

The Planter

Robert Smalls served as a slave on The Planter, a Confederate gunboat that patrolled Charleston Harbor in South Carolina. Eventually, he stole the boat and joined the U.S. Navy. He later served in the U.S. Congress. He continued to hold federal positions until President Wilson purged African American appointees from the national government.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/frdo

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