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JULY FOURTH — FREEDOM CELEBRATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The Founding Fathers and American freedoms which they proclaimed, fought for, and documented are remembered with particular gratitude on the Fourth of July holiday observance marking the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. They were espoused by spoken word, pen, and action for the liberties that had their roots in the hearts of the earliest colonial settlers.

Tried in 1735 in colonial New York for oppressive acts of Governor William Cosby, the prisoner's dock facing the judges and attorney at his left, admitted that if what was libelous. He contended, however, that its falsity. Under British law at the time only made the libel the more malicious. This interpretation led inevitably to the precedent that led to freedom of the press in the United States.

(Photo No. 49-9421. Accompanies feature

En el banquillo de los acusados John Peter Zenger dando frente a los jueces y al jurado que vieron su causa en 1735, en la Nueva York colonial, por un ataque en su periódico contra los actos represivos del gobernador William Cosby. Andrew Hamilton, su defensor, (a la izquierda) admitió que si lo que se había impreso era falso, constituía delito de libelo. Sin embargo afirmó que el ministerio fiscal tenía que probar su falsedad. Según la ley británica de la época, la verdad no constituía una defensa, sino que hacía el libelo más malicioso. Después que Hamilton hubo dicho al jurado que tal interpretación conducía inevitablemente a la tiranía, Zenger fué absuelto. Precedente que condujo a la libertad de prensa tal como se practica hoy en los Estados Unidos.

1735 - Colonial New York: John Zenger accused for having published attack on oppressive acts of British Governor.

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HISTORY OF THE US: — AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE