

Johnson Proclaims Day of Mourning

Special Meeting of Congress

Compiled from AP and UPI

WASHINGTON — President Johnson today proclaimed Sunday a national day of mourning for Dr. Martin Luther King and asked Congress to call a special meeting Monday night to hear his "constructive recommendations" for easing racial tensions.

The President later canceled his scheduled trip to Hawaii because of the turmoil following the murder.

The White House announced that the President will decide later when and where to meet with Gen. William G. Westmoreland, U.S. commander in Vietnam, and also with President Chung Hee Park of South Korea.

Johnson, addressing the nation on radio and television "in this hour of national need," vowed that "America shall not be ruled by the bullet."

"I did not understate the case Sunday when I spoke of the divisiveness that is tearing this nation," Johnson said.

The President noted that Congress would be in adjournment over the weekend but he hoped that a joint meeting of the House and Senate could be called "no later than Monday at 9 p.m. EST."

The President met with top Negro and government leaders earlier.

He had hastily arranged the meeting after Negroes took to the streets in more than a dozen big city ghettos, smashing windows, looting and hurling bricks.

In designating Sunday a national day of mourning, Johnson urged the nation to pray for an end to racial hatred.

"In our churches, in our homes, in our private hearts, let us resolve before God to stand against the divisiveness in our country and all its consequences," the President said.

Johnson attended memorial services for the slain Negro leader at Washington's National Cathedral after the meeting at which he issued an appeal to the nation "to deny violence its victory in this sorrowful time."

Johnson's declaration that "America shall not be ruled by the bullet" came shortly after black power militant



PRESIDENT JOHNSON, JUSTICE MARSHALL White House session in wake of assassination. — (AP)

Sniper Suspect Wore 'Silly Smile'

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — The sniper believed to have gunned down Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wore a "silly smile" and registered under the name of "John Willard," police and FBI agents were told today.

The description was given by Mrs. Bessie Brewer, 44, the landlady of the house from which the bullet was fired that killed King as he stood on his motel balcony some 200 feet away.

Mrs. Brewer told newsmen she checked in a new tenant in Apartment 5 of the rundown dwelling about 3:30 p.m. Thursday that fit a description of King's assailant given out earlier by police.

"He paid us \$350 week's rent in cash, with a \$20 bill and two quarters, and registered under the name of John Willard," Mrs. Brewer said.

"He had a silly smile," Mrs. Brewer said. "I'll never forget that smile."

Mrs. Brewer said her tenant had no luggage. Both she and her husband, Frank, 46, confirmed that they heard the shot, believed fired from a common bathroom, that killed King.

Mrs. Brewer said the last she saw of her tenant was when she showed him his room. The next time she looked, after the shooting, he was gone.

Three other persons told newsmen that they saw the man believed to be the sniper.

The tenant of a two-room apartment in the building, Charles Q. Stephens, 46, and his wife, Grace, also said they heard the shot.

"It was still light and I was working in my room," Stephens said. "I heard this shot I opened my door and saw this sandy-haired man in a dark suit running down the stairs with something under

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Arrest of King's Killer 'Very Close'

Compiled from AP and UPI

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Attorney General Ramsey Clark said today authorities are "very close to arresting" the sniper-slayer of integration leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Clark made the statement at an impromptu press conference held on the ramp of Memphis Airport as King's copper and bronze casket was being loaded aboard a chartered airliner to be flown home to Atlanta.

Clark, who rushed here from Washington, had gone aboard the plane earlier to express to King's widow "the very deep regret of President Johnson and all the Cabinet at the tragic loss of this great American."

Clark was asked whether any progress was being made toward identifying and capturing the youthful white assassin who killed King last night with a single rifle shot as the civil rights leader stood on the balcony of a motel.

"Yes, real progress is being made. Substantial evidence has been discovered. I'm fully confident this crime will be solved," the attorney general said.

Asked whether an arrest was imminent, Clark said, "We are very hopeful."

Nearly 200 persons filed past King's casket in half an hour before it was carried to the airport for the flight back to Atlanta.

At the funeral home, an elderly woman stepped past the

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casket, looked at the body of the martyred hero and said: "I didn't know you, but I loved you."

The body of the slain civil rights leader was returned home aboard a plane chartered by Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Hundreds of Negroes, many weeping, gathered at the Atlanta airport to view the casket.

A fleet of black limousines and a hearse were parked about 25 feet from the plane, which was met by Mayor Ivan Allen and other civic and civil rights leaders.

King's four children, Yolanda Denise, Martin Luther III,

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING AT HIS LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE—A MEMPHIS STRIKE RALLY. He had an almost incredible serenity in the midst of danger and tumult.—(AP)

Sheer Force of Spirit Helped Alter History

By LOUIS CASSELL

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — In the days and years ahead, Martin Luther King Jr. will be numbered among that small but honored company of men who have changed the course of history by sheer force of spirit.

That this apostle of nonviolence should die by violence seems the supreme irony.

Yet, in that flicker of time before death came, Dr. King could not have been surprised when the assassin's bullet struck him. He had lived for years in daily — even hourly — expectation of just such a fate.

The two men he most admired — India's Mahatma Gandhi and Jesus of Nazareth — also taught nonviolence. Both of them were slain by hate-filled men.

A reporter once asked Dr. King whether he did not fear for his own safety when he walked, unarmed and unpro-

tected, through the hostile streets of Selma, Birmingham, Montgomery, Chicago and scores of other cities and towns where he led civil rights demonstrations.

"No," he replied. "I have learned not to think about what the personal consequences might be. I believe with all my heart that God has called me to lead my people in their struggle in this hour. And that is what I must do."

He never doubted that his cause was just and that in the end it would prevail. It was this deep inner certainty that gave him an almost incredible serenity in the midst of danger and tumult.

Such fear as he knew was not for himself but for his country, which he loved. Many times in recent months he expressed concern that time was running out for completion of a peaceful revolution that would give black people a fair share in Ameri-

can life. Last summer's riots caused him deep personal anguish; he felt the nation could not sustain many more such summers without bringing into power a ruthlessly repressive fascist-type government.

It was this sense of urgency, this anguish, that impelled him to plan his "poor people's crusade" in Washington, D.C., this spring as a means of dramatizing before the eyes of Congress and the President the need for massive government programs to relieve the poverty and misery of urban and rural ghettos.

Some Negro leaders and many white liberals opposed the Washington demonstration on the grounds that it might lead to violence, it might turn Congress against his cause.

He rejected these objections and replied that he would take every precaution to insure that there would be no violence on the part of his peo-

ple. He became quite irritated recently when a reporter suggested the poor people's crusade entailed grave risk to his own prestige because if it failed leadership of the Negro freedom movement would pass to black militants.

"Preserving my position is of no importance," he snapped. "Challenging injustice is very important."

Martin Luther King surely was not ready to die — he had so much work still to do. But if he did not seek martyrdom, neither did he run from it.

"If physical death is the price that a man must pay to free his children and his white brethren from a permanent death of the spirit," he once said, "then nothing could be more redemptive."

The time may come when white Americans will mourn his death as ardently as any of his Negro followers.

America is the less with his passing.

Guard Units Called Up as Riots Spread

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Daylight looting spread through Washington today and the District of Columbia National Guard was summoned to weekend duty.

National Guard troops also were called out in Detroit, Nashville and Memphis, Tenn., Raleigh and Greensboro, N.C.

With one dead and the disorders spreading toward Washington's main shopping district, Maj. Gen. Charles L. Southworth, commanding general of the guard, announced: "At the request of District of Columbia officials, units of the District of Columbia National Guard have begun a weekend training drill. Members have been instructed to report immediately for training and to be available as requested for other duties."

A spokesman for Southworth refused to give any other details whatsoever or to answer questions.

The summoning of the guardsmen was announced less than an hour after Wash-

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Jackie Weeps, Beggars For Love, Not Hate

NEW YORK (UPI) — Mrs. John F. Kennedy issued an emotional appeal to the nation today to let the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King "make room in people's hearts for love, not hate."

Mrs. Kennedy, herself widowed by an assassin's bullet, issued the following statement from her apartment here:

"I weep for Mrs. King and for her children for this senseless, senseless act of hate which took away a man who preached love and hope.

"When will our country learn that to live by the sword is to perish by the sword?"

"I pray that with the price he paid — his life — he will make room in people's hearts for love, not hate.

"Some people would never kill—but even to speak of another with hatred is the same and causes death.

"In the agonizing months that lie ahead, I pray that everyone will look into his heart and try to find more room for love and justice there.

"And for the people Dr. King led, who have suffered so much and who have so much still to hope for, I pray that his sacrifice will help to bring them all that they deserve."

City Schools Closed Amid Race Tension

Racial tension and scattered incidents of vandalism throughout Oakland — reactions to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King — forced the closing of Oakland Public Schools at 10:15 a.m. today.

The 65,000 students were dismissed from classes and sent home when school officials became concerned over student control.

Rumors swept the city after the closing. Police said tensions seemed to be easing as the day progressed.

Police received varied reports — most unconfirmed — of street assaults, rock throwing, broken windows, looting and shoplifting, and bands of youngsters roaming city streets.

In Berkeley, East Palo Alto and other locations throughout the Bay Area there were scattered incidents of a similar nature reported.

Windows were broken in four downtown Berkeley stores and there were reports of juveniles grabbing mer-

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McCarthy Pledges To Revamp Draft

By DAVE HOPE
Tribune Political Writer

Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy moved his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination into Southern California today, getting additional plaudits on a pledge to revamp the draft system.

He also opened up on his major rival, Sen. Robert Kennedy, and the latter's California campaign head, Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh.

"We are not going to make any deals with power politicians, including Jesse Unruh," McCarthy declared at a Burbank airport news conference.

At the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, he repeated the draft reform pledge he made here yesterday.

It was understandable that students at the University of California — generally of

draft age — would give him their greatest burst of applause yesterday afternoon when he said three agencies of government "need to be somewhat altered" and named the CIA, the FBI, and the "draft boards as they operate under Gen. Lewis B. Hershey."

But an adult audience at a fund-raising dinner in the San Francisco Hilton Hotel last night also responded — with a standing, cheering ovation — as he reiterated that statement and added as targets, "the Defense Department and the Executive Department of government."

The dinner, which attracted an attendance of 3,000, filling two hotel ballrooms, started on a somber note reflecting the murder of Negro leader Martin Luther King.

McCarthy issued a brief statement immediately on learning of the Memphis shooting. "The death of Martin Luther King is a tragedy for all Americans," he said. "Not only have his people lost a noble and great leader, but all people — especially Americans — have lost a man of peace. We can only grieve."

Elijah Turner of Oakland, national treasurer of the Congress of Racial Equality and a member of the California delegation pledged to McCar-

SIEGE ENDS Yanks Fan Out From Khe Sanh

SAIGON (AP) — The siege of Khe Sanh was lifted today. U.S. officers said, but spearheads of a big relief force less than a mile away made no attempt to enter the Marine combat base.

The 6,000 Marines at Khe Sanh were still under fire from North Vietnamese gunners, who pounded the base in the northwest corner of Vietnam with 100 rounds. This was one reason for keeping any of the relief forces out of Khe Sanh.

And members of the garrison sallied out two miles for the first time since the siege began nearly three months ago and beat back an attack by 400 North Vietnamese with heavy losses.

With the North Vietnamese force around Khe Sanh base — once estimated at 20,000 — reduced to about 7,000 by official estimate, the possibility of a big, decisive battle went glimmering.

Khe Sanh stands astride one of the invasion routes from Laos. North Vietnamese captives early in the siege said they were told the coming battle for Khe Sanh would be the last battle of the war, if won.

Marines expected a human-wave assault at Khe Sanh would begin during the

Bomb Curb Not Enough For Hanoi

By RAYMOND LAWRENCE
Foreign News Analyst

• Hanoi, in another attack on American "aggression," today declared partial cessation of bombing is insufficient to show United States wants a peaceful settlement of the war.

• South Vietnamese President Thieu said he doubts the "good will" of Hanoi toward peace talks and insisted his government will have to play the principal role when a conference "in the real sense" begins.

• In Moscow the Kremlin broke its silence and supported U.S. North Vietnam talks about a complete halt to bombing and "all other acts of war" against the north.

• In Geneva U.N. Secretary General Thant said he believes the Washington-Hanoi talks will begin "very soon." Thant, who long has pressed for an all-out un-

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