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The Daily Tar Heel

76 Years of Editorial Freedom

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1968

King Services

Student Body President Bob Travis announced that plans are being prepared to hold a memorial service in conjunction with the funeral of Dr. King. Details will be given later.

Volume 75, Number 143

Founded February 23, 1893

KING KILLED

Civil Rights Leader Slain In Memphis By Sniper

His Stand Not Dictated By Safety

By BILL AMLONG
of The Daily Tar Heel Staff

"There comes a time when one must take a stand that is neither safe, political nor popular, but which his conscience tells him is right."

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was standing on a wind-buffeted balcony of a Fire Island, N.Y., summer home, giving a sermon of sorts to the 1,000 persons who sat shivering in the sand dunes below.

That was Saturday night, Sept. 2, 1967.

Now, eight months later, Dr. King is dead.

He is dead because he devoted his life to taking stands which were neither safe, political nor popular, but which his conscience told him were right.

He died taking one of those stands.

I MET DR. KING that Saturday—and I knew then that I was meeting one of the greatest men of this century.

Sitting beside him during the ferry ride from Long Island to Fire Island, I could not help but become aware that I was in the presence of someone who was great.

His strength—his immense strength, fortified by love of mankind—shone through his humility.

And Dr. King was a humble man.

Humble, but determined. He knew where his people had to go, and he knew that he must lead them. And he had faith that he and his people would win.

"If the irreparable cruelties of slavery couldn't stop us, the difficulties we now face won't make us fail," he said.

"We are going to get our freedom."

Dr. King was speaking from the balcony, his deep, mellow voice rolling over the crowd. He was speaking to rich white people.

BUT IT WAS the same kind of statement that Dr. King had made in Montgomery and Selma, Ala., to Black people, telling them that they were going to get that freedom.

And everybody would start singing, "We Shall Overcome," and the churches would swell with their voices, and even the state troopers with their billy clubs, cattle prods and police dogs couldn't stop what Dr. King had started.

Dr. King won that time.

Later, during the summers of 1966 and 1967, he was grieved by the riots that broke out in major cities across the nation—much like the riots that broke out across the country Thursday night as the Negroes got word of his murder.

Even so, he kept faith in his nonviolent methods, and faith that extremists from neither side could keep the Negro from getting his due from society.

"I CAN STILL sing 'We Shall Overcome,' even though some of you don't remember the words," he said. "I still believe in it."

Dr. King was very deeply hurt by those persons who called him an Uncle Tom.

"I don't see how one can call another an Uncle Tom who has devoted so much of his life to militant and unpopular stands to confront the power structure," he said.

"Such a statement would only be made by someone who didn't know what he was talking about, or who was trying to be left over everything."

By CHARLES ROND
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Nobel Peace Prize winner who repeatedly walked in the shadow of death in his fight to bring integration to America, was slain by a white sniper Thursday night when he stepped onto the balcony of his hotel.

Police issued a bulletin for a young white man in dark clothes who dashed out of a building across the street from

the hotel. They said he dropped a Browning automatic rifle, fitted with a scope, onto the sidewalk and fled in a car.

President Johnson appeared on nationwide television two hours after the shot was fired to "ask every citizen to stay away from the violence that struck Dr. King."

"I know every American of good will joins me in mourning the death of his leader and in praying for understanding throughout the land," the

President said. He said he was postponing his trip to Honolulu because of the assassination.

The 39-year-old Nobel Peace prize winner died at 8 p.m. EST in the emergency room of St. Joseph's Hospital, shot through the neck.

Mayor Henry Loeb immediately clamped a curfew on the city and Sheriff William Morris said "an emergency situation does exist at this time."

Unrest immediately broke

out in the Negro district where King's march last Thursday erupted into violence. Window smashing was reported and there was a report of a shooting.

President Johnson said the shooting death of Dr. King "shocked and saddened" the nation.

"America is shocked and saddened by the brutal slaying tonight of Dr. Martin Luther King."

"We can achieve nothing by

violence—it is only by joining together and working together that we can continue to move toward full equality for all of our people."

In a nationwide television and radio broadcast, the President said that the United States "can achieve nothing by lawlessness and violence."

Johnson expressed hope that the nation might learn from the tragic death of King that "only by working together and joining together can we find equality."

"I and all citizens of Memphis deeply regret the murder today of Dr. Martin Luther King," said Police Chief Frank Holloman.

leaders and union men—was planned for Monday. King had vowed to defy a federal court injunction banning the march if he could not get the judge to lift it.

King died in the same emergency room where James Meredith was rushed in June, 1965, after he was shot down in ambush a few miles south of here at Hernando, Miss. Meredith, however, was not seriously injured.

King was "the first major civil rights leader to be slain since the ambush killing of Medgar Evers outside his home in Jackson, Miss., in 1962."



The Late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
... in an interview with DTH Editor Bill Amlong in the summer of 1967

Travis Withdraws Drug Act Support

By RICK GRAY
of The Daily Tar Heel Staff

Student participation in the new drug policy was withdrawn Thursday night at Student Legislature by Student Body President Robert M. Travis.

Following Travis' address, the body attached an amendment to an appointment bill which supported the action taken by Travis.

Until the policy is adhered to by the administration, Travis said, "I have directed the attorney general that all cases involving the sale, transfer or administration of drugs by students will be investigated and tried before student courts under the drug law of 1968."

The 1968 act specifically exempts possession and use from consideration by the student judiciary.

Representative Dick Levy proposed, and got with unanimous consent, an amendment supporting Travis' stand.

The amendment read:

"The Student Legislature endorses the action of Student Body President Bob Travis in suspending student participation in the enforcement of BJ 44-26 (the drug act) until such time as procedures guaranteeing student rights are agreed to by the administration."

Travis asked that the administration's policy on drugs "be, in reality, one of medical rehabilitation and not one of automatic punitive action toward the offender."

He also condemned the actions of the office of the Dean of Men in "turning the residence advisors into an arm of any law enforcement agency."

Calling the recent arrest and trial of several students for drug use and possession a violation of the drug policy, Travis said, "The time has come when we can no longer talk ... we have to stand up for what we believe in."

King Death Elicits National Reaction

By United Press International

Reactions to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King varied from shock to outrage to spontaneous violence throughout the country.

In Raleigh, a group of 35 Negroes from Shaw University clashed with police in downtown Fayetteville Street. Several store windows were smashed and at least three persons were arrested.

Raleigh police also used an

aerosol gas on at least one person.

In Memphis, a telephone operator said that phone circuits were "burning up."

There were reports of rock-throwing and minor looting in other southern cities, among them Birmingham, Ala., where King first became known to the world, and Miami, Fla.

Adam Clayton Powell, confined in a Durham hospital, was not told of the assassination and his doctor said that he had "no intention" of telling Powell of the shooting until morning.

Former Alabama Gov. George Wallace, perhaps King's greatest single enemy, called the assassination a

"senseless, regrettable and tragic act."

Trouble was also reported "brewing" in Durham and there were undisclosed reports of disturbances in Winston-Salem. Police were also put on alert in Charlotte.

Dr. Reginald Hawkins said in Charlotte that the shooting

was a victory that many Southerners found difficult to believe and launched King on an integrationist campaign that made him the best-known civil rights leader in the world.

Montgomery's Negroes walked and used car pools for a full year before segregation signs were removed from the buses.

King, then pastor at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church one block from the Alabama State Capitol, was unquestionably the driving force behind the bus boycott that led to one of the most significant victories in the surging civil rights movement of the fifties.

He kept up the hopes of the Negroes with weekly mass meetings in Negro churches for the entire year of the boycott.

With the winning of the bus boycott King left Montgomery, came to Atlanta as Associate Pastor of his father's Ebenezer Baptist Church and organized the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the movement that began spearheading militant racial programs in the South.

King returned to Memphis Wednesday to try to prove he could lead a massive march peacefully. He was at the head of the march last Thursday which erupted into violence and that left one dead and 62 injured.

His critics immediately stepped up attacks on his planned "Poor People's Campaign" on Washington this month, claiming he could not keep the massive demonstration from turning to violence.

King's aides said he felt he had to lead another demonstration here—and keep it non-violent—to prove them wrong. The march—with 6,000 persons, many of them labor

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