

**Anticipation and Celebration of Victory: The Chronicling of Nigeria's Path to
Independence by *The Chicago Defender***

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Abstract

This study traces a historical connection between one of the most prominent Black newspapers, *The Chicago Defender*, and one of the most influential Black nation, Nigeria. The paper argues that the Black press is known to have supported the African quest for freedom against colonialism. However, not much can be found in the literature about that connection with individual countries in Africa. Hence this essay evaluates *The Chicago Defender's* reportage of Nigeria's path to independence. Using selected publications from *The Defender* between 1942 – 1961, this study claims that the newspaper placed much importance on the independence of Nigeria.

Keywords: Nigeria, Independence, Black Press, *The Chicago Defender*, Pan-Africanism, Azikwe, Padmore