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44-1987-Sub-C  
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# INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

"DO NOT DESTROY:  
HISTORICAL VALUE,  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES"

See also Nos.

SEE INSIDE  
FOR LITIGATIONS

Volume Number 1  
Serials 1-799

**X DO NOT DESTROY  
HISTORICAL VALUE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES**

### SEE NEXT SECTION

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# DR. KING IS SLAIN BY SNIPER Shooting, Arson Touched Off By Death

## GUARDSMEN RETURN; CURFEW IS ORDERED

By RICHARD LENTZ

Looting, arson and shooting began minutes after the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. late last night and in hours Tennessee National Guardsmen arrived to take over street patrols in riot-torn Memphis.

Negroes began swarming into streets, smashing windows and setting fires shortly after the announcement of the civil rights leader's death at 7 p.m.

On the news of Dr. King's slaying flashed, Negroes clashed with police as far away as Miami, in Jackson, Miss., and in Atlanta, where another 4,000 guardsmen were called out to restore peace.

In Memphis, police had arrested 80 persons, including two men and two women by 1 a.m. There were at least 28 persons hurt and a steady flow of injured was being taken to hospitals.

*orig & 1  
to Bureau  
4/5/68  
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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1 + 3  
COMMERCIAL APPEAL  
MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS  
 Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-1  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED *llh* FILED *llh*  
APR 5 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS

No one had been reported killed in the turmoil.

The most seriously injured person was Ellis Tate of 86 West Utah, whom police said was shot while looting. He was in critical condition at John Gaston Hospital.

Officers said he fired at officers with a rifle when they came into a liquor store he was looting. They returned his fire and he was hit.

A 24-hour general curfew was ordered last night, with travel allowed only for emergency or health reasons. Schools, shops and businesses were ordered closed. The curfew will remain in effect indefinitely.

At the biggest fire of the night, policemen armed with submachine guns and riot guns guarded firemen who were battling flames that arched 100 feet into the air at O. W. Ferrell Co. at 1001 North Second Street.

Within minutes, 14 pieces of fire equipment were on the scene. There were no incidents.

Black smoke from burning barrels of tar and piles of roofing at the building supplies company rolled over the area.

Earlier, piles of boxes 20 feet high had been set on fire behind Leone's Liberty Cash Grocery at 485 Vance. The flames were endangering an apartment complex and firemen after burning through live electrical wires. The fire was put out in minutes after Deputy Fire Chief R. F. Doyle shouted "Knock it down, knock it down. Let's get out of here."

Tennessee Highway Patrolmen were reported moving in force toward Memphis to supplement police and guardsmen. More than 200 of the state police were sent into Memphis when violence erupted March 28.

Arkansas Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller sent state troopers to Memphis to observe the rioting. Last week he ordered 175 Arkansas guardsmen called for duty in West Memphis.

Officials said firemen from Station One answered eight calls in 20 minutes at one point during the night.

A store on Firestone Boulevard was burned so completely it could not be immediately identified.

First elements of Guardsmen reported no trouble as they cautiously patrolled Memphis streets last night. Three artillery batteries were committed to the city and nine patrols of 16 guardsmen each were deployed on streets.

A spokesman in the governor's office said Governor Buford Ellington also was in contact with United States Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, presumably to discuss the availability of federal troops for use in Memphis.

A straight line to Washington was kept open last night at Police Headquarters at Second and Adams.

Just minutes after Dr. King died, city offices began receiving telephone threats against the life of Mayor Henry Loeb, who was traveling by car to the University of Mississippi for a speech. Notified of the death and outbreak of violence and looting, Mayor Loeb quickly returned to City Hall here.

Governor Ellington, who had ordered the 4,000 Guardsmen into Memphis March 28 after an outbreak of looting and riot-

ing during a march led by Dr. King, said "I can fully appreciate the feelings and emotions which this crime has aroused.

"But for the benefit of everyone, all of our citizens must exercise caution and good judgment."

The curfew immediately closed all liquor stores and establishments selling beer, firearms or ammunition, as it did last Thursday.

Shooting began at 7:17 p.m. when shots were reported in the vicinity of Tillman and Johnson.

The worst sniping appeared to be in the Springdale-Howell area, where two police officers were reported wounded at 8:30 by a gunman shooting from around the corner of a building. At 9:20, police cars were still under fire in the same area.

Condition of the two wounded policemen was not immediately known. They were hit by glass when their squad car windshield was shot out.

Fire and Police Director Frank Holloman said, "Rioting and looting is rampant" in the city.

Mr. Holloman, listening to calls from police radio bands and reports from the field, said his 35 tactical units had the situation fairly well under control by about 9:15 p.m. and looting and other violent incidents had subsided somewhat.

"Remain off the streets, keep your children at home and remain calm," he said. "We are doing everything we can do. I call upon all citizens of Memphis . . . to cooperate fully with officers as they do

(Continued on Page 3)

# Nashville Also Gets Guard As Racial Violence Spreads

(Continued from Page One)

the tasks they must perform at this terrible time."

Mr. Holloman would not say if federal aid has been asked. "The Guard has been called and will be here shortly," he replied in answer to a question on federal troops.

Claude A. Armour, former Memphis police and fire commissioner, sent into a Memphis riot for the second time by Governor Ellington, said late last night he felt the situation was under control, though by no means normal.

Mr. Armour, now a special assistant to the governor, said there was no evidence of organized rioting. Most violence and looting was being conducted by small, roving bands, he said.

"I think we've got 'em (rioters) covered," he said. He praised the Guard's quick reaction.

The balance of West Tennessee units were to arrive in Memphis during the night. The Third Brigade of the 30th Armored Division, under command of Col. Hollis B. Williams of Jackson, Tenn., was to assume direction of the guard operation.

Calls on police radio bands were calm but underlying tension broke through occasionally.

"Shoot out street lights if you're under them," an order crackled to units apparently under fire at 7:43 p.m.

Officers were advised to fill up their patrol cars at any commercial gasoline station and sign receipts for owners in an effort to keep units patrolling throughout the trouble.

Police came under heavy attack in the Johnson and Tillman area. "Fourteen needs help at Summer and Vandalia," a patrolman radioed in. "Johnson and Tillman, calling for help," another jumped in seconds later at 7:17 p.m.

The dispatcher radio for all cars to stay out of the Johnson and Tillman section, ordering Tactical Unit 16 to assist the cut-off patrolman. Later, the "TAC" group was ordered to retreat and regroup at Crump east of Mississippi.

A white man armed with a shotgun brought cars racing to Bellevue and Empire at 7:56.

Liquor stores were a favorite target.

"Large crowd at Crump and Ioka at the liquor store" sent police cars squalling through streets. "Hernando and Linden, the liquor store," came another, followed by "119 North Hollywood, liquor store breaking into."

Sounds of gunfire were sometimes audible over the police band. An occasional crunch from a falling brick or stone was also heard intermittently during messages.

Fires, some believed caused by firebombings, came regularly throughout the early part of the night.

In addition to the 4,000 Guardsmen ordered to Memphis, another 4,000 National Guardsmen were ordered into Nashville last night in the wake of scattered violence.

A spokesman for the Guard said troops would report to stations they were assigned to during a rioting control exercise in Nashville March 9. The callup came after groups of Negroes began hurling rocks at motorists driving through the northern part of Nashville following the wounding of two

persons — one a 13-year-old youth in a battle with police.

Officials said the shootings occurred after patrolmen were sent to the area to check a complaint that a person armed with a rifle was threatening residents.

Admitted to Baptist Hospital here with injuries was Kenneth Brock of 4422 Southerin Cove, reported shot in the left hand about 9:52 p.m. when he rammed his automobile through a fire barricade across Chelsea. The bullet shattered the car's steering wheel. His wife, riding with him, apparently was not injured.

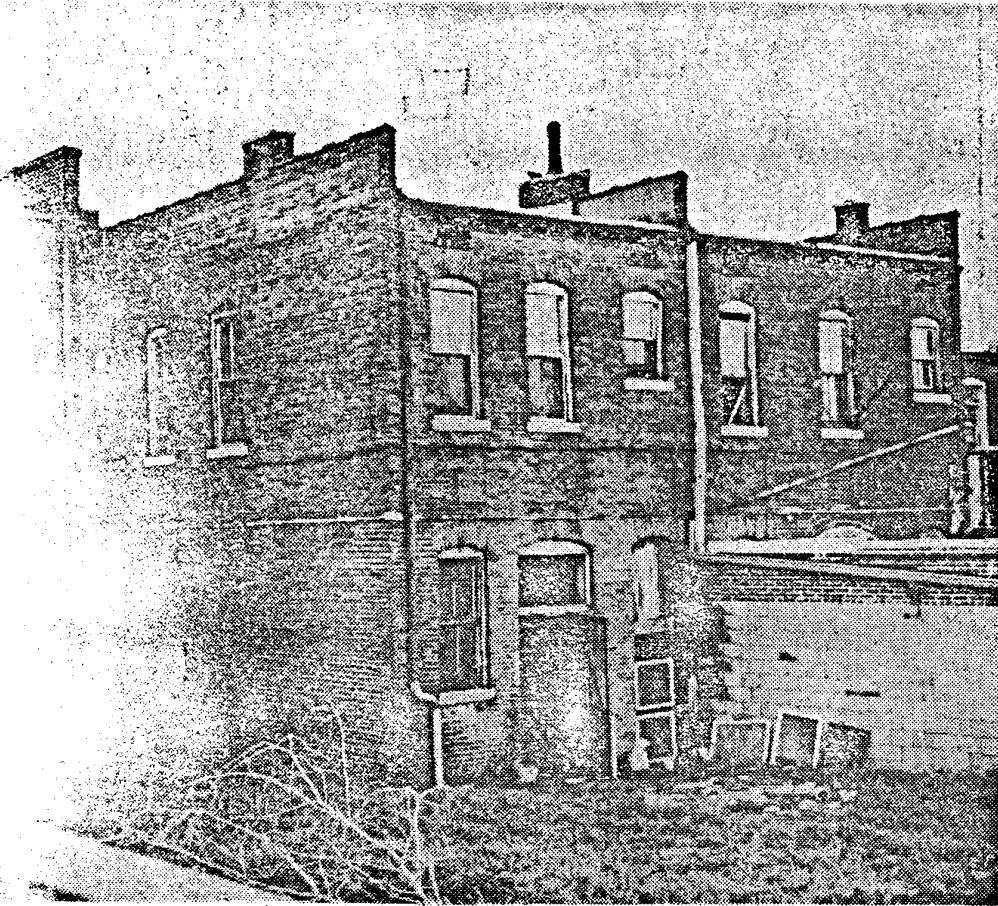
Cecil Charles, 36, of 4095 Leroy and his 34-year-old wife were injured on Ash near Chelsea by rocks. The two were driving in separate cars at the time.

An unidentified National Guardsman was hurt when his hand was cut dismounting from a truck.

At John Gaston Hospital, nine persons, almost all Negro, had been brought in for treatment for cuts, head injuries and other injuries. One Negro man, shot in the leg, walked in by himself. Several of the injured persons were being held by police in the hospital's prison unit.

C. A. Russell, a policeman, was treated for a cut hand at the hospital.

Liquor sales have been prohibited in West Memphis though no word had been received there yet on gun sales. Spokesmen in DeSoto County and Tipton County said liquor sales had not been ordered ended.

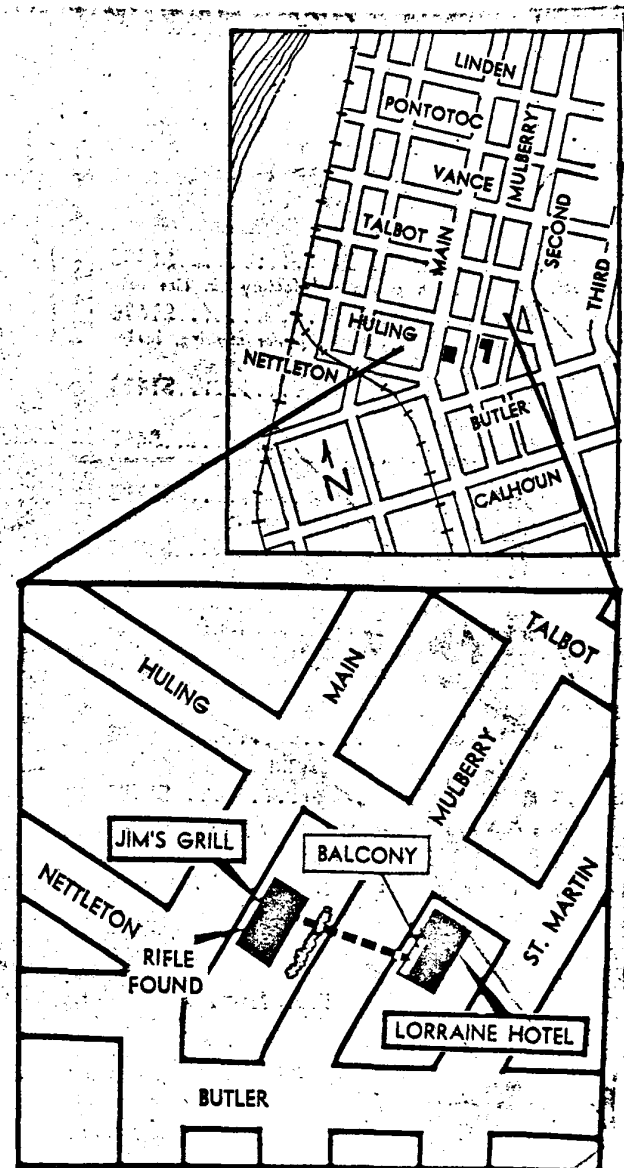


## The Scene

The bullet that killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. yesterday was probably fired from one of the windows in the building at right, above Jim's Grill, 418 South Main. The rifle believed to have fired the fatal shot was found in the doorway of the building at left, the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main.

—Staff Photo by Robert Williams

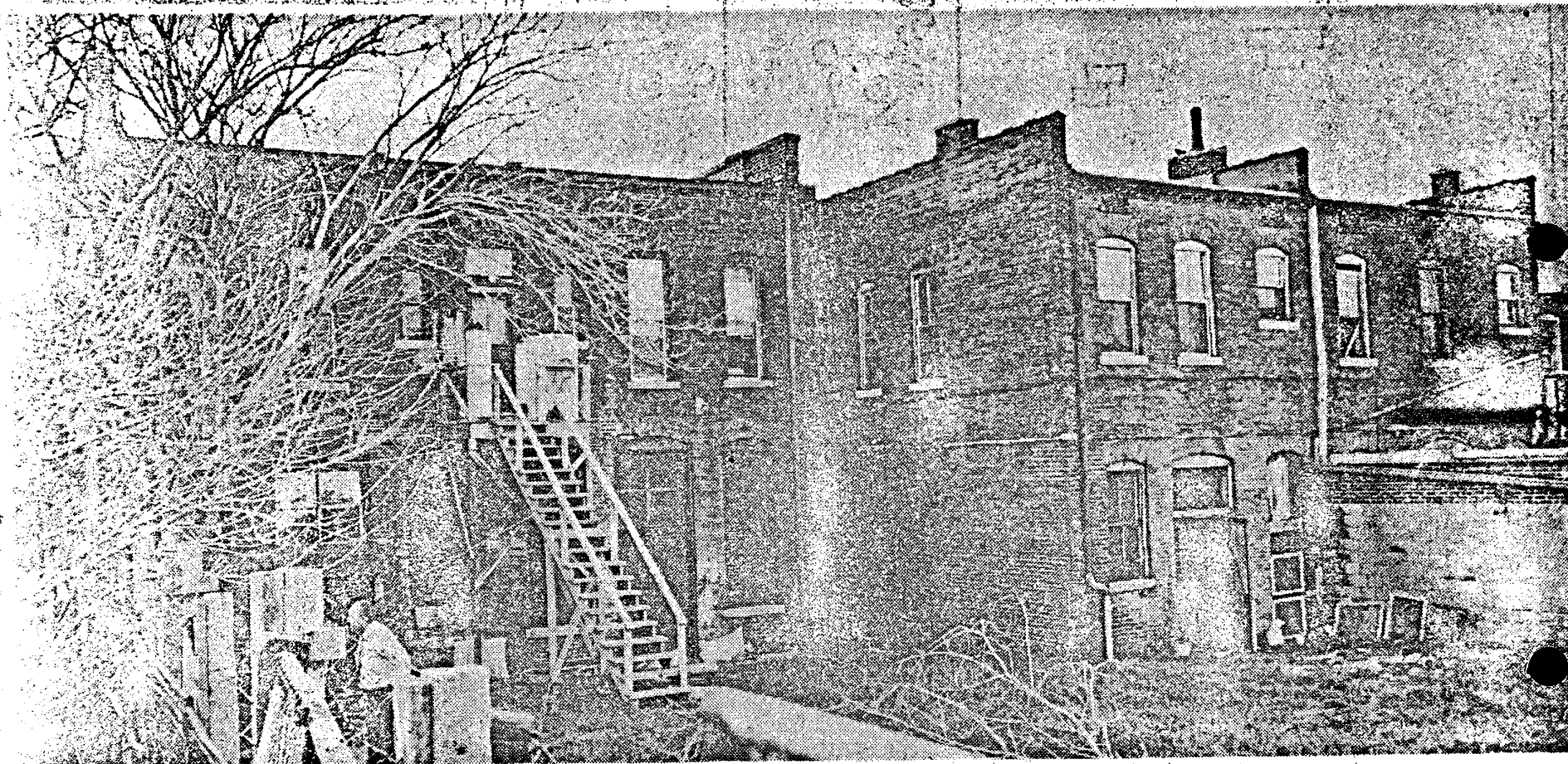
(Stories, Additional Pictures on Pages 1, 12, and 13)



Broken Line Shows Probable Path Of Bullet

—Staff Map by William Herrington





## *The Scene*

The bullet that killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. yesterday was probably fired from one of the windows in the building at right, above Jim's Grill, 418 South Main. The rifle believed to have fired the fatal shot was found in the doorway of the building at left, the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main.

—Staff Photo by Robert Williams  
(Stories, Additional Pictures on Pages 1, 12 and 13)



—Staff Photo.

## *The Weapon And The Victim*

An officer peeked at the hunting rifle with telescopic sight which was found at the entrance of Canoe Amusement Co. It was found in a Browning Arms carton, appeared brand new and was wrapped in a bedspread. Last night, the body of Dr.



—Staff Photo by Vernon Matthews

King was transferred from the University of Tennessee Medical Units to a hearse. The body was then taken to R. S. Lewis & Sons Funeral Home, 374 Vance.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King's Assassination Etched In Witnesses' Eyes, Ears

By ROBERT SAMSOT

"He didn't say a word; he didn't move, said The Rev. Andrew Young, executive vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

"It sounded like a firecracker."

The shot, he said, hit Dr. Martin Luther King in the neck and lower right part of his face. His eyes appeared first half-closed and then open but staring before a Fire Department ambulance took him to St. Joseph Hospital.

The Rev. James Bevel, one of Dr. King's closest aides, said after the ambulance left, "I think he's gone."

"I heard the ping and looked around and he was lying on his back," said Chauncey Eskridge, one of Dr. King's legal advisers.

"When I looked up, the police and sheriff's deputies were running all around. The bullet exploded in his face," said The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, who was with Dr. King on the balcony of the hotel.

"He had just bent over. If he had been standing up, he wouldn't have been hit in the face. When I turned around, I saw police coming from everywhere. They said, 'Where did it come from' and I said, 'Behind you.' The police were coming from where the shot came."

He said, "It was similar to the Kennedy incident (the assassination of President John Kennedy). The police were all around, but there is no military protection against ambush and he was ambushed.

On South Main, where the building in which the sniper may have hid squats in disrepair, Guy W. Canipe, part owner of Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main, said a gun was dropped next to the front door of his store.

"I didn't think anything about it, I just thought . . . (a man seen running) had dropped something and I went out to tell him. I just heard the sound of it falling."

Mr. Canipe described the man, whom he saw only from

dressed, wearing a dark suit the rear, as "clean, nicely (and bareheaded). Not like the kind of people you see down here," he said.

He estimated the man's age between 20 and 30. "It's hard to tell from the back.

"Just a couple of minutes, it seemed like, a deputy came down the street from the same direction the man came from and he had a gun in his hand. I saw him with that pistol and went back inside. I didn't want to get in trouble."

Two men were inside Canipe's store when the shooting took place.

Bernell Finley, 40, and Julius Graham, 22, of 804 North Fifth, said they heard a thump outside.

"I just heard this thing and looked out the window and there was that gun in the box just sitting there. When I looked up, I saw this young man laying rubber down the street," Mr. Finley said.

A stoneyfaced patrolman stood outside the door of Canipe's store. A Negro, he just shook his head when asked what happened.

A police detective, also a Negro, said, "Son of a bitch. You remember when they shot Meredith, I'm afraid they're going to just take this town apart."

When someone mentioned black power, he said, "It isn't just black power, it's gonna be everybody — from all over the damn country."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS  
 Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....  
APR 5 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS

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The Rev. Mr. Jackson said Dr. King had been in his second-floor room — No. 306 — throughout the day until just about 6 p.m. He emerged, wearing a black suit and white shirt, paused, leaned over the green iron railing and started chatting with the Rev. Mr. Jackson, who introduced him to Bea Branch, a musician who was to play at a rally Dr. King was to address two hours later.

Dr. King asked if Branch would play a spiritual at the night meeting. Then Solomon Jones Jr. of 374 Vance, Dr. King's chauffeur, said he told Dr. King he should put his top coat on as he prepared to leave the motel and Dr. King said, "OK, I will," then the bullet struck. It was 6:05 p.m. Dr. King was pronounced dead at St. Joseph at 7 p.m.

After the shot, Jones said he saw a man with "something white on his face" creep from a thicket across the street.

At 6:19 p.m. police cars at the scene were radioed Dr. King was in "critical" condition.

And less than 45 minutes later a grim faced patrolman said, "He's dead." "Oh my God," said another. "There goes all hell."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**King's Slaying  
Stuns Troops  
In War Zone**

SAIGON, April 5. — (Friday) — (AP) — American troops in Vietnam were stunned Friday by news of the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis.

President Johnson's talk mourning the assassination was relayed to the 516,000 United States troops here by live broadcast from the White House.

The United States Armed Forces Radio Network carried the President's words.

The broadcast was followed by an interlude of solemn music in place of the scheduled jazz program, the same procedure followed after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963.

As in the case of Kennedy, news of King's death spread swiftly throughout American units in remote parts of the country.

In addition to the Armed Forces Radio, the news was relayed by plane and helicopter radio communications to outposts.

One Negro soldier, told of King's death, said "you must be joking. I just don't believe it. This is unbelievable."

Another soldier, a white master sergeant, said: "I'm stunned. This reminds me of the time President Kennedy was assassinated. I've got a roommate who is a Negro and we've talked about our civil rights troubles at home. I think there's going to be a lot of troubles at home."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 12

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

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Date: 4-5-68

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Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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4/5/68  
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Intensive Manhunt Is Quickly Mounted

## President Johnson's Plane Is Reported En Route To Memphis; State Guard Alerted

By JOHN MEANS

A sniper shot and killed Dr. Martin Luther King last night as he stood on the balcony of a downtown hotel.

The most intensive manhunt in the city's history was touched off minutes after the shooting.

Violence broke out in Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham, Miami, Raleigh, Washington, New York and other cities as news of the assassination swept the nation.

National leaders, including President Lyndon Johnson, and aides close to the slain 39-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner, urged the nation to stand calm and avoid violence.

The entire nation was tense.

It was learned early this morning that Air Force One — the President's plane — had left Washington. It may be en route to Memphis.

There was no confirmation that the President was aboard.

The slaying of Dr. King brought Tennessee National Guardsmen back into Memphis. The entire 11,000 men in the state guard were on alert early today.

Memphis was placed under a tight, 24-hour curfew by Mayor Henry Loeb.

All schools will be closed today. Parents were urged to keep their children at home.

A rifle bullet slammed into Dr. King's jaw and neck at 6:01 p.m.

He died in the emergency room at St. Joseph Hospital at 7:05 p.m.

King, the foremost American civil rights leader, was alone on the second-floor walk of the Lorraine Hotel at 406 Mulberry when the bullet struck.

A young white man is believed to have fired the fatal shot from a nearby building.

Looters and vandals roamed the streets despite the imposition of a tight curfew. Shooting was widespread. National Guardsmen were rushed to the North Memphis area of Springdale and Howell after bullets blasted the windshield out of a police car near there.

Police — estimated at more than 150 — descended on the south Memphis hotel, sealed off the area, and almost immediately broadcast a description of the sniper: a white male, 30 to 32 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, about 165 pounds, dark to sandy hair, medium build, ruddy complexion as if he worked outside, wearing a black suit and white shirt.

Frank R. Ahlgren, editor of The Commercial Appeal, announced that the newspaper will pay a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Dr. King's assassin.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1 + 12

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

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44-1987-Sub-C-2  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED *llh* FILED *llh*  
APR 5 1968  
FBI — MEMPHIS

Dr. King returned to Memphis Wednesday morning to map plans for another downtown march — scheduled for next Monday — in support of the city's striking sanitation workers. He had spent part of the day yesterday awaiting reports from his attorneys, who were in Federal Judge Bailey Brown's courtroom asking that a temporary restraining order against the proposed march be lifted.

The injunction was obtained by the city after Dr. King's first march broke out in violence downtown, brought the National Guard to the city in strength and seriously damaged the Negro leader's reputation for nonviolence. For the first time in his career, he had been present during violence, and it was this picture he was planning to dispel with the march next Monday.

Mayor Loeb declared today, tomorrow and Sunday as days of mourning, and said all flags in the city would be lowered "with appropriate observances."

All ministers, priests and rabbis in the Memphis area have been asked to meet at 10 a.m. today at St. Mary's Cathedral (Episcopal).

Frank Holloman, fire and police director, who took personal command of the murder investigation minutes after the shooting, said "every resource" of city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies "is committed and dedicated to identifying and apprehending the person or persons responsible."

Mayor Loeb ordered a tight curfew, much stricter than the one imposed after last week's rioting. "All movement is restricted except for health or emergency reasons," the order said.

A few minutes after the shooting, police reported a high-speed chase in which a blue Pontiac was being pursued by a white Mustang out the Austin Peay Highway. Shots were reported fired between the two cars. A white Mustang, seen near the scene of the slaying, was still being sought by police early today.

Officials of Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference, some of whom were standing near him on the narrow balcony of the hotel when he was shot, continued to urge his nonviolent teachings. His chief lieutenant, Dr. Ralph Abernathy, went to the Mason Temple last night to address a gathering of Dr. King's followers.

"Let us live for what he died for," Dr. Abernathy told the mourning group. "If we respect his leadership, if we appreciate the service that he rendered, then we must do all in our power to carry forth the work that is incomplete."

"If a riot or violence would erupt in Memphis tonight, Dr. King in Heaven would not be pleased."

A few had other ideas. "He died for us, and we're going to die for him," a young man shouted.

Early Friday morning, Mr. Holloman said police believe the murder weapon was a 30-caliber, pump-action Remington rifle equipped with a telescopic sight. Such a weapon

was among those stolen Tuesday night from Dowdle Sporting Goods Co. at 2896 Walnut Grove Road.

"The distance over which the bullet traveled before it struck Dr. King was 205 feet, 3 inches, at a down angle," Mr. Holloman said.

He also detailed "other evidence . . . that may help us identify the assassin. The shot was fired from the window of a common bathroom at the end of the hall on the east side of the building at 420 South Main. The suspect checked into the boarding house between 3 and 3:30 p.m. His room was close to the bathroom. The suspect was a white man, 6 feet tall, about 165-175 pounds, between 26 and 32 years of age."

"We do know he bought a pair of binoculars this (Thursday) afternoon in Memphis . . . The man was seen to run from the 420 South Main building and discard the gun and a suitcase at 424 South Main. He simply faded. Nobody saw him get in the car, but a white Mustang was seen to flee the area.

"The evidence we now have indicates that only one man was physically in the area (the bathroom)."

Mr. Holloman would not reveal where the binoculars were purchased, and said he did not know if the name used by the sniper is his real one.

The gun found at the Main street address was turned over to the FBI for ballistics tests. Mr. Holloman said his office is "working closely with the FBI" on other aspects of the investigation.

The former FBI officer also said the investigation was "impaired by the riot situation which developed almost immediately."

"The bullet knocked him off his feet," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, executive staff member of SCLC. "It sounded like

(Continued on Page 12)

# 'That Song, 'Precious Lord,' Sing It Real Pretty,' Was The Last Request Of Slain Rights Leader

(Continued from Page One)

a stick of dynamite, or a big firecracker."

The Rev. Mr. Jackson said Dr. King had walked out of his room ahead of several friends on the way to a dinner engagement at the home of the Rev. Samuel B. Kyles.

His last words were in reply to his chauffeur, Solomon Jones Jr., on the street below.

"I went out to start the car," Mr. Jones reported. "Dr. King was on the porch. I yelled up at him it was cool out, you better put your topcoat on. Dr. King said 'OK, I will.' He started and then I heard the shot."

"He just fell back. I turned around and I saw a man jump out of the thicket across the street. He ran toward Main. We all scattered.

"I got to the fire escape and climbed up to Dr. King's balcony. There was a white man there. I don't know who he was, but they said he lived at the hotel. Dr. King looked dead. The white man covered his face with a cloth."

Moments before, Dr. King was talking to Ben Branch, singer and bandleader who was to appear with him at the Mason Temple rally.

"I want you to sing for me tonight," the world's youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner said. "I want you to do that song for me, 'Precious Lord.' Sing it real pretty."

The slain leader's wife, Mrs. Coretta King, remained in Atlanta last night. Told by telephone that her husband had been shot, she was awaiting a plane to Memphis when she was notified that the wound was fatal.

Dr. King was bleeding profusely from a huge wound in the head and neck area as he lay face down on the concrete balcony of the hotel.

About 40 Negro men and women heard the announcement from the emergency room shortly after 7. The women began to cry and the men began exclaiming:

"Dr. King is dead. He'll have to be buried. We gotta do something about it. Do you hear?"

The curfew was ordered within minutes by Mayor Loeb, who heard the news of Dr. King's assassination on his pi. He immediately returned to his office, and remained in contact with Mr. Holloman and other officials.

The curfew closed down liquor stores and night spots in the city immediately. West Memphis liquor stores also were closed, and Arkansas Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller placed the 175-man West Memphis unit of the Arkansas National Guard on alert status.

The Rev. Mr. Jackson said police "came from everywhere" after the shooting. He estimated there were 150 officers on the scene within seconds, but "it was similar to the Kennedy incident. The police were all around, but there is no military protection against an ambush, and he was ambushed."

Mr. Holloman said he had assigned about 40 officers to protect Dr. King, though none of the SCLC officials had asked for protection for their leader. Some of these had been nearby ever since he returned to Memphis, and some were "within a few yards of him" when he was shot.

Two men inside the amusement company at 424 South Main said they saw a man racing from the scene in a white Mustang. Bernell Finley and Julius Graham said they heard "a thump" outside, looked out, "and there was this gun lying in the box, just sitting there."

David Wood, 25, of 3639 Townes, was drinking beer at Jim's Grill next door to Canipe's Amusements. He saw the Mustang parked in front of the cafe.

"The car had no front tag and no inspection sticker, so it must have been from out of state," said Mr. Wood.

Six other Tayloe employes corroborated Mr. Wood's account. They had been drinking beer in the grill for an hour.

Lloyd Jowers, owner of the grill, said the Mustang was parked in front of his white

Cadillac. He also said he felt he would have known if anyone had rented a room in the last few days at 418½ South Main, over the cafe. He identified the owner of the rooming area as C. L. Short and the manager as Charles Stevens. The rooms are blocked off by police.

Some of the police technicians brought down a bucket and some miscellaneous stuff. Ironically, Dr. King chose the hotel where he was shot because it was operated by Negroes, spurning the more secluded Holiday Inn-Rivermont where he was quartered last week.

He had reported threats on his life after last week's march, but "these reports did not bother him," said the Rev. Andrew Young, executive director of SCLC. He often joked with newsmen that his schedule depended on whether he lived long enough to fill it.

Beaten several times, he was stabbed in 1958 by a Negro woman in a Harlem book store in 1958, and almost died then. His home was booby trapped with a dynamite bomb during the Birmingham boycott, and another house where he was staying was sprayed with rifle bullets.

He came to Memphis in 1965 for another march, the completion of the one begun by James Meredith, who was gunned down by a Memphian near Hernando, Miss., as he walked down Highway 51 on his way to Jackson. Mr. Meredith was not seriously hurt.

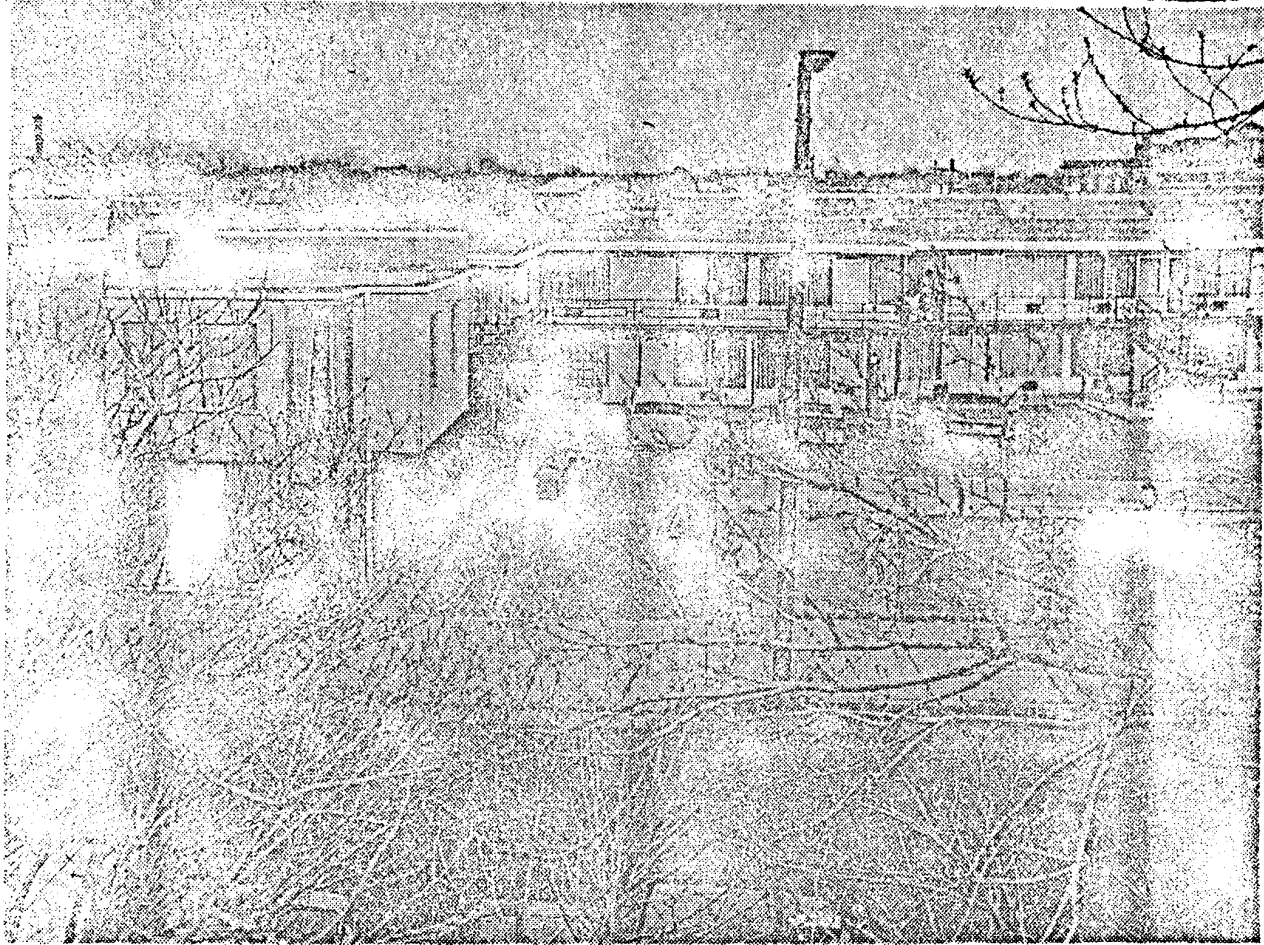
The man who made "We Shall Overcome" a national anthem to millions of Negroes now joins a growing list of their martyrs, including Medgar Evers and Vernon Dahmer, civil rights leaders who died violently. Evers, too, was the victim of a sniper's bullet, and Dahmer was burned to death in his fire-bombed home in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Dr. King's nonviolent protest policy earned him numerous comparisons to Mohandas Gandhi, the Indian religious leader who used nonviolence to break the back of the British Empire in India. Gandhi, too, was the victim of an assassin.

In Washington, the leaders of the union whose attempts to organize Memphis' sanitation workers brought Dr. King here, said the union will march Monday in his honor.

Jerry Wurf, president, and Joseph L. Ames, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, called on Mayor Loeb "to provide conditions of safety for the men and women who march in this tribute to our martyred leader."





The Lorraine Hotel, Where Dr. Martin Luther King Was Fatally Shot

—Staff Photo by Robert Williams

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Gaping Wound Claims Life —Hospital's Aid Is Futile

By THOMAS FOX

Dr. Martin Luther King, his head wrapped in a towel and oxygen mask over his face, looked small on the stretcher as he was wheeled into the emergency room of St. Joseph hospital at 6:16 last night.

His eyes were closed and the only sound was from the respirator which was pumping oxygen into his dying body.

Several of Dr. King's aides, his attorney Chauncey Eskridge and his chauffeur, Solomon Jones Jr., leaned over the Department ambulance stretcher. Their eyes were red-rimmed and all were silent.

As the stretcher disappeared behind the swinging double doors, Mr. Eskridge leaned over a desk in the waiting room and put his head in his hands. "Why would anybody want to do this. I just don't understand it." He did not go to the room where a team of doctors were treating a gaping wound in Dr. King's neck. "I won't go in there," he said.

Other members of Dr. King's party emerged from the room and leaned against the walls; some were crying.

Police arrived within minutes after the ambulance and quickly posted guards at every entrance to the hospital. Two patrolmen with shotguns guarded the entrance to the emergency room and allowed police officers and aides to enter Dr. King into the room.

Every telephone in the waiting room rang constantly and police referred all inquiries to Chief J. C. Macdonald at Central Police station.

Nurses ran in and out of the emergency room, pushing their way through the crowd in the help of policemen.

An aide emerged from the waiting room about 15 minutes after Dr. King arrived and stood with tears running down his cheeks. "They have just killed Dr. King," he said. A police officer advised him not to make any statements and he returned to the emergency room.

Mr. Jones, who was talking with Dr. King as the shot rang out, fought back tears as he described the assassination to newsmen.

"I ran up the fire escape (after the shot) and when I got to him he looked like he was dead. I was in shock and the others pulled me away. I did not see the wound. A white man was the first to comfort him with a towel. I think he was staying at the motel."

Doctors remained silent on the condition of the Nobel Peace Prize Winner for an hour and fifteen minutes. A priest walked into the hall at 7 p.m. who had been in the emergency room. "He must have been dead when he arrived. Oh, the terrible wound," he said pointing to the right side of his neck.

At 7:30 several doctors lined up in front of the reception desk in the emergency room and all of Dr. King's party were called into the emergency room.

"Is he all right?", someone called out as they filed into the room. "No, he is not all right," said a Negro man standing behind one of the doctors.

Paul Hess, assistant hospital administrator, read a terse announcement at 7:30 which said: "At 7 p.m., Dr. Martin Luther King expired in the emergency room of a gunshot wound in the neck."

As the crowd of newsmen ran for telephones, a lone Negro woman sank into a chair in the waiting room and put her head in her hands. "I didn't have to go back there to find that out," she said.

Dr. King's body remained at the hospital until shortly before 9 p.m. when it was carried to the morgue at John Gaston Hospital in the same ambulance which had brought him to the hospital 2 hours and 45 minutes before.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-3

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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An Editorial—

# Memphis Needs Calm

THE assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis was a cowardly action. It was a tragedy for Memphis.

The need now is for the community to remain calm and restrained despite the increased tensions which this action has caused. As President Johnson said, all America must "reject blind violence," and "search their hearts."

All citizens should keep in mind that this was the deed of an individual who in some warped-minded way thought he could bring an end to a complex problem with a simple, primitive action.

THE death of Dr. King does not solve any problems in Memphis or in the nation. Indeed, it aggravates the existing problems and makes more urgent the need for settlement of the Memphis dispute that precipitated the assassination. Mayor Loeb and the City Council must move swiftly to that end now.

This is not a time for discussion of the provocations which lay behind this action. Murder has been done. Swift apprehension of the killer and just punishment must follow.

To many who were not aware of the angry forces which have been tearing away at the structure of this community in recent weeks, this should bring understanding. There should be no further divisive actions which we all would certainly regret. Rather, this should serve as an example of what such racial rending causes, and should result in solidifying of sentiment in the community more than ever before.

IT IS time now that those of us in all circumstances and of all attitudes realize in the shock of this emotional action that somehow our difficulties and apparent differences must be resolved without further violence and bloodshed.

Hate has produced its ultimate product at the ultimate price.

THE Commercial Appeal is aware that all law enforcement agencies are doing their utmost to apprehend the killer, but we also realize that information from any source could be helpful. Therefore, The Commercial Appeal offers a reward of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this monstrous crime.

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MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. MELONBY

Title:

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-C-4

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
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# President Stops Work Of Peace To Mourn Death

The Commercial Appeal-Chicago  
Daily News Service

WASHINGTON, April 4. — President Lyndon Baines Johnson was seeking world peace when domestic peace was shattered by the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The chief executive was conferring in the Oval Room of the White House with Llewellyn E. Thompson Jr., who had been summoned urgently from his ambassadorial post in Moscow to discuss Vietnam peace.

An aide entered the room and handed the President a wire service bulletin about the shooting of Dr. King. Mr. Johnson snapped: "Get Ramsey."

"Ramsey" is Ramsey Clark, the attorney general.

Within minutes Clark was on the telephone and Mr. Johnson was demanding detailed reports of the events in Memphis, where Dr. King was shot.

The President began drafting a statement. He was determined then to address the nation by radio and television to heal this latest wound in the divided nation he addressed only Sunday night. A few moments later Thompson had left the office.

Then George Christian, his press secretary, entered to break the grim news. Martin Luther King was dead.

The President held up his scheduled televised speech to reach Dr. King's widow by telephone in Atlanta.

Then he walked to the west wing of the White House and stood in a doorway, sheltered from a cold, April rain, to address the nation. The President was obviously deeply moved.

Will he go to Honolulu, as planned to discuss Vietnam peace?

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Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub C-5  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
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FBI - MEMPHIS

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"We'll get up tomorrow morning and make a decision," he said.

Meanwhile, the White House switchboard was busy with calls from around the world. Most expressed sympathy. Some expressed delight. The President returned to Vietnam.



"WE HAVE BEEN SADDENED," said President Johnson in Washington yesterday upon learning of the death of Dr. King. The assassination led Johnson to postpone his trip to Hawaii.

AP Wirephoto

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# Rights And Political Leaders Voice Anguish, Shock, Grief

## Johnson Speaks For Saddened Nation And Condemns Violence—Some Express Fear Of Increased Terrorism

From Our Press Services

The nation's civil rights and political leaders reacted with anguish, shock and grief last night at the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

There also was fear that the slaying could lead to more violence.

President Johnson spoke of an "America shocked and saddened" by the assassination as he condemned violence, lawlessness and divisiveness.

The President appeared in the doorway of the White House offices, stern-faced and spoke on all television and radio networks.

"I ask every American citizen," he said, "to reject the blind violence that has struck down Dr. King, who lived by non-violence."

The President urged prayers for peace and understanding in the land and said:

"We can achieve nothing by lawlessness and divisiveness among the American people."

He said he hopes all Americans would search their hearts.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey said the slaying "brings shame to our country. An apostle of non-violence has been the victim of violence."

The vice president said, however, that his death will bring new strength to the cause he fought for.

Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon sent a telegram to the King, which said: "Dr. King's death is a great personal tragedy for everyone who knew him and a great tragedy for the nation. Mrs. Nixon joins me in sympathy and prayers for you and your family in this terrible ordeal."

New York Mayor John V. Lindsay: "The people of our city of every race, I am sure,

will join hands in paying tribute to him. Our greatest tribute to him will be to bear ourselves as he would want us to — with dignity and prayer."

Senator Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), said Dr. King's death is "one of the saddest tragedies to befall the nation" and warned that the shooting will add to "a very serious domestic crisis. It's going to increase marching across our country."

Fred Meely, a spokesman for the militant Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, said, "There is no real comment that we can make. Everybody knows what happened and everybody knows why it happened and the black people in this country know what they have to do about it. That's all I have to say."

Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington sent a telegram to Dr. King's widow saying he was "deeply saddened and shocked" by the shooting.

Representative Dan Rostenkowski (R-Ill.) in Washington said:

"This dastardly, cowardly act on the part of this unknown person is of great grief to me and, I know, to my city. This is an example of how violence breeds violence. Let's hope and pray that the action and

(Continued on Page 13)

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COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68

Edition:

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Editor: FRANK M. ALBERT

Title:

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

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FBI - MEMPHIS



# Rights And Political Leaders Voice Anguish, Shock, Grief

(Continued from Page One)

reaction of violence that has plagued our city for many weeks may stop with this act."

Senator James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said, "Violence is to be deplored. It does not solve anything."

Representative Robert A. Everett (D-Tenn.), whose Eighth District lies partly in Shelby County, said, "I deeply regret this tragic incident. I certainly hope we have no further violence."

Representative Ray Blanton (D-Tenn.) of the Seventh Congressional District said, "This tragedy is unfortunate and it never will be forgotten. He was an advocate of non-violence and a champion of his people's cause. The sick person who caused this tragedy is to be pitied. . ."

"A terrible, inexcusable, awful thing," said Senator Howard Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.).

Senator Fred Harris (D-Okla.), who was a member of the President's Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, called the death "an American tragedy."

"I think this is horrible," said Senator Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.) "Horrible. Horrible."

Louis Martin, deputy Democratic national chairman and a Negro, said "A black day for the nation" had occurred. "This is what this land needed the least as we were on the threshold of perhaps international peace negotiations and a new day."

"Violence," said Representative Hale Boggs (D-La.), "has no place in America. Anywhere. By anybody."

"I only regret that it is impossible in our nation to fully protect any citizen in his right to speak for and advocate the dictates of his conscience," said Senator Russell B. Long (D-La.).

"Unfortunately," Long said, "men who have strong beliefs and a great following are usually endangered for their lives, whether that man be a president, a man in public life or the leader of a cause."

Senator Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass.), the only Negro in the Senate, said:

"The crime is unspeakable. The grief is unbearable. In our anguish and bitterness over this awful event, we must not lose sight of the meaning of this great man's life."

"A tragic and senseless murder," said Senator Clifford P. Case (R-N.J.). "It is a bitter thing for all Americans that his dream of America should be shattered by a coward's bullet."

The National Student Association called "upon students across the country to join in a day of mourning for Dr. King's tragic death. We further pledge increased efforts to combat white racism in the United States," the student group said.

House Republican leader Gerald Ford (Mich.) said King's death "should make all Americans feel ashamed because it is a travesty on everything America stands for."

Senator Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) was campaigning in San Francisco for the Democratic presidential nomination when the news arrived. Addressing a group of union leaders in a hotel, he asked for a moment of silence, then went to his own room.

Presidential candidate George Wallace called the assassination "a senseless, regrettable and tragic act."

"It is another example of the breakdown of law and order in this country which must be stopped. It is my hope that whoever is guilty of this act will be speedily apprehended."

Mayor Richard Hatcher of Gary, Ind., one of the nation's first elected Negro mayors, said Dr. King's death "is every man's loss."

"We are all the survivors of this great leader . . . we are shocked, saddened beyond imagination and eternally diminished."

Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley said, "Chicago joins in mourning the tragic death of Dr. King." He "was a dedicated and courageous American who commanded the respect of the people of the world."

James Farmer, former national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, said the killing must not lead to more bloodshed.

"Martin is dead . . . God help us all," Farmer said.

Carl Stokes, Negro mayor of Cleveland, Ohio, said Dr. King's death "emphasizes that we must do what has to be done to prevent this kind of violence."

He appealed to Cleveland residents "not to adopt adverse reaction."

James Meredith, who was shot in June, 1966, during a voter registration march in Mississippi, said, "This is America's answer to the peaceful, nonviolent way of obtaining rights in this country."

Gov. John Connally of Texas, victim of a sniper's bullet with President John F. Kenne-

dy, said Dr. King "contributed much to the chaos and turbulence in this country, but he did not deserve this fate . . ."

Leontyne Price, a soprano for the Metropolitan Opera and a Negro, said: "What Dr. Martin Luther King stood for and was, can never be killed with a bullet."

Whitney Young, executive director of the National Urban League: "We are unspeakably shocked by the murder of Dr. King, one of the greatest leaders of our time. This is a bitter reflection on America: We fear for our country."

Floyd McKissick, national director of CORE, said that with Dr. King's death, nonviolence "is now a dead philosophy."

"This is racism in the most extreme form, it is truly American racism," McKissick said. "We make no predictions, but mark my word, black Americans of all sorts and beliefs loved Martin Luther King."

In Brisbane, Australia, Dr. Billy Graham, the American evangelist, said:

"Dr. King's death indicates the sickness of the American society and is going to further inflame passions and hates. It increases the necessity for spiritual awakening."

But Senator Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) had this to say: "I do not favor violence of any kind. I hesitate to say anything bad about the dead, but I do not share a high admiration for Dr. King. He pretended to be nonviolent..."

In Washington, along a grimy strip of 14th Street N.W. Stokely Carmichael, former chairman of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, led a march through the Negro ghetto as his followers shouted: "Close the stores — Martin Luther King is dead." One by one, the shops closed.

The Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, who with Dr. King was one of the early organizers of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said one of Dr. King's philosophies was that "not one hair on the head of one white man shall be harmed by us."

"We dedicated ourselves and hoped America would accept the nonviolence as a way of life," Shuttlesworth said.

The Rev. James Groppi, white Roman Catholic priest who has led Milwaukee's marathon open housing marches, said: "This is tragic. This certainly is not going to be conducive to peaceful racial relations. . . . That man (Dr. King) is a saint and a martyr."

The Michigan House of Representatives at Lansing adjourned a night session out of respect for King.

A \$250-a-plate Democratic party fund-raising dinner in Washington broke up early, its thousands of guests leaving the ballroom in the Washington Hilton in silence and disbelief.

Dr. King, said House Speaker John McCormack (D-Mass.), "was a martyr to a cause — and that cause will be strengthened if the House concurs in the Senate civil rights bill."

The bill, adopted by the House earlier this year, would outlaw discrimination in the sale or rental of 68 per cent of the nation's housing. It also would make civil rights murders — such as King's — a federal crime.

In Stamford, Conn., former Brooklyn Dodger baseball star Jackie Robinson said the shooting "is the most disturbing and distressing thing we've had to face in a long time. . . I am concerned about repercussions. I can't imagine people taking this kind of attitude."

Senator Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) said, "Dr. King had a life dedicated to peace, justice, compassion and nonviolence. It is up to us to fulfill his dream."

In Newton, Mass., Kivie Kaplan, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, commented, "This is shocking — that people have to resort to actions like these to a man who was fighting for human dignity for all people."

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, under-secretary-general of the United Nations, in a telegram to Dr. King's widow, called the shooting "a most grievous blow to the cause of racial harmony. It was an unspeakable and outrageous act, presumably by a white bigot, which inevitably will be a most grievous blow to the cause of racial harmony throughout this country."

Richard Cardinal Cushing, Roman Catholic archbishop of Boston, said, "An eloquent voice for the rights of all men has been silenced, and men of good will everywhere will mourn."

Arthur Goldberg, ambassador to the United Nations said in a telegram to Dr. King's widow:

"Mrs. Goldberg and I are shocked and deeply grieved at the sad news of wanton killing of your distinguished husband. This is a tragic loss for our country and for all people everywhere who believe in freedom and equality for all men. We extend our deep sympathy to you and ~~an~~ your family."

Senator Jacob J. Javits (R-N.Y.) said "This terrible tragedy has taken the life of one of the greatest and most inspiring leaders our country has produced. This moment of shock and grief for a fallen leader demands of all of us restraint and understanding and a renewed dedication to carry on the work of justice and decency among men of all races, the cause for which Dr. King gave his life.

"His doctrine of nonviolence will overcome, as he planned it should . . ."

New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller: "I am directing that the flags on all state buildings and facilities be flown at half staff tomorrow from sunrise to sunset as an expression of the deep sorrow felt by New Yorkers as well as men of good will throughout our nation and the world."

Arkansas Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller: "I am shocked by another act of violence that has been injected into an already explosive situation. Murder under any circumstance is deplorable. I can only interpret this as the irresponsible act of a deranged mind. . ."

In Montgomery, Ala., officials of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, where Dr. King first came to prominence with his bus boycott in 1955, mourned his death but predicted his lieutenants would carry on his nonviolent tradition.

"I've been almost in a state of shock," said C. T. Smiley, chairman of the church's board of trustees. "He was a courageous man and a very smart man and yet a very humble man in many ways."

#### Wilkins Is Stunned At News Of Death Roy, Wilkins of New York,

executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called The Commercial Appeal at 7:05 last night to ask about Dr. King's condition.

When told the civil rights leader was dead and asked to make a statement, Mr. Wilkins asked, "He's what . . . he's what . . . he's what . . . he's what . . . he's what?"

Stunned, Mr. Wilkins then said, "I'm sorry, I can't make any other statement at this time."

NEW YORK, April 4. — (AP) — The NAACP's Roy Wilkins said late Thursday that "Tennessee Gov. Buford Ellington made the wrong move tonight" in calling back the National Guard into Memphis, where Dr. Martin Luther King was a s s a s s i n a t e d. "Somebody gave him a bum steer."

Wilkins explained, "He put 4,000 men in Memphis . . . soldiers with rifles. Now this doesn't say to the Negro community that we know you're sorrowful and sad, and that you've lost a great man, and that we too have lost a great man."

"This says, 'We're gonna put 4,000 soldiers there to see that you behave yourself.' This is the wrong psychological move."

"And I'm not afraid," Wilkins added in a CBS television interview, "and not intimidated to saying it on the air . . ."

"For a governor to send 4,000 troops in there an hour after a man is shot, this simply exacerbates the whole situation."



Dr. Martin Luther King



PRESIDENT EISENHOWER met with Dr. King and other civil rights leaders during a 1958 conference on school integration. Dr. King frequently met with Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson. —UPI Telephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Day-To-Day March Of Events Shattered By Sniper's Bullet

A chronology of events from the time employes of the city's sanitation workers walked off their jobs to the slaying yesterday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:

FEB. 12—City sanitation workers, 930 of 1,100, left their jobs, without warning demanding recognition of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employes as their bargaining agent and asking redress of a series of grievances. Mayor Henry Loeb said the work stoppage was illegal.

FEB. 14—Mayor Loeb met with Charles Blackburn, director of public works, and Frank Holleman, fire and police director, and then ordered the hiring of new employes to replace strikers.

FEB. 18 — Mayor Loeb and leaders of the city's striking sanitation workers traded proposals during a face-to-face confrontation in a meeting called by the Memphis Ministers Association. Jerry Wurf, president of the employes' union, joined the 10-hour session soon after midnight.

FEB. 20 — Leaders of striking sanitation workers called for an economic boycott as sponsored by the Memphis Ministers Association continued without result. Daily marches from Clayborn Temple AME Church to City Hall and back began.

FEB. 22 — A City Council committee studying the city's position in the sanitation strike agreed to recommend recognizing of the union and a dues checkoff.

FEB. 23 — Striking sanitation workers clashed briefly with police in downtown Memphis after they left a City Council session at The Auditorium in which the council declined to grant concessions recommended by a study committee the day before. Police dispersed the estimated 900 marchers with night sticks and tear gas.

FEB. 24 — City officials went into Chancery Court and obtained a broad injunction against the strike from Chancellor Robert Hoffmann which gave the city the right to seek contempt of court citations against any leader of the union who engaged in marches or other demonstrations and also prohibited the strike itself.

FEB. 29 — Police arrested persons who refused to leave City Council chambers after a meeting in which the council again refused concessions in the strike.

FEB. 29 — The union asked that the state Chancery Court injunction against strike leaders be removed to United States District Court because it violates constitutional rights.

MARCH 1 — Federal Judge Robert McRae refused jurisdiction in the petition issued by Chancellor Hoffman against union leaders.

MARCH 6 — Chancellor Hoffmann held seven top sanitation union leaders in contempt of a court order and gave each 10 days in jail and a \$50 fine — but said they could

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Character:  
or  
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 Being Investigated

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Bureau  
4/5/68  
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44-1987-Sub-C-7

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purge themselves by calling off the four-week strike.

MARCH 7 — The United States Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati was asked to determine if the federal courts should rule on the constitutionality of the injunction issued against the sanitation workers strike.

MARCH 14—Roy Wilkins, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Bayard Rustin of the A. Philip Randolph Institute encouraged sanitation workers and their supporters in speeches to an estimated 9,000 persons at Mason Temple.

MARCH 16—Dr. King told an estimated 13,000 cheering persons at Mason Temple that they should consider a work stoppage if their demands were not met in the strike. He promised to return to Memphis to lead a march at a later date.

MARCH 21—City Council members did not vote on a proposal by the Rev. J. O. Patterson which would have allowed a dues checkoff but passed a resolution calling for mediation sessions with both sides sitting down with Frank B. Miles, a former federal mediator.

MARCH 23—What was to have been the first of a series of mediation sessions ended abruptly when representatives of the city said there was a legal question of whether they could talk with persons named in the anti-strike injunction issued by Chancellor Hoffmann.

MARCH 25 — Chancellor Hoffmann said there was no legal reason to prevent the city and union representatives from negotiating and the first of the mediation sessions opened.

MARCH 27 — Union leaders walked out of mediation talks with the city as the third day of talks neared an end and charged that Mayor Loeb had in effect tied the hands of city representatives by not allowing them any decision-making function.

MARCH 28. — Teams of police and National Guardsmen moved into the city to enforce order and a city-imposed curfew after rioting broke out during a march being led down Main by Dr. King. One person was killed, about 300 arrested and many injured in the melee.

MARCH 29 — Sporadic incidents around the city were reported as the 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew was in its second day.

APRIL 1 — Mayor Loeb ordered the curfew lifted at midday and a city spokesman said the city was studying a series of steps in the face of a promised second march by Dr. King. Several aides of Dr. King were in town planning the march.

APRIL 2 — Spokesmen for ministers backing the sanitation workers said they would ignore any injunction forbidding a march in downtown Memphis.

APRIL 3 — Dr. King arrived as Federal Judge Bailey Brown issued a temporary restraining order against non-Memphians participating in a march.

APRIL 4 — Dr. King was slain by a sniper's bullet soon after returning to his motel after his attorneys asked Judge Brown to lift the restraining order.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Slaying Touches Off Rioting In Southern, Northern Cities

From Our Press Services

Angry Negroes spilled into the streets in at least a half-dozen Southern cities last night in a violent reaction to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Memphis.

There were disturbances at Raleigh, N.C., Birmingham, Miami, Jackson, Miss., and reports of disorders at Winston-Salem, Charlotte and Durham in North Carolina.

About 35 youths clashed with police in downtown Raleigh, and a crowd of onlookers shouted "police brutality" when officers bodily dragged one Negro into a patrol car. Several store windows were smashed.

A group of 15 to 20 Negroes looted a furniture store at Miami and hauled off four or five television sets. Police patrol cars were pelted with rocks when they arrived. Order quickly was restored.

Rock-throwing Negroes bombed cars at Birmingham and scattered garbage cans in the streets of a Negro district.

More than 150 Negroes created a disturbance in Jackson, Miss., and police sealed off the area, a Negro district near Jackson State College, scene of racial violence last year. Bottles were being thrown and windows smashed. A policeman's car was burned.

At Jackson, Negro leader Charles Evers said he had been threatened by a telephone caller after Dr. King was shot. Evers said the first phone call he received after King was shot was from a man who said, "We just killed that black S.O.B. Martin Luther King and you're next."

After that, Evers said, "There were a lot of calls . . . a lot of them were just laughing."

Evers' brother, Medgar Evers, was assassinated here five years ago. Medgar Evers was the state field director for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the time. Charles Evers returned to Mississippi from Chicago to take up his slain brother's work and just recently made a strong, but unsuccessful bid for a seat in Con-

Evers said he had definitely decided not to run again this year for Congress against white conservative Charles Griffin. He said he had been considering entering the race but decided against entering the campaign following the assassination of Dr. King. "I believe I can do more by staying on as state field secretary for the NAACP."

At Tallahassee, a brief rock-throwing demonstration broke out on the Florida A & M University campus in the wake of the assassination.

At Huntsville, Ala., a march of 600 Negroes resulted in some rock throwing and breaking of car and store windows.

A general alert was issued by Raleigh police and dozens of patrol cars converged on the downtown area. One officer squirted disabling gas on a youth, who fell to the sidewalk and was picked up by a companion who threw him across his shoulder and started walking toward Shaw University, a predominantly-Negro institution at the foot of Raleigh's Main Street.

North Carolina highway patrolmen were dispatched to Winston-Salem to help police deal with a civil disturbance in that tobacco city, and there also were reports of trouble in Durham and Charlotte.

There were violent reactions in Northern cities, too.

In New York, sporadic arson, looting, rock throwing and other minor violence broke out in most of the city's Negro neighborhoods last night. Police ordered 7,000 men, due to

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 Being Investigated

*copy of Bureau 4/5/68 ml*

44-1987-Sub-C-8

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
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go off duty at midnight, to remain on the city's streets.

Mayor John V. Lindsay and top police officials set up a command post on Harlem's 125th Street where the first disturbances broke out shortly after the Memphis killing.

Looting then began in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant section and spread to nearby Crown Point and the Fulton Street area. In East New York, police said a large, disorderly crowd stopped automobiles and another group stoned buses.

The Tactical Patrol Force, all members over six feet tall, moved into 125th Street shortly after a three-alarm fire was reported.

Police reported a "number of minor fires" were reported on Lenox Avenue, between 125th and 126th streets and that firemen were being bombarded with rocks, bottles and bricks when they tried to fight the scattered blazes.

By midnight the disturbances appeared to be spreading east, and was centered between Third and Seventh Avenues. At least a half dozen stores in the area were looted.

In Hartford, Conn., episodes of window breaking and looting broke out in the city's north end. Police said five or six blocks of North Main Street had been closed to traffic. Vandalism also broke out in the Parkville section of the city, a racially integrated area. A crowd of teen-agers threw rocks and bottles at passing cars. Police headquarters mobilized all available manpower.

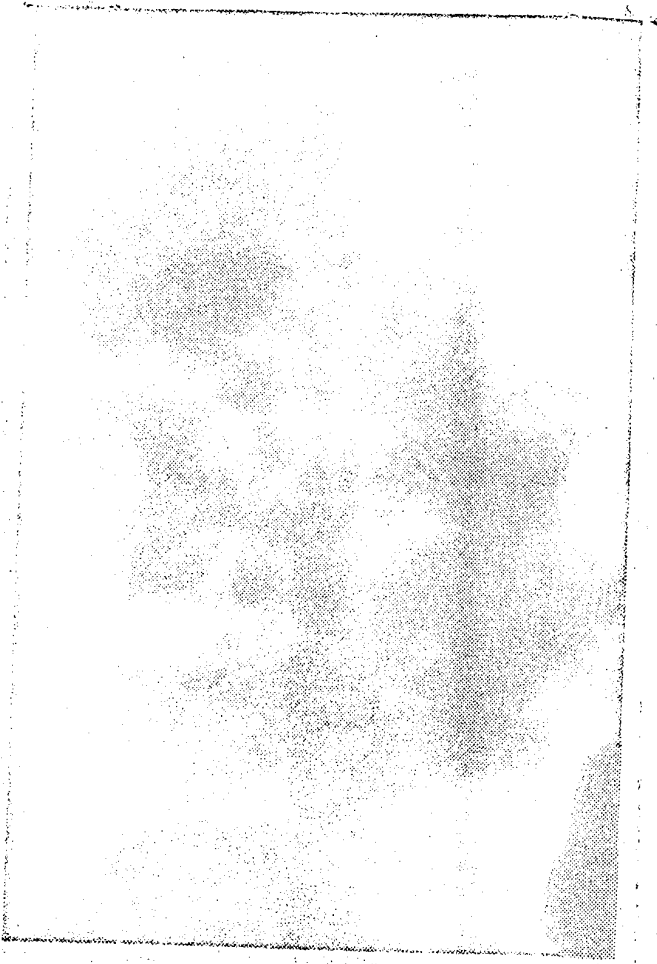
In Washington, crowds of Negroes gathered in a predominantly Negro shopping area and looting broke out. Stores along a six-block section of 14th Street in the near Northwest were broken into. Glass littered the streets and Negroes were clustered at the corners, hooting and calling "Whitey" at passing whites in cars.

In Boston, a large crowd of Negroes stoned six police officers near a Negro housing project in the Roxbury section. At least one person was injured. Police said some persons in the crowd carried clubs and chains.



IN MISSISSIPPI, Dr. King shook hands with residents of Clarksdale during a campaign in 1963 to register Negro

voters. His efforts were largely credited with swelling the rolls of Negro voters throughout the South. —Staff Photo



NEWS OF THE AWARD of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize brought this reaction from Dr. King in Atlanta as he hugged his wife Coretta. He received the award in Stockholm in October of that year.

—UPI Telephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Controversy Spanned King's Career

By RICHARD FOSTER  
The Commercial Appeal-Chicago  
Daily News Service

Dr. Martin Luther King's life work took him into the ghettos and into gilded mansions occupied by presidents. Whatever his surroundings, he remained a man of simple goals and rare eloquence.

His death ended a career of boldness, setback and, inevitably, controversy.

He was born Jan. 15, 1929, to the family of a Baptist minister in Atlanta, the first and second child of his father.

He had an older sister — a school teacher — and a younger brother — also a Baptist layman.

In 1963, during a six-week night's siege of Birmingham, Dr. King remained loyal to his personal philosophy of nonviolence. Insiders said he almost lost his stoical calm, even when he went for 3 1/2 days without sleep.

During that period, and later, he never let himself become angry.

One of his associates, the late Wyatt Tee Walker, 65, was during that siege of Negro nonviolence, "The most I could say is that he got a little irritated at times."

When Dr. King mounted a podium or lectern, his audience or congregation felt his drift on the issue that moved him.

"We're through with segregation," he cried. "Yes, Lord!"

"We're moving up the highway of freedom toward the goal of equality and we can't stop now!"

In Montgomery, Negroes boycotted segregated city buses for 381 days, touching off attacks by white thugs and violence. A court ruling finally desegregated the

A bomb that did not detonate was thrown on the porch of Dr. King's home during that struggle. But in 1958, violence came in a Harlem department store.

A Negro woman stabbed him with a small nail file. Dr. King soon recovered and returned to his work. After his success in Montgomery, the Negro leader returned to Atlanta in 1960 to create the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which he was the first president.

Jailed at least five times in Alabama, Dr. King soon landed in a Georgia jail.

The first time was in October, 1960, when he was jailed for having no driver's license. Confined at a state-prison, Dr. King for the first time found himself in the national political spotlight.

John F. Kennedy, campaigning for the presidency, telephoned Mrs. King. Kennedy's brother, Robert F. Kennedy, telephoned the judge to inquire about bond. Dr. King was released.

After the 1960 election, Dr. King became involved in a dispute with J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In a rare public speech, Hoover called Dr. King "the most notorious liar in the country." Later, however, he and Dr. King called an amicable conference in Washington.

In 1961, Dr. King joined a large protest move against segregation in Albany, Ga., and again went to jail with hundreds of other Negroes.

He was disappointed and defeated in the Albany campaign, which stretched over a year of unrest.

In April, 1963, Birmingham was the target. And Dr. King went to jail again. But so did more than 2,000 others.

When police dogs and fire hoses were brought into play against demonstrating Negroes, the mass protest demonstration movement caught world attention and spread throughout the nation.

Dr. King saw his crusade take on revolutionary proportions.

His philosophy of nonviolence prevailed in Birmingham when civil authorities feared

racial disaster after a church bombing killed four Negro girls in September, 1963. At a funeral for three of the victims, Dr. King counseled:

"In spite of the darkness of this hour, we must not despair. We must not become bitter. We must not lose faith."

In 1964, Dr. King received the tangible recognition of his leadership when he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

In accepting the accolade before a distinguished assembly at Oslo, Norway, Dr. King said he accepted the award in behalf of millions of American Negroes striving to "end the long night of racial injustice."

Dr. King's wife underscored the contrasts in her husband's career when she remarked at the time of the honor:

"I wish we could remain on this mountaintop forever . . . for the past 10 years we have lived with the threat of death always present."

Like any visionary, Dr. King was the object of both praise and scorn. Some said his marches produced violence. Others even said he advocated it.

For his part, Dr. King contended that his nonviolent marches and demonstrations that sometimes incurred violence were the only alternative outlet to Negro frustration which otherwise would explode violently.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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COMMERCIAL APPEAL  
MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN  
Title:  
Character:  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS  
 Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED *llh* FILED *llh*  
APR 5 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS

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Early in 1965, when civil rights leaders picketed Alabama as a testing ground for a desegregated voter registration drive, Dr. King and his followers resorted once more to the tactics of nonviolence which he carved his cause effectively on previous occasions in that state.

In Selma, focal point of an area where Negroes outnumbered whites but few had ever registered to vote, Dr. King personally led street demonstrations in support of Negro voter applicants.

"We are going to march through the streets until every Negro can vote," Dr. King said.

And march they did. They did so despite court injunctions, police resistance, shootings, beatings, tear gas and other violence that turned the Alabama town into a center of racial antagonism.

More than 3,000 Negroes — including Dr. King — were arrested during the early stages of the month-long campaign. That was the 17th arrest for the crossing minister.

He led the historic march from Selma to Montgomery, the state's capital, which swelled with thousands of supporters from over the nation in the spring of 1965.

As the Vietnam War intensified, and as many Americans developed doubt about it, Dr. King spoke out.

He questioned the morality of fighting a war and killing millions in a faraway war.

The American Negroes at home were still persecuted.

Although he was criticized by many persons — some of them more conservative civil rights leaders — Dr. King continued to express his criticism of the war.

The threat of death was a constant fact throughout Dr. King's life. By telephone to his wife, by letter, the threats

He was unaware of most of them and he refused a bodyguard and often drove to his SCLC office alone.

His tactics filled the streets with Negro marchers in many cities, many of whom were assailed bitterly by white segregationists and often questioned by Southern moderates.

Of the Negroes who regarded Dr. King as their leader, perhaps most of them were from the South.

It was to these Negroes—and to others, too — that he spoke at the massive Negro demon-

stration for equality at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington on Aug. 29, 1963:

"I have a dream," he cried, "that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed:

"We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal."

"I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down at the table of brotherhood.

"I have a dream that one day, even the State of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the people's injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."



ARM IN ARM to the courthouse in Montgomery  
wanted Dr. King (center) in March, 1965. With other  
civil rights leaders, he led thousands from Selma, a move

that helped bring the Civil Rights Law of 1965 to passage.  
From left are the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, his aide; James  
Foreman; Dr. King; an unidentified man, and John Lewis.

—AP Wirephoto

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# U.S. Atty. General Confident King's Murderer Will Be Found

A palm print was found today on the discarded rifle found near the scene of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark called a press conference for this afternoon in the Federal Grand Jury Room on the 10th floor of the Federal Building.

W. P. Huston, Memphis detective chief, said: "We have evidence we think will lead us to the identity of the suspect."

Earlier, police and FBI agents arrested a short, balding white man as he left a rooming house on South Main near the King slaying scene. He was carrying a small suitcase and a cardboard box.

### 'GETTING CLOSE'

"We are getting close," said Clark when asked whether charges were imminent. He said he was "extremely confident" of an arrest. He made this comment shortly before scheduling the press conference.

Clark said the investigation has been extended outside the Memphis area. He said one man is believed to have been involved in the

slaying and added that there is no evidence to indicate a conspiracy at this time.

Clark said he will remain in Memphis long enough to confer with Fire and Police Director Frank Holloman, Claude Armour, special assistant to Gov. Buford Ellington, Mayor Henry Loeb and other officials.

### SUPERVISION

Clark said he is taking a close personal interest in the investigation but said actual supervision is in the hands of the FBI and state and local law enforcement agencies.

The most intensive manhunt in the city's history is continuing as police seek a young white man, driving a white Mustang, thought to be the sniper slayer.

The slayer of Dr. King took deadly aim through a telescopic sight on a high-powered rifle at the Civil Rights leader's head.

### RIFLE FIRED

Holloman, director of fire and police said the rifle was fired from a dingy bathroom used by upstairs occupants of a rooming house at 420 S. Main.

Its 30.06 cal. bullet sped 205 feet, 3 inches, across

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 13

MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

CHAS. H.  
SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated MEMPHIS

APR 11 1968

FBI - MEMPHIS

44-1987 Sub C-10



Mulberry Street into King's head as he leaned over a railing outside his room (No. 306) at the Loraine Hotel, 406 Mulberry, Holloman said. The entrance to the room is from the balcony.

The back windows of the building from which the shot was fired faces the front of the hotel-motel.

#### DOWNWARD SHOT

Holloman said the bullet, after following its slightly downward trajectory, hit King and knocked him backward.

#### ROOM RENTED

Mrs. Frank Brewer, who acts as resident manager with her husband of the cluster of rooms over 418-22 S. Main, said she rented the room to a man police believe killed Dr. King.

"He knocked on my door about 3:30 and asked if he could rent a room. I showed him a room toward the north side of the building, but he was not interested in that one. Then I showed him one further to the south," (where there were no obstructions to the view facing the balcony).

Mrs. Brewer said he finally chose a room, which was only a few feet from the bathroom from which police believe the shot was fired.

Mrs. Brewer said the man was tall, possibly 6 feet, and was wearing dark clothing. When asked about the color of his hair, she said it was dark "but I don't believe it was black."

#### NO ACCENT

When asked about his accent, she said: "He didn't talk any different from anyone else around here."

Mrs. Brewer said he appeared to have no luggage. She furnished him two sheets and a pillow for the room. She said he paid her \$8.50 and she never saw him again. Most of her tenants are elderly men.

Her husband, Frank Brewer, said he came home after 5 p.m. Both he and his wife heard a noise which sounded like a firecracker. They thought the noise came from the street and did nothing. Then they heard loud voices coming from the direction of Mulberry Street, which runs directly in back of their building, and Brewer said he went to the back door to a stairway leading down to Mulberry Street and a policeman told him to stay where he was.

#### MOTEL VIEW

"I never saw the man," Brewer said.

From where Brewer was standing on the back stairway, an observer can see most of the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

The bathroom from which police believe the shot was fired is closer to the stairway leading to S. Main Street.

After firing the shot, Holloman, said, a man believed to be the killer was seen running out the front door of the building. He turned south along Main. In front of the building next door, at 424 S. Main, a rifle believed to be the murder weapon and a suitcase were found in the doorway.

The weapon, a Remington pump-action rifle, and the suitcase were rushed to the FBI laboratory in Washington for examination. Holloman

man said it would not be known definitely whether the rifle was the murder weapon until tests are completed.

#### SUSPECT

Detectives learned last night that a man fitting the description of the suspect checked into a room at 420 S. Main between 3 and 3:30 p.m. yesterday.

They also learned the same man bought a pair of binoculars in Memphis prior to the slaying.

Holloman was asked if he had received a request prior to King's death to reduce the number of officers sticking close to King. He replied that "certain persons in the general organization" planning the march next Monday did object to the number of officers keeping watch on King.

The size of the force guarding King was not reduced, however, Holloman said. He added he did not believe that any number of officers could have prevented the slaying because of the way it was carried out.

#### ANONYMOUS CALLS

Asked about threats on King's life, Holloman said he had learned of "one or two" anonymous calls before King's previous appearance in Memphis last week.

Investigation of King's murder was hindered shortly after the crime occurred, Holloman said, because of the rioting which took place within a short period.

#### DESCRIPTION

The suspect being sought was described as six feet tall, about 165-175 pounds, between 26 and 32 years of age.

The sketchy picture of him was further filled in by Guy W. Canipe, part-owner of Canipe Amusement Co., 424 S. Main.

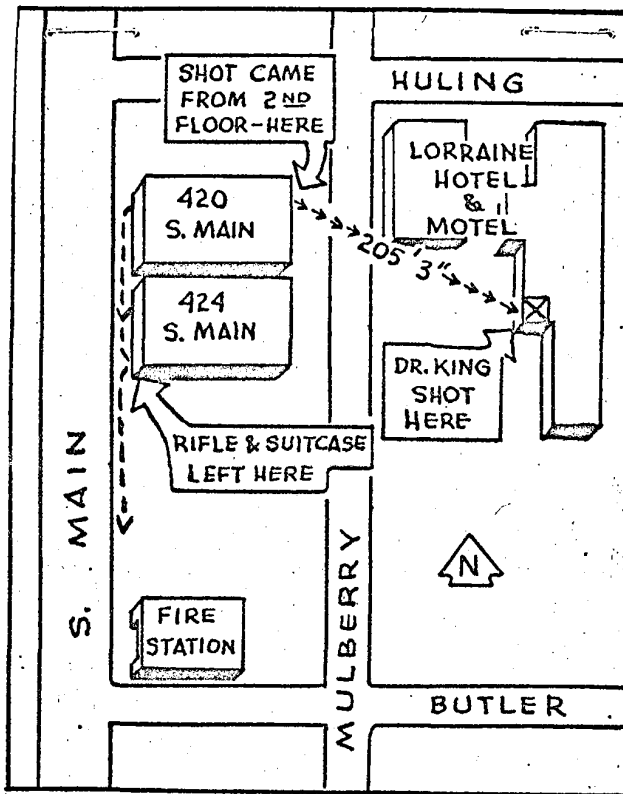
He said he saw a young white man answering the description drop an object, which he later discovered to be the rifle, in front of his store.

Mr. Canipe said he and two customers were in the store at the time.

"I didn't think anything about it, I just thought he had dropped something and I went out to tell him. I just heard the sound of it falling.

The suspect vanished after being seen by Canipe, but a short time later a white Mustang was seen fleeing the area.

Police Chief J. C. Macdonald said there is a good possibility the suspect is from out of town and came to Memphis for the specific purpose of ambushing King.



THIS MAP shows where a sniper shot Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., dumped his weapon and fled. His path from the scene of the slaying is indicated by dotted lines at left.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Curfew Still On Tonight

Mayor Loeb announced today that the city and county curfew put into effect last night is on again tonight. It was not announced how tight curfew restrictions would be.

The curfew will begin at 7 p.m. and continue until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

The ban on sale of alcoholic beverages, firearms and ammunition at whatever hour of the day continued.

During curfew hours all citizens are requested to stay off the streets unless it is an emergency.

## CANCELLATIONS

Meanwhile, a number of social activities planned across the city announced cancellations, including the Miss Memphis Pageant, and the crowning of the Cotton Carnival King and Queen tomorrow night, and all related activities.

The Press-Scimitar's Memphis Spelling bee, scheduled tomorrow, was postponed.

S. Toof Brown Jr., president of the Cotton Carnival Association, said:

"We are postponing all official activities scheduled this weekend and observing a period of mourning for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

"Announcements will be made later as to new dates for postponed events."

All schools were closed today, but Memphis Transit Authority buses were running and garbage trucks were making pickups. The last bus will leave downtown tonight at 6:15.

Department and furniture stores, specialty shops and banks opened on schedule today. Theatres played on

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

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4-5-68

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CHAS. H.

Title:

SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

APR 11 1968

MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub C-11

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Daylight Violence Breaks Out After Busy Night for Police

Violence broke out in the city again today after a lull in the shooting and vandalism late last night.

By midnight, the violence dwindled to only sporadic incidents, but erupted again by mid-morning.

## SHOTS

There were reports of firemen being shot at as they tried to battle a blaze at Crump and Wellington about 10:30 a.m. A Tennessee Highway Patrol helicopter, circling over the scene, carrying Capt. Glenn Moore of the Police Department, was struck by the gunfire. The craft was landed to determine whether any vital parts had been damaged. There was damaged to the craft, but the extent was not known. There were no injuries.

## BANDS

Police were swamped with reports of armed bands of roving youths, looting and other incidents in addition to the overwhelming number reported shortly after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King about 6 p.m. yesterday.

## ALERT

Additional National Guard and State Police units were immediately put on alert and called to the city. About 4,000 guardsmen were sent to the city last week in the wake of violence that followed King's first march on Thursday. Some Guard units were reported in action last night approximately an hour after the outbreak of trouble.

## 116 ARRESTED

All told, there were 116 persons under arrest, including two juvenile and 14 women. At least 38 persons were injured, 28 taken to John Gaston, three to St. Joseph, three to Methodist and four to Baptist.

One man, who police said fired on them as they caught him looting at liquor store at Trigg and Adelaide about 8:10 p.m., was reported in critical condition at Gaston.

He was identified as Ellis Tate, 26, Negro, 86 E. Oliver. Officers said he fired at them first with a rifle and they returned the fire, hitting him several times. Officers said they recovered his weapon, a Winchester .290 rifle.

A Guard unit transported

in armored personnel carriers helped break an hour-long "siege" of a police car in a dead-in on Howell just past Springdale.

Two officers, L. H. Griffin, policeman, and J. H. Hewitt, deputy sheriff, were injured by falling glass when the back windshield of the car was shot out by snipers who kept other officers pinned down in the vicinity from 8:30 to 9:20.

The Guardsmen routed the snipers and made three arrests.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHAS. H. SCHNEIDER  
Title:

Character:  
or 44-1987-Sub C-12

Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 11 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
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### SHOTS FIRED

The first shooting incident was reported about 15 minutes after the death of King when shots were fired in the area of Tillman and Johnson near Lester High School. The snipers were reported dispersed from the school shortly after the first call.

Police then received a flood of calls to stop snipers and looters or to come to the aid of firemen in the Chelsea, McLean and Vollen-tine; Thomas and Firestone, and Florida, Kansas, S. Parkway and McLemore areas.

At 8:15 officers with transmissions of "less than emergency nature" were ordered to stay off the radio.

### ORDERS

Police were ordered to disregard broken windows and ringing burglar alarms, one of their main concerns in last week's rioting, if there were no one inside and to "get back into service."

One of the worst fires during the night was at Wilson Drug Store, Beale and Fourth, which was burned out about 11 p.m. Firemen said it was set by a Molotov cocktail.

Officers estimated there were between 20 and 25 fires set during the night by vandals and looters.

### 10 STORES HIT

Within an hour after the announcement of King's death there were at least 10 stores reported hit by Molotov cocktails.

One store was hit directly at 7:57 p.m. Firemen said the store, Warford's Grocery, was hit by a gas bomb.

Another serious fire was at the O. W. Ferrell Lumber Co., 1001 N. Second. It broke out at 10:08 p.m. Still another serious fire was reported at LaRose School, Crump

and Wellington, although extent of damage is not known.

### FIRED UPON

Two trucks were fired on as firemen battled the fires. This morning there were at least two or three National Guard riflemen stationed at many fire stations.

Violence was reported to have subsided somewhat around midnight, however, isolated incidents continued.

At 3:23 a.m. officers reported chasing three youths down Breedlove from Chelsea.

### TROUBLE AREA

Chelsea seemed to be one of the most troublesome streets in the city. Looters were reported stopping cars and looting them at one time and snipers and rock throwers caused three wrecks when the cars were forced off Chelsea.

Kenneth Brock of 4422 Southern Cove was admitted to Baptist Hospital after he was shot in the hand while driving down Chelsea. He slammed through a fire barricade. Another shot had shattered his steering wheel.

### ATTACKED

H. P. James, owner of Price James Service Station, 2425 Park, reported that two Negro men came into the station last night and asked for change from Claude Wilcox, station manager. As Wilcox turned, he said, the two men hit him on the head with a tire iron, breaking his jaw and knocking out three teeth.

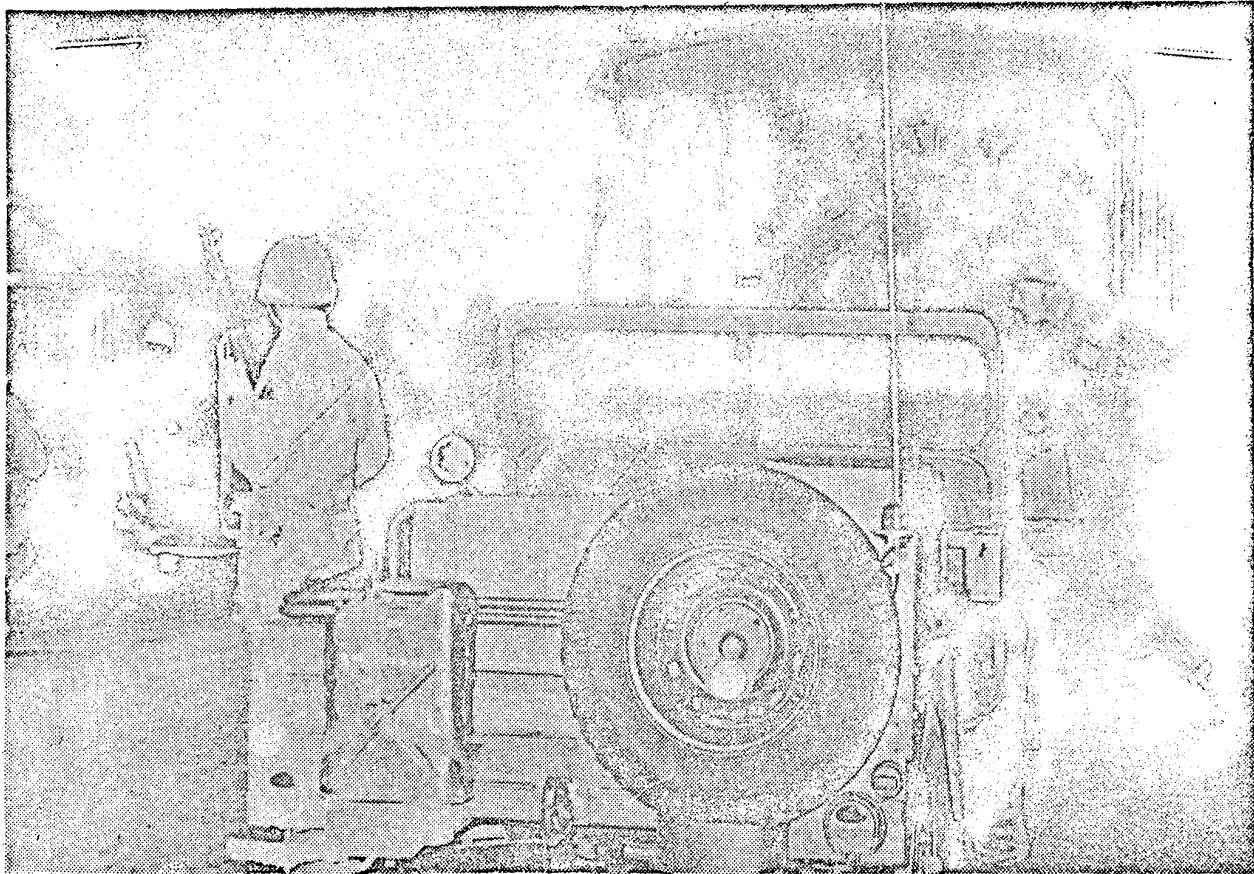
Two Negro station attendants interceded and succeeded in routing the assailants, James said.

James said a third Negro man was standing outside the station with a shotgun. Shots were fired. All

Other scattered incidents were reported to police last night by the following persons:

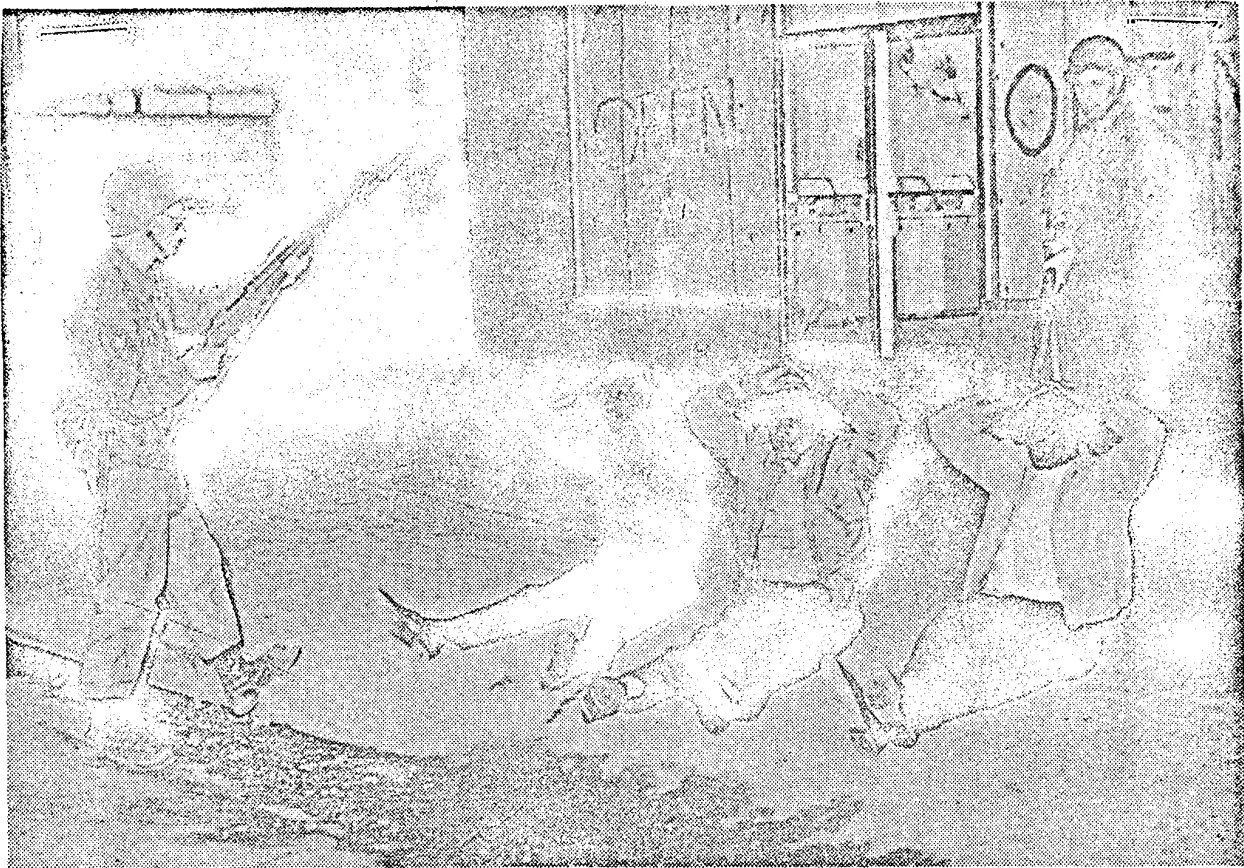
At 8:10 p.m., Jimmy White, 29, of 3383 Brookmeade, was at Chelsea and Warford when a shotgun blast shattered his windshield. He was not injured.

At 8:45 p.m., Samuel White, 26, Negro, of 437 Foote Park, was at Linden and Lauderdale when he was shot in the right thigh by unknown persons. He was taken to John Gaston Hospital.



**NATIONAL GUARDSMEN PILE OUT OF TRUCK AT TROUBLED SCENE**  
Guardsmen arrive at Springdale and Howell where two police officers were injured.





**THREE CURFEW VIOLATORS ARRESTED BY NATIONAL GUARDSMEN**  
Held under armed guard, three violators wait for the police paddy wagon.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Two Who Were There Tell of King's Last Moments

By WAYNE CHASTAIN  
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Two members of Dr. Martin Luther King's group were looking directly into his face when the shooting occurred and saw him smile for the last time.

"We were both standing down on the parking lot looking up at him as he stood on the balcony (of the second floor of the Lorraine Motel facing Mulberry)," said Chauncey Eskridge, long time confidant and attorney for King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The other man was a Memphian, Solomon Jones, 374 Vance, who had acted as King's chauffeur for the past two days.

King was about to go to

dinner as a guest at the home of the Rev. Samuel B. Kyles, pastor of Monumental Baptist Church, when he stepped out on the balcony shortly after 6 p.m., Eskridge said.

"Solomon, I am ready to go. Start the car."

King stood there as Jones started the engine and kept it running as he got out and looked up at King:

"You had better get your coat, Dr. King, because it has turned cool."

Dr. King looked up and rubbed his arms and then looked down at Jones, saying: "You are right."

He smiled and then Jones heard the shot.

"He had a kinda surprised look on his face and he fell very slowly," Jones said

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHAS. H.  
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:  
or 44-1987-Sub C-13  
Classification:  
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated INDEXED

APR 11 1968

King clutched at his neck as he fell.

Jones said he looked over his shoulder, and about 25 feet away he saw a man jump out of some bushes and run.

"He had something white on his face," Jones said.

Eskridge said he didn't see the man running, because he concentrated his energies on getting up the stairs to help King.

"His eyes were closed, and I thought he was dead then," Eskridge said.

His voice broke.

"He was so full of love, so full of life, and full of hope. How on earth could this have happened?" Eskridge asked.

Standing with King on the balcony several feet away was the Rev. Jesse Jackson,

an SCLC staff member and King's chief organizer of economic boycotts of white businesses.

"Jesse went and got a blanket and put it over him. If Dr. King ever said anything after he was shot he must have said it to Rev. Jackson. But I don't believe he did."

Eskridge said he was in Dr. King's suite at 5:30 p.m. and watched Walter Cronkite's telecast including his report about a compromise discussion in the judge's chamber in Memphis. Eskridge was present, but King was not. This prompted King to say:

"He (Cronkite) is telling me something I don't know."

Eskridge said he then explained to King the fact that

Federal Judge Bailey Brown had taken the suggested plan under advisement.

Eskridge said he heard the shot, but at the time he thought it was a firecracker.

At 7:20 p.m., Paul Hess, assistant administrator of St. Joseph Hospital, called a press conference in the emergency room where a group of national network and local newsmen waited a report on King's condition, believing he was still alive.

"At 7 p.m. Dr. Martin Luther King expired in the emergency room of St. Joseph Hospital of a gunshot wound in the neck," he said.

A cordon of city police and sheriff deputies—armed with shotguns—formed a circle around the emergency room.

Dr. Andrew Young, executive vice president of the

SCLC remained in the operating room.

Several times Young would come out to where the reporters were waiting and when he tried to answer questions, his voice would break and he would go back into the area of the operating room. His eyes were red.

Jones, when asked what effect King's death would have on the Negro community in Memphis, said: "I don't think I had better comment on that."

This was after the announcement of King's death.

Eskridge replied to the question:

"I am afraid it will undo what he always hoped for and worked for—peace among Americans. He actually thought that was possible, you know."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Memphians Comment on Tragedy

By **KAY PITTMAN BLACK**  
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Memphians were saddened today by the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The sadness in the Negro community was tinged with bitterness.

Mrs. Maxine Smith, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, wife of Dr. Vasco Smith, a dentist, said:

"I wonder if not having a dues check off was really this important?"

## DEJECTED

"This morning I have very little faith in anything. I've seen this so much — leaders fighting for right and then dying. I was in Jackson when Medgar Evers was

killed." Evers was the head of the NAACP in Jackson, Miss., shot off an assailant in front of his home.

Mrs. Smith added:

"The tragedy is we've (Negro leaders) talked to three city administrations — including the Council — and nobody listened. We told them there was a problem in Memphis, but they wouldn't believe it. Memphis isn't what it wants the world to think it is and no city shares greater guilt for this than Memphis does. It is guilty of the sin of omission."

## SHOCKED

Shelby County Atty. Gen. Phil Canale said:

"Along with the hundreds of thousands of decent citizens in this community, I am deeply shocked and grieved by the assassination of Dr. King.

"All available resources are being called upon to apprehend the perpetrator or perpetrators of this murder.

"I extend my deepest sympathy to the family of Dr. King, and call on all our residents to maintain the peace, and go forward from here together in quickly bringing Memphis and Shelby County to their rightful place as a city and county of good abode for all its citizens."

## ASHAMED

James F. (Tim) Schaeffer, attorney and former state representative said: "I feel ashamed, disgraced and horrified that such a tragic incident could and should have been avoided but wasn't. This is nothing but an exhibit of a flagrant failing on the part of responsible civic leaders to know the sentiments of their own people."

## 'KEEP CALM'

Dr. R. Q. Venson, long time Negro leader, said, "I'm stunned. We must look to God and we must keep calm and realize we have to live and act like Christians to preserve our good city and community."

His wife, Mrs. Ethel Venson, member of the Memphis Housing Authority board, said, "We can't believe it. It makes us, and particularly Dr. Venson, feel like the work we have done for years (bettering racial relations) is down the drain."

Henry Sutton, attorney,

member of the Democratic Executive Committee, said:

"The most pitiful part of this thing is that thinking people all over the community could see violence coming and yet there was insufficient effort to make peace beforehand."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 8

MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-3-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHAS. H.  
Title: SCHWEIDER

Character:

or 44-1987-Sub C-14  
Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....

APR 1 11 1968

FD-350 (Rev. 4-15-64)

### THE PRICE

"Dr. Martin Luther King will not have died in vain but I have grave concern that Memphis will have to pay a price for this tragedy in our heretofore peaceful city. Is it possible that this could have resulted over the simple question of dues check off which would not cost the city anything?"

County Commission Chairman Jack Ramsay said: "The tragedy that occurred in Memphis is most regrettable. It comes at a time when the leaders of both the white and Negro communities were working together trying to solve our mutual problems. None of us knows why such tragedies happen, but we do know that the Bible and Jesus have taught us that in times of crisis our only safe refuge is to look to God for guidance."

Tommy Powell, president of the Memphis AFL-CIO Labor Council and vice president of the state Labor Council, said:

### BITTERNESS

"The horror of this is that I was at a meeting with top civic leaders yesterday afternoon, warning them that something like this could happen, begging them to take a stand. Some were saying they shouldn't give in to the union under pressure and others just laughed at

me and thought me an alarmist. As I walked down the stairs leaving the meeting I heard the announcement that Dr. King had been shot. I'm bitter."

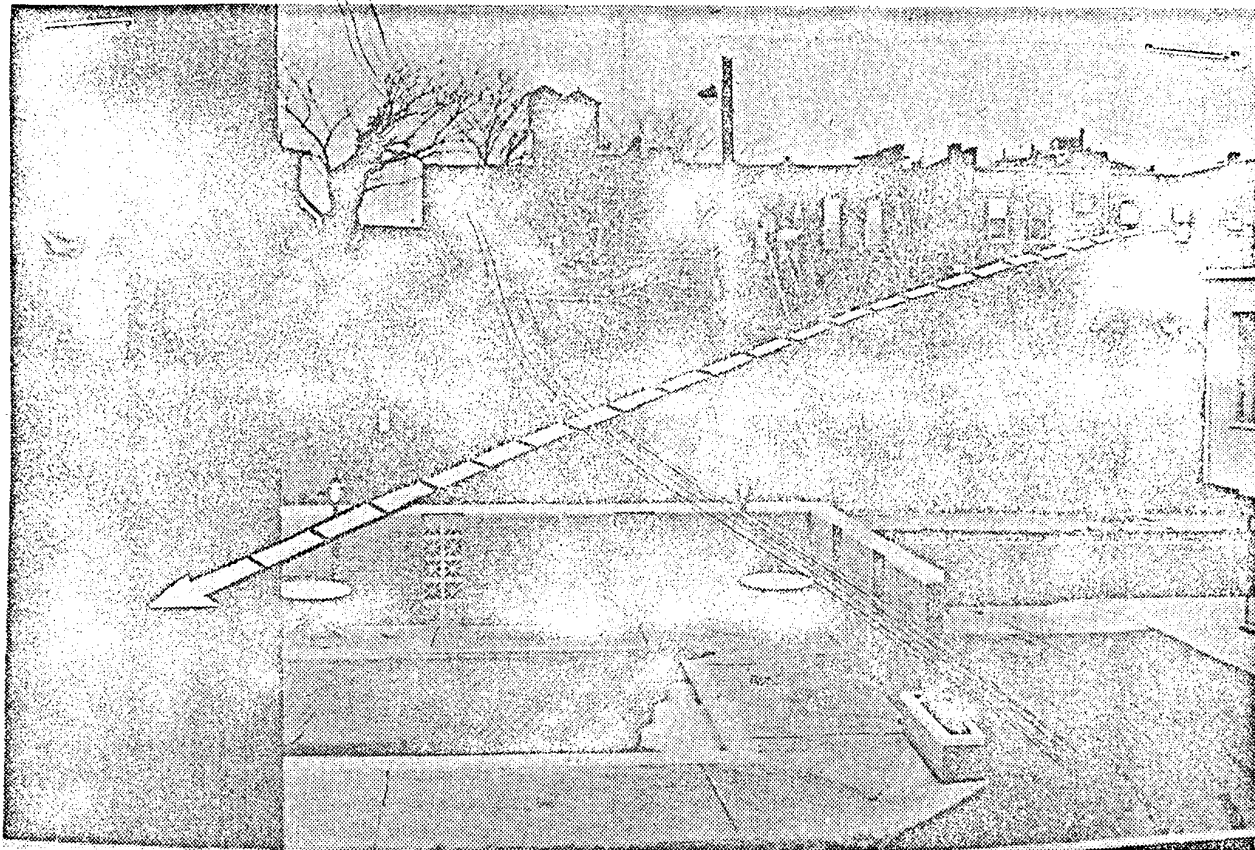
County Commissioner Lee Hyden cried as he said:

"Awful, awful, awful. So many white people think they are free of fault. They think they have contributed nothing to the situation that exists in this community. That is what makes me so heartsick."

### RESPONSIBILITY

"We as white officials must realize that today the Negro community is incapable of coping with the problem. The responsible Negro leadership has been refuted and set aside. It is up to us now. The only way any of our substantial problems will be resolved is for the white leadership to say 'We, too, are responsible'."

Hyden said a memorial service for Dr. King was planned today at the Shelby Penal Farm, for officials and inmates alike, adding: "I'm letting road department employes off today out of respect for the three-day mourning period."



**PATH OF BULLET WHICH TOOK DR. KING'S LIFE**

The arrow marks the flight of the bullet from a window at 420 S. Main to where Dr. King was standing on the balcony outside his room.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Some Cry, Some Fear, Some Hope

BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

The violent death of Dr. Martin Luther King, a modern Moses who challenged the sea of segregation with nonviolence, raised some fear for the nation's future and some hope that Americans might at last embrace the brotherhood for which he died.

"What Martin Luther King stood for and died for can never be killed with a bullet," said Metropolitan Opera star Leontyne Price, like King a Negro.

## TEARS

The night of his murder resounded with cries of grief and bitterness. The tears flowed for an ideal as well as for the velvet-voiced man of peace who espoused it. Some mourners likened him to India's late Mohandus K. Gandhi. A few, hostile to his cause, declared he "reaped what he sowed — violence disguised as nonviolence."

There were fears his non-violent civil rights movement died with him.

"The philosophy of nonviolence died with Dr. King, the last prince of nonviolence, the symbol of nonviolence, the epitome of nonviolence," wned Floyd Mckissick, national director of CORE.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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— MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

— MEMPHIS, TENN.

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CHAS. H.  
SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....

SERIALIZED.....

APR 1 1968

F.D. - MEMPHIS

#### WARNING

"Black Americans will no longer tolerate this killing of their males," he said with the tears welling in his eyes. "No other man in the country is capable of carrying on the philosophy of nonviolence."

Some saw hope in the murderer's gloom.

"Martin Luther King was the American Gandhi," said Rep. Bob Eckhardt of Houston. "When Gandhi was murdered, the cause of love became stronger. When King was murdered, the cause of love became a stronger cause."

#### WISH

"I know it would be his wish that no violence occur in the wake of his death," said the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, who with Dr. King helped organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

King's death hit America square in its national conscience with an impact unseen since Nov. 22, 1963, when President Kennedy was slain.

Black and white alike broke into tears on a hundred streets in a hundred cities and towns.

Thousands flocked to churches to pray. Thousands of others rioted in an expression of fury. President Johnson urged all Americans to "search their hearts" and realize nothing can be achieved "by lawlessness and deviousness."

"We fear for our country," admitted Whitney Young Jr., the executive director of the National Urban League. "The only possible answer now is for the nation to act immediately on what Dr. King was fighting for: the passage of the civil rights and anti-poverty bills and a true and just equality for all men."

#### SPUR

Roy Wilkins, the executive director of the NAACP, said "his senseless assassination will not stay the civil rights movement; it will instead spur it to greater activity . . . and hopefully move the American people to prompt action to expunge racism from our national life."

There were some who spoke ill of King even in death.

#### BY VIOLENCE

In Montgomery, Ala., Jim Clark, the sheriff of Dallas County when King launched his Selma integration cam-

paign there, said "I think a man of violence died by violence . . . but directly and indirectly he caused every riot in the U.S. over the past 10 years. But I certainly don't go along with his being murdered."

"You shall reap what you sow," said Bob Walters, the California chairman of former Alabama Gov. George Wallace's presidential campaign. "Although he claimed to be a nonviolent man, he spread the seeds of violence which are now in the country."

United Nations Undersecretary Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, like King a Nobel Peace Prize winner, said his death would "inevitably be a most grievous blow to the cause of racial harmony throughout this country."

Michigan Gov. George Romney: "This is a cause for a rededicated effort by everyone to eliminate racial prejudice and injustice in all its ugly and repressive forms."



#### NIXON

Richard M. Nixon: "The most meaningful and appropriate of all tributes would be a prayerful contemplation of the ghastly consequences of hatred, and a new dedication to the ideals of nonviolence . . . for which he stood."

"We have just de-escalated one war and escalated another," declared Rep. Charles C. Digg Jr., D-Mich., a Negro, fearing violent consequences.

#### 'GREATEST . . .'

"A God-sent man and like an A-1 friend," said Roosevelt Johnson, an auto mechanic in Los Angeles' Watts district. "He was the greatest."

"Martin is dead . . . God help us all," said former CORE Director James Farmer. "He was a beautiful human being."

Milwaukee's open housing advocate, the Rev. James Groppi, was on the telephone when the bulletin of King's death came.

#### 'SAINT, MARTYR'

"So he's dead," Groppi said softly. "That man is a saint and a martyr."

James Meredith, who was shot during a 1966 voter-registration march in Mississippi, said, "This is America's answer to the peaceful, nonviolent way of obtaining rights in this country."

Texas Gov. John B. Connally said, "King contributed much to the chaos and turbulence in this country, but he did not deserve this fate."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Nation's Capital Tortured by News

WASHINGTON. — (UPI) — The slaying of Martin Luther King tortured Washington. The capital mourned the man, deplored the act and feared the repercussions.

Not since the assassination of John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963, had Washington been so shaken by a murder.

Again the President called for calm in the nation. He said he prayed "for peace and understanding throughout this land."

"I ask every citizen to reject the blind violence that has struck Dr. King, who lived by nonviolence," President Johnson said on radio and television within an hour of King's death. He postponed his departure for the Honolulu conference on war strategy.

"We can achieve nothing by lawlessness and divisiveness by the American people," the President said. "It is only by joining together and only by working together that we can continue to move toward equality and fulfillment for all of our people." Hundreds of telephone calls came to the White House, some from as far as Sydney, Australia. Many callers suggested memorials to Martin Luther King.

## 'VIOLENCE . . . CURSE'

"We are steeped in violence," said Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho. "It is the curse of the land."

"The crime is unspeakable," said Sen. Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., the only Negro in the Senate. "The grief is unbearable." He said too:

"In our anguish and bitterness over this awful event, we must not lose sight of the meaning of this great man's life. . .

"The savage act of his assassination thrust upon the

King shared with us all . . .

"The knowledge of his enormous love must carry us through these days of torment and lift us above the strife which he gave his life to end."

Southerners, too, spoke sorrowfully.

## DEPLORED

"Violence," said Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., "is to be deplored. It does not solve anything."

"Violence," said Rep. Hale Boggs, D-La., "has no place in America. Anywhere. By anybody."

"I'm sure that all law-abiding citizens would have wanted to protect Dr. King in his right to speak his convictions and to lead the great number of people who believe as he did," said Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La. "Unfortunately, men who have strong beliefs and a great following are usually endangered for their lives, whether that man be a president, a man in public life or the leader of a cause."

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MEMPHIS PRESS-  
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-5-68  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor: CHAS. H.  
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:  
or 44-1987-Sub C-16  
Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED Being Investigated h

APR 11 1968

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