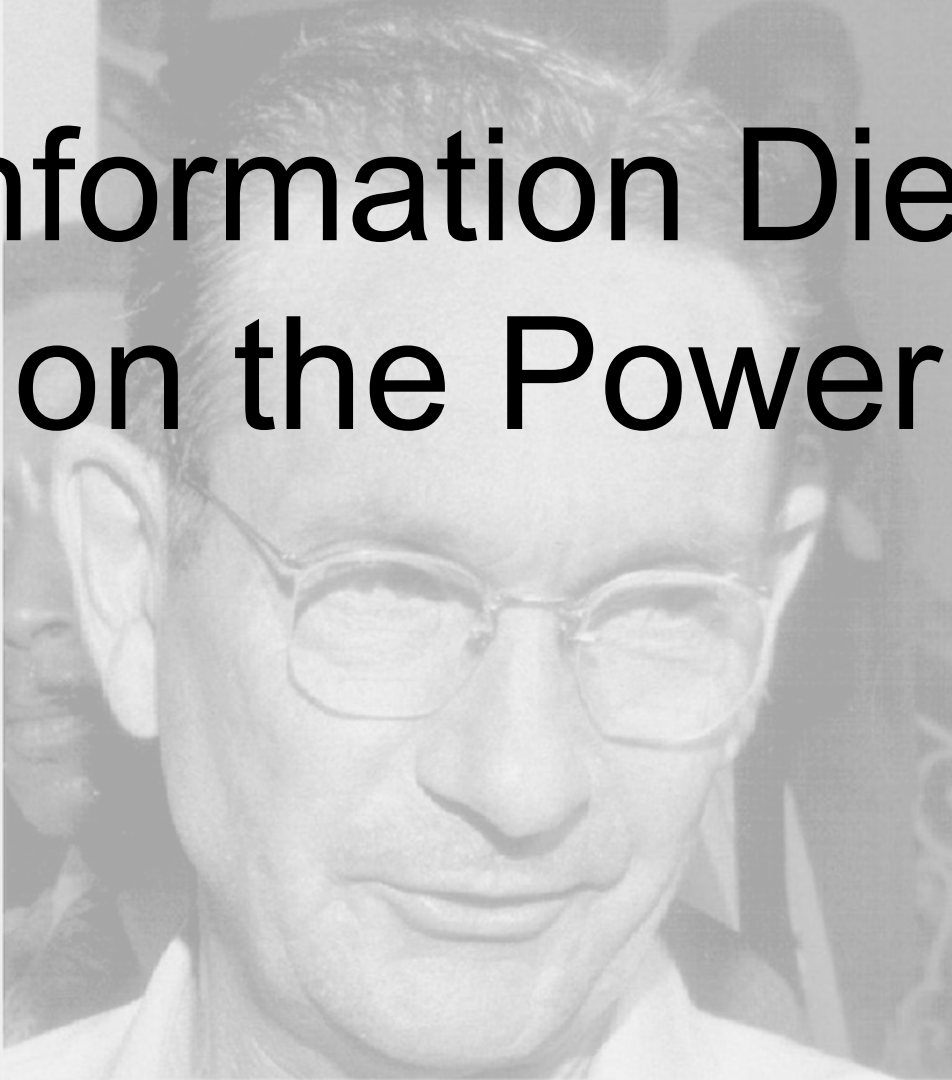




Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Lesson Plan

Information Diet: A Case Study
on the Power of Information





Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Medgar Evers: Early Life

- Parents emphasized education, religion, and hard work
- Witnessed violence that Black people in Mississippi experienced
- Volunteered for US Army at 17 years old
- Continued to experience the impact of segregation while in combat

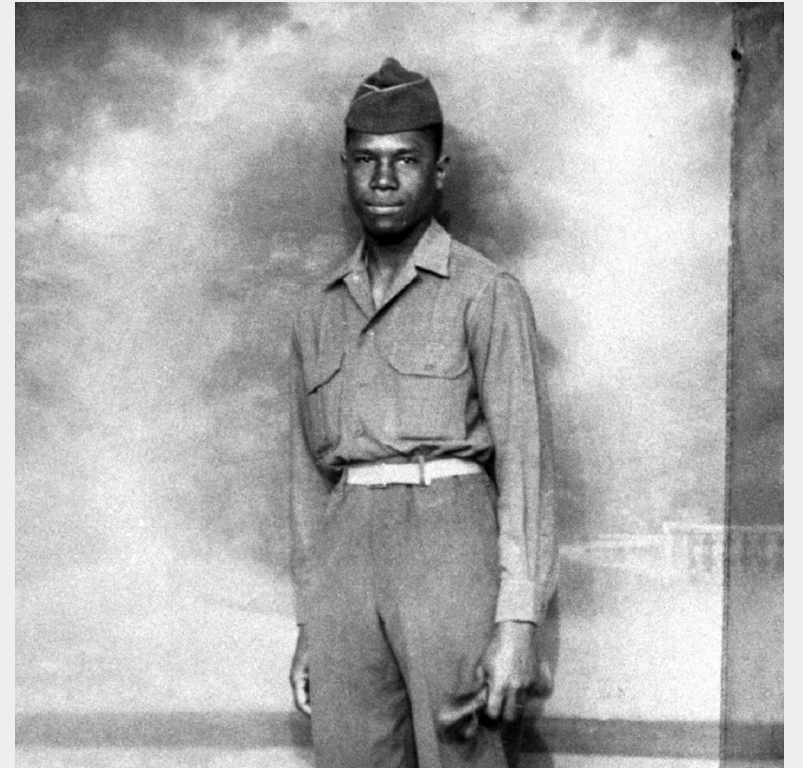


Image courtesy of the National Museum of African American History and Culture



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Civil Rights Activism

- Led Black veterans to register to vote
- Mississippi Field Secretary for the NAACP
- Investigated the murder of Emmett Till
- Advised James Meredith's integration of the University of Mississippi



Image courtesy of the SNCC Digital Gateway



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Assassination

- Experienced multiple instance of violence from white supremacists
- Received numerous death threats and his home was firebombed
- Killed in his driveway by White supremacist, Byron de la Beckwith on June 12, 1963
- Legacy continued through the landmark civil rights events like the Freedom Vote, Freedom Summer, Civil Rights Act, and Voting Rights Act



Image courtesy of the Library of Congress



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Information Diet

- Experiential - witnessed segregation and White supremacist violence.
 - Military service experience in World War II and Field Secretary for NAACP
- Reading - absorbed information from across the globe
 - Mau Mau Movement and Jomo Kenyatta

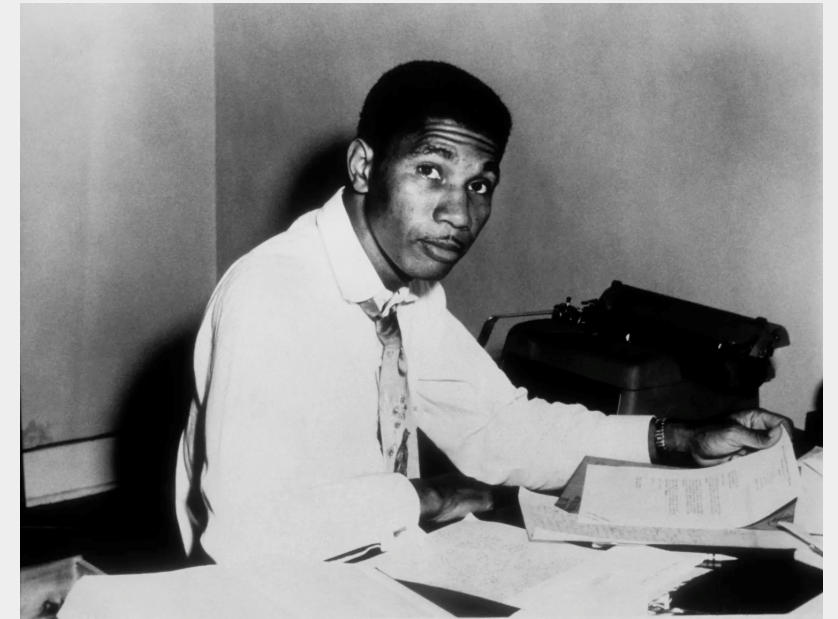


Image courtesy of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Byron de la Beckwith: Early Life

- Raised on a Mississippi Delta plantation home
- Proximity to White supremacist politicians as a child - Vardaman, Bilbo, and Eastland
- Immediately removed from class after the discovery of three Black classmates



Image courtesy of the Library of Congress



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Military Service

- Joined the Marines during World War II
- Noted change in demeanor towards race relations after war.
- *Brown v. Board of Education*, ordered desegregation of public schools in 1954.
- Joined the Citizens' Council - founded to maintain segregation.



Image courtesy of the Mississippi History Now



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Opposition to Desegregation

- Stood guard to keep bus station bathroom segregated
- Attempted to bring a truck full of firearms to prevent James Meredith from enrolling at the University of Mississippi.
 - He was not arrested and instead sent home by the police



Image courtesy of Time



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

White Supremacist Violence

- Claimed Medgar Evers “has to go”
- June 12, 1963, he used a high-powered rifle to kill Medgar in his driveway.
- Two trials but walked free after both and continued his ideas of racial violence.
- Attempted to murder the director of the Anti-Defamation League in 1973.



Image courtesy of the FBI



Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Information Diet

- Experiential - segregation, and racists beliefs were taught to Byron at a young age
 - Reverence for Confederacy
 - Proximity to White supremacists with political power
 - Speech of Tom Brady



Image courtesy of the New York Times