

CIRCULAR LETTERS

Letter to 10 Leaders

Dear _____

You will recall that at a meeting in Washington D.C., following our March, we decided to continue the March on Washington operation until Civil Rights legislation has passed in Congress.

Meantime it has become clear that the initiative and program direction in connection with such legislation must come from the Leadership Conference, which is constantly on the scene in Washington, and which has done an excellent job.

Therefore, while the March on Washington leadership must continue as a visible of the unity that exists, it seems appropriate that the office of the March on Washington should be closed until such time as we are engaging in another ad hoc project. If there is a senate filibuster of the civil rights legislation we might need to have office space again, but this can be determined on its own merit and in light of the objective situation at the time.

I am therefore writing to get your reaction to my suggestion that the March on Washington office be closed by February first-- at which time the staff will have prepared a full financial statement for you and for the press.

I hope to hear from you soon concerning my suggestion.

Sincerely,

A. Philip Randolph

Letter to 10 leaders

M.O.W

which is instantly on the ~~case of all rights~~ ~~the~~ ~~needs~~ in Washington, and which has done an excellent job.

Dear _____,

you will recall that at a meeting in Washington DC, following our March, we decided to continue the March on Washington operation until civil rights legislation was passed in Congress.

Meanwhile it has become clear that the initiative and program direction in connection with ~~the~~ ~~such~~ legislation ~~must~~ must come from the Leadership Conference. Therefore while the MOW leadership must continue as a visible symbol of the unity that exists, it seemed appropriate that the office of the MOW should be closed until such time as we are prepared to engage in ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ad hoc project ~~at the time of~~ ~~a Senate~~ ~~of there is~~ ~~a Senate~~ filibuster of the civil rights legislation ~~when~~ ~~we~~ ~~might~~ ~~want~~ ~~to~~ ~~have~~ ~~our~~ office ~~again~~ - but this can be determined on its own merit and in light of the delicate situation at the time.

~~in this connection~~ I am therefore writing to get your reaction to my suggestion that the March office be closed by ~~the~~ February first - at which time the staff will have prepared a full financial statement for you and for the press.

I hope to hear from you soon concerning my suggestion ~~that~~ ~~you~~ ~~at~~ ~~your~~ ~~earliest~~ ~~convenience~~ ~~regarding~~ ~~this~~ ~~matter~~. ~~I~~ ~~propose~~ ~~to~~ ~~call~~ ~~a~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~10~~ ~~leaders~~ ~~early~~ ~~in~~ ~~February~~ ~~next~~.

1 Leave out to the library
2
3
4
5

APR 21
P.P.
Send to Randolph -

NEW YORK CORE

▶ THE COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUALITY, 239 WEST 125th STREET,



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Julian "Cannonball" Adderly	Mildred Kiefer-Wurf
Dr. Kenneth B. Clark	Will Maslaw
Leon J. Davis	Samuel R. Pierce, Jr.
Ossie Davis	Rev. James H. Robinson
Ruby Dee	Hilda Siff
Hal Jackson	Thomas G. Weaver
Murray Kempton	

NEW YORK 27, NEW YORK ▶ MONument 6-0400

Church Committee
March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, N.Y.

July 18, 1963

Dear brother,

At a time when many of our Christian brothers have recently gone to Maryland to undergo arrest and vilification, it is especially necessary that I write to you to inform you of a most important meeting. This is a time when we all have shared a growing concern toward the clouds which overshadow our people, particularly the shadows cast upon human dignity and the ability to earn a decent living. The courageous pastors who travelled to Maryland, and our brethen who were arrested this week in Brooklyn, have shown there are many new ways that we may make active our concern.

I am sure you have heard of the plans announced by the Rev. Martin Luther King and other leaders of the fight for freedom; the plans for a March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. Members of our Religious Committee, and our national director, A. Philip Randolph, are eager to discuss these plans with you, and accordingly I wish to invite you to meet with us:

Time: 11 A.M., Wednesday, July 24th
Place: Metropolitan Baptist Church 7th Avenue and 128th Street New York 27, N.Y.

With this March we hope to dramatize to America the needs that face the country, the needs that have become the two most important issues of our time: Jobs and Freedom. There is much that can be gained from our discussion, and the Religious Committee, Brother Randolph and I look forward to meeting with you there.

In fellowship,

Thomas Kilgore

Thomas Kilgore
Chairman, Religious Committee

MARCH FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 W. 130th St., NYC 27, NY FI 8-1900

July 19, 1963

Dear Friend:

On August 28 next a great March for Jobs and Freedom will take place. Thousands of citizens, both Negro and White, will join in a peaceful crusade to Washington, D.C. They will demonstrate in an orderly way their deep desire for Federal action to meet the most burning needs of our time -- the needs for full employment and for equal rights for all American citizens. They will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and will re-dedicate themselves to the cause of freedom.

The great civil rights organizations have joined with me in issuing a call for this March, and I enclose a copy of this herewith. We need your help, if the full success of this March is to be guaranteed. We need your cooperation in supporting and sponsoring the project, in making it known to large numbers of people, in organizing the conveyance of groups to Washington, in raising money to enable numbers of unemployed people -- both from our City and from the South -- to add their voices to ours on August 28.

So that we may more clearly explain the purpose and aims of the March, give you detailed information about it, and help you to launch your own participation in it, I have called a meeting for 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, at District 65 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, 13 Astor Place, 11th floor. The following will join me on the platform and will address the meeting:

Rev. Robert Spike, Executive Director of the Emergency Commission on Religion and Race of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Rabbi Balfour Bruckner, Vice-President, Metropolitan Council of the American Jewish Congress.

Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., President, New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

We urge you to make every effort to attend this meeting. The March to Washington promises to be the greatest mass demonstration in American history; only your efforts can make it so. Time is of the utmost importance. If you cannot come in person, please send a representative.

Fraternally,



Enclosure
Call: "The Time is Now."

A. Philip Randolph
Co-Chairman, March for Jobs and Freedom

NEW YORK CITY MEETING TO LAUNCH MARCH FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

2:30 p.m. Thursday, July 25

District 65, RWDSU, 13 Astor Place, 11th Floor

COMMITTEE
for
EMANCIPATION MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS
217 West 125 Street
New York 27, N.Y.

Mine eyes have seen the glory
Of the coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage
Where the grapes of wrath are stored,
He hath loosed the fateful lightning
Of his terrible swift sword,
His truth is marching on!

- Battle Hymn of the Republic -

This is a Call to Black America for an Emancipation March on
Washington for Jobs.

A million and a half Negro workers jobless!

A major economic disaster of worsening joblessness hangs like a
pall over the heads of Black America.

President Kennedy has wisely declared that unemployment is our
Number 1 economic problem!

The rate of unemployment of black wage earners is two and one-half
times that of white workers.

When ten white workers are looking for jobs, twenty-five Negro
workers are looking for jobs.

Because Negro workers are the first fired and the last hired their
period of joblessness is much longer than that of white workers. Moreover,
when a white worker finds a job he can perform, most likely he will get
it. But when a Negro worker finds a job he can perform he may or may not
get it because of race bias.

Without jobs, Negro workers are without opportunity to earn wages
with which to purchase the means of life.

This Call comes at an hour of increasing and worsening Negro jobless-
ness in all of the big metropolitan centers in the nation, giving rise

to deepening social misery and economic wretchedness, together with frustration, if not despair, which may constitute the seedbed of intermittent racial eruptions of violence.

Not only are Negro workers looking for jobs they cannot find but they find jobs they cannot perform because of a lack of skills and training, due largely to racial barriers to apprenticeship training courses.

What hope is there for Negro youth, victims of marginal job opportunities, caught up in the tides of advancing science, technology, industrialism and automation?

Black workers are losing billions of man-days of labor and billions of dollars in wages.

But in this Negro workers', sharecroppers', and migrant farm labor jobs' crisis there is opportunity to win or lose. They can and will win, if they have the iron will and everlasting faith to fight to win!

They will lose if they fail to stand upon their own feet and fail to exhibit faith in themselves to win.

The conscience of America will respond to a moral impact generated by a vast, massive, nationwide Emancipation March on the Nation's Capital for Jobs.

America will, in the spirit of its frontier democratic traditions, applaud and respect us if we have the courage to fight for our rights, even if we fail to win them. But if we "screw our courage up to the sticking place," we shall not fail!

America will disregard and disrespect us if we, though entitled to our rights, are afraid to struggle, sacrifice and suffer to achieve them.

Participation of Negroes in mass demonstrations to struggle for self-liberation from the poverty of unemployment will exalt our spirit and give us an indefinable inner strength, which will enable us to move victoriously forward.

Verily, there is nothing more challenging, irrepressible, and irresistible than an idea whose time has come.

This is the hour of the idea of mass action, mass struggle!

Leadership, however sound, without mass struggles is inadequate.

Let us not forget that Negroes, as any other group in our American democratic society, will get no better than we deserve, and we deserve no better, or more, than we fight for.

Thus the Negro American Labor Council, together with some of the major Negro organizations - the Congress of Racial Equality, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee - projects a massive Emancipation March on Washington for Jobs as a dramatization of Negro mass joblessness.

We call upon Negroes, churches, fraternal societies, labor unions, civic fraternities, sororities, youth groups and parent-teacher associations to join the Emancipation March on Washington for Jobs - by railroad, bus, airplane, automobile, and by foot - to bring the Negro jobs' crisis into national focus and emphasize upon the Administration, Congress, labor unions and industry a deeper sense of urgency in developing a solution of the problem of racial joblessness.

The struggle of Negro America for jobs is a struggle for jobs for all workers, for no black worker is secure in a job as long as there is a white worker insecure in a job, and as long as a black worker is insecure in a job, no white worker is secure in a job!

Let the black laboring masses speak!

Let them speak with the thunderous authority of thousands of marching Negro workers upon the Nation's Capital, to register their demand for their God-given right to work.

When thousands of the Negro laboring masses and Negro communities are

in motion to achieve righteous objectives they can move movements such as government, business, labor unions, and public opinion.

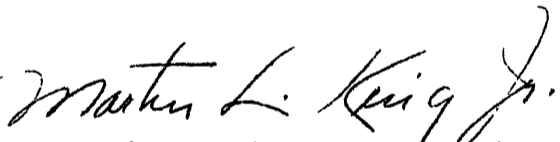

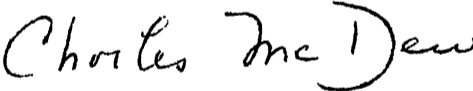
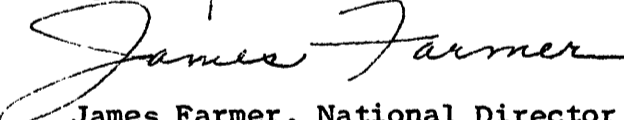
Negro workers - ARISE AND MARCH!

We invite our white brothers and sisters to join us.

With confidence in the indestructibility of the justice of our cause of equality of economic opportunity and the invincibility of the human spirit in times of trial by fire, let us march forward together to new frontiers of economic freedom, conscious of the logic of history that every generation must win and recapture the priceless jewel of liberty and hand it down to generations unborn.

ON TO WASHINGTON - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1963!

Fraternally and faithfully,

 Rev. Martin L. King, Jr., President Southern Christian Leadership Conference	 A. Philip Randolph, National President Negro American Labor Council
 Charles McDew, Chairman Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee	 James Farmer, National Director Congress of Racial Equality

COMMITTEE
for
EMANCIPATION MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS

Cleveland Robinson, Chairman
L. Joseph Overton, Secretary
Richard Parrish, Treasurer

Willoughby Abner	Cornelius Maiden
Robert Battle, III	B. F. McLaurin
Joseph A. Beavers	Horace Sheffield
Ernest Calloway	Thomas Starks
U. C. Crowder	Charles F. Street
Frank Evans	L. B. Thompson
Thomas Fauntleroy	Agnes Willis

Boyd Wilson

Write: A. Philip Randolph for further information about setting up Citizens' Committees to mobilize community to support Emancipation March on Washington for Jobs. - 217 W. 125 Street, New York, N.Y.

5/7/63

Queridos Amigos,

Gustarían la ayuda de ustedes para marchar a Wash-
inton. El miércoles, el 28 de agosto de 1963.

Vamos a Washington para demostrar para nuestros
derechos que no tenemos. Los Negros no son los únicos
quienes no tienen sus derechos; a toda la gente de
color y otras minorías les faltan. Negros, latinos y
todos otros deben ir a Washington.

En la capital, demandaremos:

la educación sin prejuicio
las casas mejores y desegregadas
el derecho de votar
el trabajo sin prejuicio para todos
las leyes iguales para todos
y la ayuda total del gobierno federal

Nos gustaría que nos ayudaran para organizar a la
gente y para publicar mas información sobre la marcha.
Vengan o llamen la oficina. Está situada en 170 West
130th Street. Dan una o dos horas de su tiempo para
ayudar a todos. Vengan a cualquier hora del día. Si
deseamos tener nuestra libertad, debemos unirnos; todos
debemos ir a Washington.

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King, Jr.
John Lewis

Jóachim Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Fillmore 8-1900

Founding Chairmen

James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
A. Philip Randolph
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

Administrative Committee

Cleveland Robinson
Chairman

Courtland Cox
Ann Arnold Hedgeman
Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Jr.
Rev. George Lawrence
James McCain
Dr. John Morsell
Guichard Parris

Director

A. Philip Randolph

Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

Dear Friend,

We are grateful for your indication of support for the August 28th March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

We wish it were possible to answer every request for information or expression of support individually. Our volume of mail has grown so great, however, that our frugal and overworked staff has had to resort to the mimeograph machine.

From coast to coast, the response to the March has exceeded all expectations. Our office is deluged with calls. Tens of thousands of marchers have been pledged by prominent national organizations--labor, religious, civic, and civil rights. Additional tens of thousands are organizing spontaneously. We know you share our elation over the prospect that August 28th will be recorded as one of the great days in American history.

The literature you requested is enclosed or is on its way under separate cover.

On behalf of Mr. Randolph and the other co-chairmen, I want to thank you again for your heartening support. See you in Washington!

Sincerely,

Bayard Rustin

BAYARD RUSTIN
Deputy Director

BR/tk

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Fillmore 8-1900

Chairman, Administrative Committee
Cleveland Robinson
Deputy Director
Bayard Rustin

July 19, 1963

Dear Brother,

All over the country Negroes are fighting for their rights, with even greater urgency; civil rights legislation is now before Congress because of the increasingly militant struggle of Negroes.

Because of this new situation the Job Rights March now has two objectives: jobs and meaningful civil rights legislation a new date has been set:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th, 1963

Brother Randolph is calling upon your chapter to begin mobilizing its membership and to join with union, church and civic and fraternal groups in your community in this massive and historic March on Washington.

Enclosed you will find the first organizing manual, outlining how people should be mobilized in each community, and the Call to Action issued by Brother Randolph and the other national leaders of the March.

Please take special note of the dual purpose of the March: make every effort to coordinate with other organizations participating in the March; keep the March national office informed of what progress is being made in your city. You may contact me or Bayard Rustin at the March office if you have any further questions.

Fraternally,

Cleveland Robinson
CLEVELAND ROBINSON
National Vice President
Negre American Labor
Council

CR/rh
Enc:

July 25, 1963

Dear Friend:

A special meeting is being called by the New York Chapter of the Negro American Labor Council to discuss and sign up applicants for Apprenticeship jobs that are open in the labor movement.

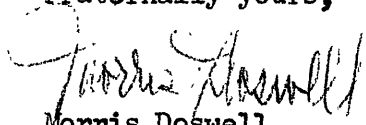
We are also calling this meeting to mobilize the maximum turnout of youth for the August 28th March on Washington.

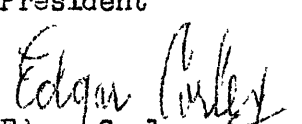
This special meeting will also ask for participation in leaflets distributions for the March on Washington and pickets to picket construction projects throughout the City.

The meeting will be held at Negro American Labor Council's Office, 217 West 125th Street, on Wednesday July 31st at 7:30 sharp.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Fraternally yours,


Morris Doswell
President


Edgar Corley
Executive Board Member

EMANCIPATION MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM - AUG. 28, 1963

Under direction of A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, International President of The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters,
Vice-President of the AFL-CIO - National President of the Negro American Labor Council
Supported by United Negro Civil Rights Leadership

MIDNIGHT GALA BENEFIT: Apollo Theater, 125th St. - Aug. 23, 1963

Chairman: CORRINE FOLSOM SMITH • Co-Chairmen: JAMES E. SMITH and WAVEN WEBB • Coordinator: MAELY DANIELE DUFTY

July 25, 1963

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:

IT HAS BEEN SAID MANY TIMES THAT ONLY UNION LABOR CAN BE EXPECTED TO FIGHT, GO TO JAIL, AND DIE FOR THEIR FELLOW BROTHERS AND THE WORKING CLASS. SINCE THE UPRISING PEASANTS AGAINST THE OPPRESSION OF THEIR FEUDAL LORDS, THE BATTLE-GROUNDS OF LABOR AND CAPITOL HAVE BEEN MARKED OF THE BLOOD AND DEATH OF LABOR FOR THE STATUS OF FREE WORKERS AND HUMAN DIGNITY.

WITH THIS THOUGHT IN MIND, IT IS MY BELIEF WHY THE AFL-CIO, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN ST. LOUIS MOSSOURI ON MAY 16 1963 ADOPTED THE INCLOSED RESOLUTION. THIS IS WHY WE ARE APPEALING TO YOU, THE LEADERS OF LABOR, FOR SUPPORT IN OUR NALC FUND RAISING EFFORT TO SPONSOR THE "EMANCIPATION MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM" AUGUST 28, 1963.

WE ARE HAVING A BENEFIT SHOW AUGUST 23, 1963 AT THE APOLLO THEATRE ON 125TH STREET NEW YORK CITY. THE ARTIST LISTED ON THE ENCLOSED LEAFLET ARE GIVING THEIR SERVICES FREE. WE ARE APPEALING TO YOU TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THEIR EFFORTS.

FRATERNALLY YOURS,


L. JOSEPH OVERTON

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Filmore 8-1900

July 25, 1963

Chairman, Administrative Committee
Cleveland Robinson
Deputy Director
Bayard Rustin

Dear Brother,

On August 28 a mighty March for Jobs and Freedom will take place in our nations capitol. This historic event, in which tens of thousands, both Negro and white, will participate, has received the endorsement of the New York City Central Labor Council. Will you please -- as Mr. Van Arsdale suggested at our June 25th mobilization meeting -- do all you can to bring it to the attention of your membership and to see that your local is worthily represented.

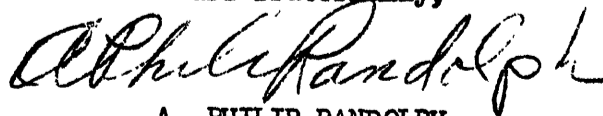
Many of us share a deepening concern over the job situation in this city and throughout our land. The official unemployment figure stands at the five million mark, and we know that the reality is many millions more. The rate of Negro unemployment is more than twice that of white; all too many of these are youth, ill-equipped for jobs through inferior education and training.

An economic crisis of ever deepening extent faces all labor, both Negro and white. Bold action is needed for the solution of this crisis. We shall ask in Washington for federal measures to provide our people with the things they so desperately need -- hospitals and recreational facilities, the rapid production of adequate housing for all. We shall ask for a huge educational and job training program for Negro citizens and youths.

In this great venture, we of the Negro American Labor Council have joined with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Congress of Racial Equality, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and the National Urban League.

May I ask that your union take immediate steps to notify your membership concerning the march and to urge as great a number as possible to attend; to endorse the aims of the march and to notify us to that effect; and if possible to send us a contribution to defray the heavy expenses of organizing this event and securing the participation of unemployed people.

Yours fraternally,



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
Co - Chairman

Enclosure: Leaflet
APR/rh

International s

Dear Brothers,

On August 28 a mighty March for Jobs and Freedom will take place in our nation's capital. Throngs of people, both Negro and white, will participate in a massive demonstration for jobs ad human dignity. I am writing to ask that you do all in your power to ~~make this~~ ^{us} guarantee the success of this event by giving it your sponsorship, by supporting it financially, and by urging your locals to turn out the membership in large numbers.

Many of us share a deepening concern over the job situation throughout our country. The official unemployment figure stands at the million mark and we know that the reality is many millions more. The rate of Negro unemployment is twice that of whites; all too many of these are youth, ill-equipped for jobs on account of inferior training and education.

An economic crisis, of deepening dimension faces all workers, employed as well as unemployed, Negro as well as white. It deepens with the advance of automation. Bold national action is needed for the solution of this crisis. We shall ask, in Washington, for Federal measures to provide for a massive public works program: to give our people the jobs they so desperately need through the construction of hospitals and schools, public health facilities, the rapid elimination of all substandard housing. In this way millions of ~~new jobs~~ ^{new jobs} can be created. We shall also ask for special educational and job training for Negro citizens and ~~youth~~ ^{all youth}.

In this venture our great civil rights organizations find themselves at one. I have joined in calling the March with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Congress of Racial Equality, the Student non-Violent Coordinating Committee, and the National Urban League.

May I ask that on receipt of this letter you will give this matter your earliest attention and notify me as soon as possible of your endorsement of the March? To guarantee the presence in Washington of many unemployed who will add their voices to ours, and to facilitate the effective organization of this venture we must undertake heavy costs. Financial support from you is urgently solicited. Checks should be made payable to MARCH ON WASHINGTON.

May I also ask you to circularize your locals, drawing the March to their attention and urging immediate steps to secure participation.

yours fraternally

A Philip Randolph
Co-Chairman

Broch
enclosure
manual

*From
Carter
P. Walker
L. L. Jones
will be
for
policy
and
as chairman*

International Unions

Dear Brothers,

On August 28 a great March for Jobs and Freedom will take place in Washington. I am writing to you to ask that you do all in your power to guarantee the success of this event by sponsoring it, supporting it financially, and by urging your locals to turn out the membership in large numbers.

Many of us share a deepening concern over the job situation. The official unemployment figures stand at the five million mark, and we know that the reality is many millions more. The rate of Negro joblessness is twice that of white.

This crisis, deepening with the advance of automation, faces all workers, employed as well as unemployed. Bold national action is needed for its solution. We shall ask, in Washington, for federal measures to give our people the jobs they so desperately need through the construction of hospitals and schools, public recreational facilities, and the rapid elimination of all slum housing. In this way millions of new jobs can be created. We shall also ask for special educational and training facilities for Negro citizens and for all youth.

In calling this March I have joined with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Urban League, the Congress of Racial Equality, and the Student non-Violent Coordinating Committee. Representatives from the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant faiths, and from labor will join with the civil rights leaders to be chairmen of the March and to formulate and control its policy.

May I ask that on receipt of this letter you will give it your early attention and notify me of your sponsorship of the March? We must undertake heavy costs to organize this event and also to guarantee the presence of unemployed people in Washington; your financial support is urgently solicited. Checks should be made payable to MARCH ON WASHINGTON. Please also circulate your local urging their participation in the March

enclosure
manual

yours fraternally

A Philip Randolph
Co-Chairman

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Friday, July 26, 1963

Dear Friends:

In accordance with the letter you recently received from Mr. John Lewis, this material enclosed is designed to give instruction and information concerning the organization of your local community.

If you desire to have someone from the March on Washington Committee to speak to your group please write or call us at the Committee office. The office located at 170 West 130th St. New York, New York. We can be reached by phone by calling FI-8-1900.

The March to Washington D.C. is of the greatest importance and we ask that no effort be spared in organizing your community for its fullest support.

Yours For Freedom,

Courtland Cox

Courtland Cox
Student Non-violent
Coordinating Committee

CC:pm

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street

New York 27, New York

Flmore 8-1900

July 31, 1963.

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you on behalf of the leaders of the March on Washington to bring this event to your attention and to urge that you will do all in your power to help us guarantee its success.

The March, which has been called by the leading civil rights organizations of our country, is a response to the deep moral crisis through which our nation is now passing. This crisis has come about because millions of people have refused any longer to be a party to segregation and discrimination on account of race. Such practices are an affront to Christian principles. To us is given now an occasion that occurs rarely in human affairs: to eliminate forever the cruel barriers, moral, legal, and physical, that stand between man and man, and to bring closer the creation of a truly Christian social order.

The March on Washington will also be a crusade for jobs for the unemployed. We must never be unmindful that the official unemployment figures now tops the five million mark, and the reality is many millions more. This situation hits Negro workers with especial force. In Washington, accordingly, we shall not only ask for freedom now, but for a massive public works program to be carried out by the federal government. This will provide millions of new jobs and will bring to the people the things they so desperately need - new hospitals and schools, public recreational facilities, the swift elimination of all slum housing.

May I accordingly ask that you take immediate steps to bring this March to the attention of your congregation; that you collect funds to help defray the heavy expenses of organizing this event and of bringing unemployed people to Washington; that you join with others in your community to send buses to Washington; and that you offer up special prayers on Sunday August 25 for the success of our effort.

Yours fraternally

Thomas Kilgore, Jr.
Thomas Kilgore
Chairman, Church Committee,
MARCH ON WASHINGTON.

ENC:egf.

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
Jochin Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

Administrative Committee

Cleveland Robinson

Chairman

Courtland Cox
Ann Arnold Hedgeman
Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Jr.
Rev. George Lawrence
James McCain
Gloster Current
Guichard Parris
Erwin Suall

Director

A. Philip Randolph

Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

Excerpt from

THE KIPLINGER WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER
Circulated privately to businessmen

August 2, 1963

...Then on August 28, the "March on Washington" of 100,000 or more. Negro groups are working with police, planning the whole thing carefully, to avoid violence. Plenty of plainclothesmen and uniformed men on hand. Marchers will bring their own specially trained men to help keep peace. Local authorities will set up necessary facilities at strategic spots...comfort and first-aid stations.... Limited sleeping accommodations will be available, but Negro leaders are urging the marchers NOT to stay overnight.

...Many congressmen have been invited to hear the demands for legislation....

Theme of parade down Constitution Avenue to Lincoln Memorial will be solemn...a memorial to slain Negroes, choirs singing, etc. (Solemn tone is expected to discourage any tomfoolery.)

Rally at Lincoln Memorial will hear report on visit to Kennedy and then petitions to Congress will be OK'd: Civil rights legislation. FEPC law. Withholding of funds for federal programs which are segregated. Support for "full employment" programs. Jobs will be a key demand.

How business is reacting here: This is not being said publicly, but many small businesses will close down. Big stores will stay open. Same for gov't agencies. But absenteeism in gov't and private business is expected to run high....

Note this about the "March": It's part of a lobbying strategy to be used in state capitals, county seats, city halls in North & South. When Negro groups get the lobbying technique down pat, you can expect more changes by legislation....

A VERY significant development in the Negro revolution.

Reprinted for general information by
MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 WEST 130th STREET
NEW YORK 27, NEW YORK
FILMORE 8-1900

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
FIImore 8-1900

Founding Chairmen

James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
A. Philip Randolph
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

Administrative Committee

Cleveland Robinson
Chairman
Courtland Cox
Ann Arnold Hedgeman
Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Jr.
Rev. George Lawrence
James McCain
Dr. John Morsell
Guichard Parris

Director

A. Philip Randolph

Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

August 5th, 1963.

Dear Friend,

An historic event will take place on Wednesday August 28th., when over 100,000 Americans will march on Washington to ask for the fulfilment of the promise of the Emancipation Proclamation for Negro citizens.

I am sure that your group will want to participate on this great occasion, and the Bronx Committee for the March is asking all interested organizations to send representatives to a meeting on Tuesday August 13th at 8 p.m. at St. Augustine Church at 165th. Street and Prospect Avenue to see that all Bronx citizens wishing to go to Washington are able to do so.

The Bronx Committee for the March will include Rev. Edler E. Hawkins, chairman; Mr. Monserrat Flores; Mrs. Jane Harris; Mr. Bernard Jackson; Mr. Philip Michaels; Mr. Ben McLaurin; Mrs. Laura Valdes; Mr. Sydney Posner; Rabbi Schulen Rubin; Mr. Francis Torres; Bernard Mennleimer; Herbert Callendar; and myself.

Please come to the August 13th meeting to help organize this March for Jobs and Freedom. If you cannot come and wish more information about it, call FA 4-5819 day or evening.

Very sincerely,

Rev. George Hardy
President, Association of
Bronx Community Organizations.

RGH/egf:

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Fillmore 8-1900

8/19/63

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
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A. Philip Randolph
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Memo to: Editors and Assignment desks
From: Bayard Rustin, Deputy Director

1- Information on facilities being provided in Washington on the 28 for the Marchers, and for press, radio and TV coverage, can be obtained from Frank Montero in Washington at 202-234-8300 or Calvin Banks in New York at 212 FI 8-1900. Mr. Montero will be the only authorized spokesman for the March committee in Washington during the period preceding the March.

2- Information on the day's program, numbers of people expected and where they are coming from, congressmen and celebrities expected to attend, details on projected meetings with the President and congressional leaders, etc., as well as National statements from the March committee, will emanate from the March headquarters in New York City, as it becomes available. Sy Posner is in charge of public relations in the New York office. Henry Lee Moon has been named national chairman of the public relations committee, with Guichard Parris and Calvin Banks as vice-chairmen.

3- Press accreditation for the 28 may be obtained by writing to: Chief of Washington Police, Washington, D. C., giving names and titles of persons assigned to cover.

4- We expect to have press kits available on the 26th or 27th, to be distributed in Washington. We also hope to conduct a briefing session on the 26 in Washington, place and time not yet determined.

5- Details for the program on the 28 are still being worked on. However, the general outline is as follows: Buses, trains, planes and cars will start coming into Washington about 6 A.M. There will be a number of check points in Washington to direct this traffic to the Washington Monument. There will be a program of entertainment at the Washington Monument from 10 A.M. to 12 noon. The March will begin at 12 noon down Constitution and Independence Avenues to the Lincoln Memorial. The "pre-program" program will continue at the Lincoln Memorial from 12:30 until 2 P.M., at which time the formal program will begin. At this time, we expect that the founding chairmen, listed on this letterhead, will make brief addresses, and Mr. Randolph will chair the proceedings. The program will be concluded at 4:00 P.M.

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
FIImore 8-1900

August _____, 1963

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
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John Lewis
Joachim Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

*Administrative Committee
Chairman*

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Courtland Cox
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Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have agreed to participate in the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28th, 1963, in the city of Washington, D. C.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION

August 19, 1963

Dear Delegate:

The deadline for the registration of Marshals is Sunday, August 25, 1963. The cooperation of every delegate will be vital to our effort to muster 1000 Marshals in the New York Regional Area. It is expected that the Guardians Association will provide the main force, and rightly so. Remember that we marshalled the Youth Marches on Washington in 1958 and 1959. It is certainly a high honor to be called upon to serve as the Internal Security Force of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

It follows, logically, that the reputation of the Guardians Association is an issue. Further, much of the success of the March on Freedom will depend upon the peaceable and non-violent manner in which it is conducted. The Department of Justice and the Washington, D.C. police welcome our voluntary offer of assistance. This attitude was made my personal knowledge while conferring with said official agencies in D.C. July 26th past. All enforcement agencies involved recognize the need of having us supplement their forces.

Do your best to get every Guardian possible to volunteer his much needed services. We must firm up our Bus Transportation plans by Sunday evening, August 25th.

TRANSPORTATION: We have established a pool of twenty-seven (27) busses, most of which are air conditioned. FARE: \$8.00 round trip.

NEW YORK ASSEMBLY AREA: West 143rd St. & Fifth Ave., Manhattan.

TIME: We will assemble from 11:30PM to 12:30AM.

PARKING FACILITIES: Arrangements have been made with the local police to use the lot facing on West 143rd St. between Lenox & Fifth Avenues as parking space for Marshals' cars. Marshal Busses will stand in 143rd St. - Lenox to Fifth Ave.

DEPARTURE: We will depart at 1:00AM in order to accomodate as many 4 to 12 men as possible. ARRIVAL AT D.C. - 5:00AM.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ASSEMBLY POINT: Marshal Headquarters to be located at 14th St. & Constitution Ave., within Washington Monument grounds.

Upon arrival at the Washington D.C. Marshal Assembly Area, all Marshals will hold fast to receive further briefing and orientation. Presidents of the various organizations cooperating with us will serve as Deputy Marshals. Guardian Deputy Chief Marshals will help coordinate the efforts of all Marshals under the direction of the Chief Marshal.

Punctuality is a must. Ours will be no small task. Much depends upon us. **THERE IS MUCH TO DO AND LITTLE TIME TO DO IT IN. LET'S GET OUR GUARDIAN MARSHALS SIGNED UP. ALL MARSHALS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A "MARSHALS' MANUAL" AND IDENTIFYING EMBLEM BEFORE LEAVING.**
ATTIRE: White shirt and dark accessories (blue or black preferred).

Provide your members with Registration Cards and instruct them to turn them in (fully filled in) along with \$8.00 bus fare to the Marshal Registrar at March on Wash. Hdqtrs, 170 W. 130th St., Manhattan. Phone: FI 8-1900. Let's do our best to assure the six Negro leaders that they have not misplaced their trust in us. **DO YOUR BEST FOR JOBS & FREEDOM.**

Fraternally,


William H. Johnson, Jr.
Guardian President - Chief Marshal

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
FIImore 8-1900

August 19, 1963

Dear Congressman:

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
Joachim Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
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Irwin Suall

Director

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Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

Our office has received inquiries from several Senators and Representatives as to whether they should receive delegations from their states during the August 28th March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

We wanted you to know that we have sought to discourage participants in our March from making appointments with their Congressmen on August 28th. This action is prompted by recognition that such appointments may make it difficult for you to attend the Mass Assembly for Jobs and Freedom at the Lincoln Memorial beginning at 2:00 p.m.

We can well appreciate your desire to discuss the vital civil rights issue with your constituents, and propose that you have at least two opportunities to do so:

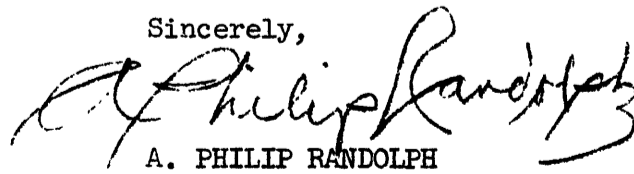
- 1) by asking your constituents to see you on August 27th;
- 2) by arranging to meet with them on the Washington Monument grounds between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon on August 28th.

Above all, we are concerned that Congressmen not receive delegations on Capitol Hill on the latter date. Only by keeping all March participants together can we avoid needless confusion and the possibility of diversions to the Capitol.

We have notified our participants of this policy and hope that we may have your cooperation in implementing it.

Your formal invitation to attend the Mass Assembly for Jobs and Freedom is on its way under separate cover. A seat has been reserved for you, and we look forward to seeing you on this historic occasion.

Sincerely,



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
Director

APR/tk
Enclosure

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Filmore 8-1900

August 23, 1963

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
Joachim Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

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Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

Dear

You have been recommended to the Chief Marshal's Office, March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, as a person willing and able to serve as a Marshal, on Wednesday, August 28, 1963.

If such is the case, kindly fill out the enclosed (Marshal) Registration Cards: leave them intact, and return them along with \$8.00 (round-trip bus fare) to:

William H. Johnson, Jr., Chief Marshal
March on Washington Headquarters
170 West 130th Street
New York 27, N. Y.

Make checks payable to the GUARDIANS ASSOCIATION.

Brief Information: Upon registering, ask for a Marshal's Manual.

Assembly for Departure: West 143rd Street and Fifth Avenue, Manhattan, 11:30 PM, ~~Tues-~~ day, August 27.

Departure: 1:00 AM.

Sincerely,

William H. Johnson, Jr.
Chief Marshal

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
FIImore 8-1900

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
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Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

Sept. 2, 1963

Dear Friend,

As you are aware, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which took place last Wednesday was a historic success. No one knows more than I the amount of effort that went into the production of this great event, particularly by you and the other members of the volunteer and regular staff.

In partial recognition of the long hours put in at the service of the March, Cleveland Robinson has asked that I invite you to be his guests at a party in the Clover room at District 65 headquarters, 13 Astor Place, this Friday night at 8 p.m. We trust in addition that the rejuvenating effect of this party will be felt in the weeks to come, as once again the needs of the struggle place their demands upon us all.

I look forward to seeing you Friday night.

Yours sincerely,

Bayard
Bayard Rustin

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Filmore 8-1900

September 16, 1963

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Committees and Contacts of th. March on Washington

FROM: Bayard Rustin, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: National Day of Mourning, Sunday, September 22nd.

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
Joachim Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
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Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

The brutal murder of Negro children in Birmingham has shocked the nation. There should be no need to elaborate on the necessity for swift and vigorous action by the forces represented in the March on Washington Movement.

Accordingly, the chairmen of the March, in response to pleas from the beleaguered Negroes of Birmingham, are calling upon all Americans to observe this Sunday, September 22nd, as a Day of Mourning.

Especially do they appeal to all who participated in the March to fulfill the pledge they made at the Lincoln Memorial. Our ability to respond to the challenge of Birmingham with militant, effective, and nonviolent activity will be a profound test of that pledge.

Because time is short and our response must be immediate, the National Office of the March on Washington cannot coordinate a uniform protest throughout the nation. We can only offer the suggestions below and urge you to tap local resources and initiative and imagination to register the sentiments of your community with a resounding impact. The anger and frustration now building up in Negro communities must be molded into coherent and meaningful protests at the grass-roots levels.

Bear in mind that the suggestions below are precisely suggestions; they are not intended to be restrictive or to discourage other activities that may seem more appropriate in your area. We do urge, however, that your activities be such that there is something for everybody to do--however symbolic or small--and that you adhere to the spirit of the Lincoln Memorial pledge.

Suggestions

1) Local Negro and white ministers may be asked to lead their congregations in silent marches following Sunday morning services. Many ministers will also be willing to dedicate their services to the murdered children of Birmingham.

2) What happened in Birmingham affects all children everywhere. Therefore, local groups may want to sponsor children's protest marches--perhaps after Sunday School, where the meaning of the "Love that Forgiveth" sermon that was being preached when the bombing occurred could be explained. Special Friday or Monday morning school assemblies should be arranged. In addition, you may ask schools to set their flags at half mast on Monday.

3) One symbolic act in which everyone could engage would be to wear a black armband until the murderers are caught and punished. (Women could wear a black ribbon on their dresses if an armband is inconvenient.)

4) In New York James Baldwin has called upon his colleagues and neighbors to join him in a vigil in Washington Square. Similar actions by prominent members of your community--intellectuals, celebrities, civic leaders, etc.--will draw widespread attention

Again, these are only suggestions. You may choose to combine several of them or to reject all of them. I would suggest, however, that whatever project you undertake, the wearing of black armbands would be a simple way to link local protests together in a national symbol.

In any event, please keep this office informed of your activities. We want all America to know the scope of our indignation, and we want to pass on to other groups any ideas you may have.

Bayard Rustin

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
Filmore 8-1900

For further information call
Bayard Rustin - FI 8-1900
September 16, 1963
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
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MARCH LEADERS

DEMAND PRESIDENT ACT IN BIRMINGHAM

CALL FOR NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

The ten chairmen of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom have called upon President Kennedy to guarantee federal protection for the beleaguered Negro citizens of Alabama.

Signed by Mathew Ahmann, Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, James Farmer, Dr. Martin Luther King, John Lewis, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, A. Philip Randolph, Walter Reuther, Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young, the telegram to the President warned that "when people cannot look to their government to defend them they will take steps to defend themselves."

"The chain of responsibility for mass murder in Birmingham," asserted the March leaders, "extends directly to the Governor of Alabama. . . . If no federal protection can be found for the Negroes of Alabama and elsewhere in the South, the links of that chain will extend to the national government, because helplessness in Washington is an invitation to lawlessness in Birmingham."

In addition, the March chairman announced that they were calling on Americans across the country to observe this Sunday

MORE

Pg. 2 MARCH LEADERS DEMAND PRESIDENT ACT IN BIRMINGHAM -- CALL FOR NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

September 22, as a Day of Mourning for the slain children of Birmingham. They directed their appeal especially to the quarter of a million people who participated in the August 28th March on Washington and who pledged "my heart and my mind and my body, unequivocally and without regard to personal sacrifice, to the achievement of social peace through social justice."

The appeal, issued by the March on Washington office, urged Marchers to fulfill their pledge "in this hour of national grief and shame." At the same time, it called for dramatic action by all Americans of good will.

"What forms this action will take will be determined locally," according to Bayard Rustin, deputy director of the March. But a list of suggestions has been rushed to March Committees and contacts from Boston to Los Angeles. Included is the wearing of black armbands "until the murderers are found and punished."

Negro ministers are also being urged to lead their congregations in silent marches in cities across the country and to dedicate their Sunday morning services to the dead children.

In addition, prominent intellectuals and celebrities have been urged to ask their neighbors and colleagues to join them in walks and vigils in public places to be chosen by local groups.

"Given such short notice," Mr. Rustin commented, "we are depending on local groups to use their own initiative in dramatizing their outrage at the bestiality of the Birmingham racists. But we urge these groups to adhere to the spirit of the Lincoln Memorial pledge and also to provide forms of activity in which everybody can participate."

In their strongly worded telegram to President Kennedy, the March chairman declared:

There must be an end to racist power in the United States, and the full force of the government of the United States is required to end it. Enactment of the civil rights legislation now pending,

(MORE)

Pg. 3., MARCH LEADERS DEMAND PRESIDENT ACT IN BIRMINGHAM -- CALL FOR NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

augmented by across-the-board authority for the Justice Department to intervene to protect basic rights, and including federal guarantees against the permeating evil of employment discrimination, is the essential minimum needed to demonstrate that government is genuinely concerned.

Mr. Rustin reported that he had spoken at length with A. Philip Randolph, director of the March and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who is in Washington on union business. "We are in agreement," said Mr. Rustin, "that the Birmingham events point up the urgency of the ten demands we placed before the President on August 28th. A full program for jobs and freedom is needed now. Compromises with the Southerners may be convenient for some politicians, but they only further jeopardize the lives of our people by encouraging the animal insanity of deluded minds."

Attached is the telegram of the March chairman to President Kennedy.

#

(Following is the complete text of the telegram to President Kennedy from the chairmen of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.)

In this hour of national grief and shame we, the leaders of the historic March on Washington, turn to you, the President of the United States, and urge you to lead this nation, founded on the principles of equality and human dignity, to respond to the tragedy of Birmingham by an expression of national mourning and legislative action

The full-scale federal investigation into yesterday's murders of Negro children in Birmingham will be without value unless accompanied by the certainty of federal protection against the spread of racist terror. Birmingham's Negroes cannot look for this protection to the established local agencies of law enforcement, whose initial efforts have already produced one more dead Negro child, shot in the back by a police officer.

Our profound admiration for the restraint thus far maintained by Alabama's beleaguered Negro citizens is tempered by the sure knowledge that their restraint is not unlimited and that when people cannot look to their government to defend them they will take steps to defend themselves. There must be an end to racist power in the United States, and the full force of the government of the United States is required to end it. Enactment of the civil rights legislation now pending, augmented by across-the-board authority for the Justice Department to intervene to protect basic rights, and including federal guarantees against the permeating evil of employment discrimination, is the essential minimum needed to demonstrate that government is genuinely concerned.

The chain of responsibility for mass murder in Birmingham extends directly to the Governor of Alabama, whose words and deeds laid the fuse, and from him to the white people of his state, whether they actively espouse the racist views of the perpetrators or, by their silence, have helped nurture the evil growth whose bitter fruit all Americans are tasting today. If no federal protection can be found for the Negroes of Alabama and elsewhere in the South,

(more)

Telegram to President Kennedy (2)

the links of that chain will extend to the national government, because helplessness in Washington is an invitation to lawlessness in Birmingham.

In the name of all who were in Washington on August 28th and of the millions of others whose hearts were there, we call upon you to bring the full weight of your authority and influence to bear in guarantees that the atrocity of September 15th shall never be repeated.

Mathew Ahmann

Joachim Prinz

Eugene Carson Blake

A. Philip Randolph

James Farmer

Walter Reuther

Martin Luther King

Roy Wilkins

John Lewis

Whitney Young

For purposes of identification, the organizational affiliations of the above signatories are indicated below:

Mathew Ahmann, Executive Director of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice

Reverend Eugene Carson Blake, Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Race Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America

James Farmer, National Director of the Congress of Racial Equality

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference

John Lewis, Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, Chairman of the American Jewish Congress

A. Philip Randolph, President of the Negro American Labor Council

Walter Reuther, Chairman of the Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO

Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Whitney Young, Executive Director of the National Urban League.

NEWSLETTER # 1

TO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEES, CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS AND
INDIVIDUALS PREPARING FOR THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON IN THE
NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA

Community Organization

The March on Washington is a demonstration of our unity behind key demands in civil rights and employment. In receipt of this we earnestly advise that you take immediate steps -- if you have not already done so -- to get in touch with other civil rights organizations and groups in your community. People who support the March ought to be in touch with each other on a city, or town, or country wide basis. Such March coordination

- * facilitates our efforts jointly to publicize the March, raise money for it, sell buttons and organize transportation.
- * enables us to work together in the solution of problems that may arise. Cooperatively we reach more people and guarantee a more successful effort than if we were to work alone.

Report your Progress

The progress of your work should be reported to us at the National Office. Let us know what you are doing and what kind of plans you are making, what successes and what problems you are experiencing. We will report to you in the Newsletter; this will make easier for people to be in touch with each other and will give impetus and a sense of direction.

Progress so far -- report from the March Office

We shall publish shortly a list of March sponsors. On the national level this will include the UAW and the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. In New York City the Central Labor Council has endorsed the March, in Long Island the Federation of Labor.

In terms of organizational preparation for the March, Westchester leads the way in the metropolitan area. The people there have a Westchester coordinating committee and are in touch with local committees in literally dozens of communities. The Westchester Committee works with local groups to encourage full participation in the March. James Cook of the Westchester Urban League, the Committee's coordinator, estimates that "we shall send about ninety buses to Washington."

Long Island has formed a Long Island Council for the March headed by Harold Sachs of the Long Island Council for Integrated Housing. A meeting in Garden City this week launches the work of the Council.

In Manhattan various groups have been hard at work in preparation for the March. The Metropolitan Council on Housing, a tenants group plans to send four busloads of people. The West Side Committee for Civil Rights has done a fine job in bringing together people from many organizations to support the March. And the Lower East Side Civil Rights Committee working out of the Lower East Side Neighborhood Association is pitching in to publicize the March and organize participation all the way from 14th Street south to the end of the island. In addition scores of churches in Harlem and the Manhattan NAACP, and uptown CORE are actively mobilizing busloads of people.

A March on Washington Coordinating Committee has been formed for the Bronx, with the noted leader, Rev. Elder Hawkins, as its chairman. The Riverdale section of the Bronx has already formed its own March Committee, with members on it representing different churches and neighborhood groups. They plan to send a bus to Washington and also to raise money for bringing the unemployed to Washington.

A Coordinating Committee for the March has been established in Newark. We will report on Brooklyn and Queens in the next newsletter.

District 65 of the Wholesale, Retail and Department Store Workers, AFL-CIO, has chartered three trains -- already filled with union members. The Negro American Labor Council has chartered a train and is also sponsoring a benefit for the March at the Apollo Theater starring Tony Bennett and others. Midnight, Friday, August 23rd -- Tickets from 217 West 125th St.

Check List for Organizers

The following are questions which we would like you to write to us with information about:

- Are you joining with other groups in your community, including trade unions to publicize the March and/or arrange transportation? If so, which groups?

Are you making plans either to reach the unemployed in your area or to raise money so that unemployed may be represented in Washington?

How are transportation plans coming?

Will ministers and rabbis offer prayers August 24th - 25th for the success of the March?

Have you reproduced our ~~thru~~ way for your community?

Will employers give the day off? with pay?

How many buses is your group sending? (Names, address, phones of bus captains should be sent to the National Office immediately.)

TRANSPORTATION

The responsibility for organizing the transportation of groups to Washington rests entirely with local participating committees. It is for you to determine bus departure points, etc. May we remind you to appoint bus captains, to tell us who they are before the March so that we can invite them to a briefing session.

To facilitate your arrangements, we recommend the following companies. They have guaranteed road maintenance; that is, they service buses on the road in event of breakdown. And they are equipped to handle the large demands that may be made upon them for the March.

ROCKLAND BUS COMPANY Bergenfield, N.J. 201 DU42400
\$250.00 per air-conditioned, 45-49 seat bus
\$50.00 deposit in advance. Balance payable morning of August 28th before departure.

SCENIC PLEASURE TOURS 225 West 34th Street 155-2894
New York City
\$ 250.00 (see above)
\$260.00 per air conditioned 49 seat bus
(Deposit and balance same as Rockland)

TRAVELERS BUS SERVICE 565 Fifth Ave. MU 7-8810
New York City
\$290.00 per 45-49 seat, air conditioned bus
(Deposit and Balance as above)

The Pennsylvania Railroad Mr. Martin, PE 6-6000 has no further facilities for group travel -- but might be induced to shift rolling stock from other uses if there were sufficient demand. If you plan to take a minimum of 300 people it would be good to call them. The special rate for groups of 300 or more is \$8.50 round trip.

Limited seats available on NALC train -- \$8.50 round trip
Call: Mr. McLaurin, 217 West 125th St. MO2-5080

Chartered Planes are available also. Contact air-lines in your vicinity, if you have a group of 95 people call the office.

In addition: AIR CHARTER EXCHANGE 202 347-2985
1411 K Street NW
Washington, D.C.

**Wednesday
August 28, 1963**

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

170 West 130 Street
New York 27, New York
FIllmore 8-1900

(1)

Founding Chairmen

Mathew Ahmann
Eugene Carson Blake
James Farmer
Martin Luther King
John Lewis
Jochin Prinz
A. Philip Randolph
Walter Reuther
Roy Wilkins
Whitney Young

Administrative Committee

Cleveland Robinson
Chairman
Courtland Cox
Ann Arnold Hedgeman
Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Jr.
Rev. George Lawrence
James McCain
Gloster Current
Guichard Parris
Erwin Suall

Director

A. Philip Randolph

Deputy Director

Bayard Rustin

Coordinators

Norman Hill
L. Joseph Overton

Southern Administrators

Dr. Aaron Henry
Worth Long
Att. Floyd McKissick
Rev. Wyatt Walker

NEWSLETTER #2

To Leaders of all Participating Groups:

(1) This edition of the Newsletter contains information about participating organizations, the progress of the March, key people in many areas of the Country, health instructions.

(2) In a few days time you will receive from us organizing manual #2. This will contain detailed instructions for August 28 -- timetable, conduct of groups, program, method of assembly and dispersal, etc. Read this carefully and be sure that copies get into the hands of all March leaders and bus captains in your area. It is the final instruction manual that you will receive.

(3) Keep your local press and publicity media posted on your activities. Send them names of participating groups, names and addresses of committee officers, news about rallies and fund raising events. Let the press know where people who want to go to Washington from your area can get information about travel. Send carbon copies of all releases to us so that we may have a picture of what is going on in your area. (See attached memo.)

(4) Enclosed with this letter is a Bus Captain form. All groups chartering buses should select their captains, fill out this form, and return to us not later than August 19.

(5) Unemployed people are anxious to come to Washington from both Northern and Southern communities. They cannot do so in any numbers unless this is made financially possible by other communities. Please send us any funds that you have raised for this purpose -- payable to MARCH ON WASHINGTON and marked 'unemployed' -- now.

(2)

WHY WE MARCH

The historic March called for August 28 of this year raises demands for speedy action on two fronts, civil rights and jobs. It insists that only national action through the Federal Government, can achieve full and speedy integration of public facilities and schools, the end of police brutality, and full equality before the law. It underlines the gravity of the economic crisis, with at least five million people out of work; and insists that only swift Federal action through a massive public works program, can eliminate this threat to national security.

The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom that will be held on August 28th will mark a new stage in the struggle against the brother evils of American society: racial discrimination and economic deprivation. Never before have such numbers of citizens, of all races and for a wide range of purposes, united in direct action at the seat of the Federal Government to protest their enemies and to inspire their friends. Time is heavy with proofs that there is no substitute for the personal involvement of people who are outraged or oppressed by social wrongs; and the solutions to the great wrongs that affect us all are in a large measure in the hands of the Federal Government.

Thus we call on all Americans to join us in Washington:

to demand the passage of effective civil rights legislation which will guarantee to all

... decent housing

... access to all public accommodations

... adequate and integrated education

... the right to vote

to prevent compromise or filibuster against such legislation

to demand a federal massive works and training program that puts all unemployed workers, black and white, back to work

to demand an FEP Act which bars discrimination by federal, state and municipal governments, by employers, by contractors, employment agencies and trade unions

to demand a national minimum wage, which includes all workers, of not less than \$2.00 an hour.

ORGANIZATIONS SPONSORING THE MARCH AND PARTICIPATING IN IT

I SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

American Jewish Congress
Congress of Racial Equality
Industrial Union Department AFL-CIO
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
National Conference of Catholics for Interracial Justice
National Council of Churches of Christ in America
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Student non-Violent Coordinating Committee
National Urban League
Negro American Labor Council

II PARTICIPATING GROUPS
(Partial list)

Churches

Hundreds of churches of every denomination are sending buses to Washington and joining the March. Those that have reported to the office their participation include Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopalian, and Lutheran denominations.

Community Organizations and Institutions

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Alumni Association of Catholic University
American Civil Liberties Union
Americans for Democratic Action
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish Committee
Association of Catholic Trade Unionists
Chicago Commission on Human Relations
Committee on Religion and Race
Committee of Conscience
Council of Community Churches
Delta Sigma Theta Center of Human Relations
Japanese American Citizens League
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish War Veterans
Mobilization for Youth
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Negro Women
New York City Commission on Human Rights
New York City Mission Society

(4)

National Federation of Settlements-Neighborhood Centers
New York State Association of Elks

Pan African Student Organization
Presbyterian Interracial Council
Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the Masons of the State of N.Y.
Prince Hall Order of the Eastern Stars
Princeton Human Rights Group

Queens's College Student Association

Rutgers University Labor Institute

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
United Conference of College Teachers
United Hebrew Trades

Workmen's Circle
Workers' Defense League

Young Christian Worker
Young Israel (Pelham Parkway and West Side)
Young Men's Christian Association (National Board)
Young Women's Christian Association (Pittsburgh)

Zeta Nu Omega

LABOR

State Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial
Organizations
New York City Central Labor Council
Long Island Federation of Labor
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America AFL-CIO
Amalgamated Laundry Workers
Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen and Fur
Workers Division
American Federation of Teachers AFL-CIO
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
Building Service Employees
Cleaners and Dyers Joint Board
International Union of Electrical Workers (District 33/4)
Retail Wholesale Department Store Workers
Hotel and Restaurant Workers Joint Board
International Association of Retail Clerks
International Jewelry Workers
International Ladies Garment Workers Union
International Association of Machinists (District Council 15)
International Maritime Union
Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers
Painters District Council #9

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Seafares' International Union
United Steelworkers of America
United Furniture Workers
United Transport Workers
United Automobile Workers

The National Council of Churches of Christ in America has announced that August 28, the day of the March, will be a Church Assembly in Washington. A special printed folder has been distributed to thousands of churches throughout the Country explaining the Christian purposes of the March and the reasons for church involvement in it.

"We need," says the National Council, "thousands of Christians, white and Negro in Washington on August 28. Put everything else aside and COME."

A similar position has been taken by the Catholic Church. A pastoral letter read in Catholic churches August 11 from Cardinal Spellman urges a similar involvement in the March upon American Catholics.

Jews as well as Christians of all denominations have responded to the call to come to Washington. The organization of Methodist and Lutheran Marches to facilitate involvement may be mentioned; and in many areas the churches and synagogues have set up their own coordinators to facilitate involvement of their congregations.

Doctors, dentists, nurses and health workers are participating as part of a medical group. This will make clear to the nation that health workers stand solidly with clergy, labor, and the unemployed in the effort to secure freedom and jobs for all. The medical groups will each march under their own banners (caducei). Further information may be obtained from Medical Committee for Civil Rights, P.O. Box 499, Madison Square Station, New York 10, N.Y. or 4 5660.

(6)

NEWS OF THE MARCH

News is pouring in to us of March preparations being made around the country. Committees to publicize the March and arrange transportation and recruitment have sprung up literally in hundreds of communities. City and country-wide committees are coordinating these activities. We include a list of people in different States who are organizing for the March, with their addresses, area codes, and phone numbers.

In the South plans are under way for a Freedom Train from Tallahassee, Florida on August 27, and will travel along the east coast to Washington, picking up people as it goes. Those desiring passage on this train should call Rev. Abraham Woods, 334 Auburn Avenue Atlanta, Georgia. 404 524 1378. Stops at Brunswick and Savannah, Georgia, and Charleston, S.C.

Floyd McKissack, National Chairman of CORE, reports that he has eleven buses ready to leave from North Carolina, and will fill many more before August 28. Robert Moses, director of voter registration in Mississippi, is certain that he can get more than 1,000 people from Mississippi to participate in the March if there is money to pay for transportation (those of you who have not sent funds to the National Office, please note.)

News reaches us of preparations for the turning out of many thousands of people from Baltimore and Washington, D. C. In the latter city government authorities have advised departmental heads to give their employees the day off where possible.

In the mid West two trains and a number of planes have been chartered from Chicago, and one train is scheduled to come from Detroit. Busloads will arrive in Washington from Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Youngstown, Ohio; from Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri; and from Louisville, Kentucky.

In New York our smallest calculations include that at least thirty or forty thousand people will leave the city by bus, plane, and train. Mayor Wagner has declared August 28 Jobs and Freedom Day. City employees have permission to take the day off, presumably with pay.

(7)

MARCH ORGANIZERS

Contact the following people in your area for further information:

California

Fredericka Cushner
1958 Golden Gate #3
San Francisco 415 FI 6-9082

Rev. Maurice Dawkins
1025 E. 18th Street
Los Angeles 21 213 RI 7-6365

Colorado

Tom Milstein
Boulder March on Washington Com.
870 Hudson St.
Denver 20, Colo. 322-9219

Rev. Joseph L. Griffin
Greater East Denver Action Com.
3240 Adams St.
Denver 5, Colo. 377-1910

Connecticut

Rev. James Peterson
511 Central Ave.
Bridgeport 203 366 0688

Delaware

General Jackson
402 Robinson Dr.
Wilmington 302 OL 6-1777

Georgia

Joseph Eyer
416 W. Park Ave.
Savannah

Worth Long
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Raymond St.
Atlanta 404 668-0331

Rev. Abraham Woods
334 Auburn Ave. NE
Atlanta 404 525-1378

Illinois

Timuel Black
4859 South Wabash Ave.
Chicago 312 268-5077
312 624-1810

Indiana

Curtis Strong
1978 Harrison St.
Gary 219 885 8307

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March Coordinators - 2

Kansas

Lela Shanks
2600 North 12th
Kansas City 913 FI 2-9140

Kentucky

George A. Trice
1104 South 41st St.
Louisville 502 774-1174

Louisiana

Isaac Reynolds
Plaquemine 504 687-6244

Maryland

Gloria Richardson
Reggie Robinson
317 High Street
Cambridge MA 8-2040

Troy Brailey
2405 Baker St.
Baltimore 301 LA 3-5205

Massachusetts

Arthur Epps
541 Massachusetts Ave.
Boston 617 CO 7-1058

Michigan

Horace Sheffield
18405 Greenfield
Detroit 855-8321

Minnesota

James White
4545 Fourth Ave. So.
Minneapolis 612 781 6022

Missouri

William Clay
722 Chestnut St.
St. Louis 314 FO 1-9202

Mrs. Connie Timberlake
4728 East 44th Terrace
Kansas City 816 VI 2-5121

New Jersey

Assemblyman George Richardson
52 Holland Street
Newark 201 BI 8-3788

Isaac McNatt
Bergen County
844 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York 31 201 TE 7-2396
Office: 212 AU 3-2400

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March Coordinators - 3

New York

John A. Scott
Blyden Jackson
170 West 130th St.
New York City 202 FI 8-1900

James Cook
6 Depot Plaza
White Plains 7914 WH 9-1175

North Carolina

Floyd McKissack, Esq.
213½ West Main St.
Durham 919 682 8106

Ohio

Clarence Holmes
9293 Cedar St.
Cleveland 216 231 2620

C. W. Vinegar
3549 Redding Road
Cincinnati 216 281-8388

Pennsylvania

Samuel Evans
229 N. Broad St.
Philadelphia 215 PO 5-2229

Rev. Herbert Wilkerson
220 Grand St.
Pittsburgh 412 GR 1-1024

Virginia

Lester Banks
404½ West 2nd St.
Richmond MI 4-5678

Rev. Virgil Wood
1405 Grace Street
Lynchburg

Rev. Robinson
920 Lexington St.
Norfolk 203 MA 2-9798

Washington, D. C.

Ed. Brown
1417 U St., NW

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HEALTH INSTRUCTIONS

For organizations and bus captains:

- (1) A professional nurse or a person trained in first aid should be on each bus or train.
- (2) The following first aid supplies should be on hand with each transportation unit:

spirits of ammonia	aspirin
travel sickness pills	enteric coated
gelusil or antacid tablets	salt tablets
waterproof paper bags for	band aids
travel sickness	paper towels

- (3) In case of emergency en route requiring the help of a physician contact the local police and request transportation to nearest hospital with emergency service. If you run into difficulty contact --:

Medical Committee for Civil Rights
Willard Hotel
Washington, D. C. 202 NA 8-4420 collect

This number will be staffed continuously from 8:00 p.m. Tuesday night until 8:00 a.m. Thursday morning (27 - 29th August)

- (4) In Washington the D. C. authorities are establishing field hospitals at the assembly areas where emergency cases may be brought.

For Individuals

- (1) Supply yourself with plenty of water. Do not bring alcoholic refreshments, only water and soft drinks.
- (2) Avoid using sandwich fillings that will spoil rapidly in the heat. In particular avoid the use of mayonnaise, as it deteriorates rapidly and may cause serious diarrhoea.
- (3) Wear low-heeled comfortable shoes, and bring a light raincoat. Be sure and bring a hat or other protection for your head, as you may be standing and walking for a number of hours in the hot sun. And don't forget sunglasses.
- (4) Supply yourself with enough food for two meals. Include fresh fruit, and also dried fruit like raisins which supply energy, and hard candy. Enteric coated salt tablets may help you guard against heat exhaustion. (any food in a cold insulated bag.)

Appendix A.

To: All Local Groups
From: Sy Posner, Information Officer

National press, radio and TV coverage of the March has been tremendous, but there should be more publicity on a local level.

Keep your local media (including local weeklies and dailies, church bulletins, radio and TV stations, etc.) posted on your activities. Send them such information as:

1.- Names and addresses of all committee officers and members of all groups participating in the March.

2.- Full details (who, what, when, where, why, and how) on rallies, fund-raising drives, telephone chains, letter-writing campaigns -- and anything else you are doing to promote the March.

3.- Where people in your area can call to get transportation to Washington, including the cost, time of departure and return, and other pertinent information.

4.- How many buses, trains, planes and cars your area is sending to Washington. Information on any people planning to walk to Washington is of particular interest to the press and to the national office of the March.

No information (let me repeat) no information on the plans or operations of the March on a national level, except for printed material you receive from the national office, may be given to the press without clearance from the national office. I am sure that you will understand that this directive is designed to prevent conflicting or out-dated stories. Rule of thumb: refer such requests to the national office.

Your local press would appreciate receiving your stories typed and double-spaced. Keep your stories as clear and simple as possible. Start off your stories with the essential facts -- What is happening (appointment of committee, rally drive, etc.); where the event is taking place; when, including date and hour; why (to raise funds, to sign up Marchers, etc.); who, with titles and addresses; and how.

Send carbon copies of your press releases to the national office. A number of coast-to-coast TV stations, magazines and others are interested in getting local stories about this grass-roots movement. We will keep them posted on what you are doing.

We would also appreciate clippings of stories that appear in your local papers.

See you in Washington on the 28th!

Dear Friends

As you probably know, the March on Washington For Jobs and Freedom On August 28th is well out of the planning stage and well into hard core organizing and mobilizing. Literature is in preparation by the National Office explaining policy, purpose, guidelines for action, etc. Organizational mailings are going out, people are being contacted. About a week ago several organizations with their national offices here in New York met to discuss local organizing for the March in different cities and areas of the country. The first problem was to find people in these areas who could organize, the second was how to put these people in contact with each other so they could work more effectively for this common purpose. As a result of this meeting the organizations involved agreed each to submit a list of people whom they knew could work effectively to organize the March in their area. The enclosed list arranged by area is a compilation of these various lists and is the cooperative effort of the following organizations:

CORE

Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee
NAACP Youth Council
United Christian Youth Movement
Students For a Democratic Society
Campus Americans for Democratic Action
Student Peace Union
Northern Student Movement
Fellowship of Reconciliation
Young People's Socialist League ??
National Council of Churches

As you can see this group is largely concerned with working with the students and youth of the country, but their first concern is that each area be organized as effectively as possible. This means that the key leaders of any area should work together and that they should know who can work with them. This list supplies that information. If you have not already done so, you should contact the people on this list who will be working in your area.

~~If you cannot work on the March please note this on the enclosed card and return to:~~

Please Contact

Brewster Kneen, ~~Youth Coordinator~~
March on Washington
14 Aster Place
New York, New York

If you can or are already working please send Brewster ^{Kneen} a short report of what you are planning. Enclosed is The Call to the March. Additional literature will soon be ready. ~~If~~ you need it, including guidelines for action. We look to your help and cooperation in the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

Sincerely Yours,

A. Phillip Randolph