"I am on the side of those who are not afraid to recognize past errors, who refuse to blindly pursue bankrupt policies which will send us from our friends and drain us of our treasures, in the fruitless pursuit of illusions long since shattered. I'm on the side of those who do not shout down others; but who listen, challenge and then propose a better policy for America." As for whether he approved of refusal to accept a military draft call: "I think he [the man called] would have to face the consequences. If I were to be called up, I would go. Each person has to examine his own conscience and do what he thinks is right."

1033 Deaf Street and Graham Avenue in the Watts section of Los Angeles Mar. 25 (before a crowd of about 2,000 Negroes)—"I want to find jobs for all our people. I want to find jobs for the black people of Watts and the white people of eastern Kentucky. I want prejudice and discrimination to end, and I need your help. I want a reconciliation of blacks and whites of the United States." At Weber State College in Ogden, Utah Mar. 27 (with about 5,000 in the audience)—"We must return local control to the people themselves." "It should be in the cities and towns and villages where the decisions are made, not in Washington. Solutions of the 1930s are not the solutions of today. . . .

I run for President because I believe in the ideas of this country and I believe they can be realized. We need a new kind of program which places money directly into communities, instead of flowing through an inefficient, overstructured, often tyrannical, bureaucracy which is too often immobilized by sheer size to act swiftly and decisively."

At the University of Nebraska in Lincoln Mar. 28 (with about 10,000 students in the audience)—"Can you think of any new course suggested by Richard Nixon in Vietnam other than to do more of what we are doing?"

At the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque Mar. 29 (with about 5,000 in the audience)—"There was a "double standard" in health care in the U.S. under which only the "well off" obtained adequate treatment.

At a party dinner in Phoenix Mar. 30—" Everywhere [he campaigned] the first thing was the war in Vietnam. He was certain that the "vast majority of Americans want a negotiated peace."

"They want this war to be honorably settled at the conference table not in some indeterminate future, but while something still remains of the country of Vietnam and of our own hopes for domestic progress." [See pp. 100C-101B]

**Racial Unrest**

Memphis Violence. A 16-year-old Negro was slain in Memphis Mar. 28 shortly after violence and looting broke up a protest march led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in support of the city's predominantly Negro striking sanitation workers. Gov. Buford Ellington (D., Tenn.) called up 4,000 National Guardsmen and ordered a curfew. The violence came in the 6th week of what had begun as a labor strike and had developed into a general civil rights protest of the city's Negro community.

The sanitation workers' strike had begun Feb. 12 over demands for a $3.50 pay raise, recognition of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees as bargaining agents, a dues checkoff system, seniority rights, health and hospitalization insurance and other fringe benefits. (Negroes comprised 40% of the city's 550,000 population and about 90% of the Sanitation Department workers).

Mayor Henry Loeb broke off negotiations with union representatives Feb. 14. He contended that the strike was illegal under the terms of a 1966 State Supreme Court decision banning public employees' strikes. The garbage collectors Feb. 15 rejected the mayor's ultimatum to return to work or be replaced, and the city began hiring new workers. By Feb. 16 38 new workers had been added to a force of 40 non-strikers and 30 supervisors operating the city's 50 dumps.

The NAACP Feb. 16 and the Shelby County Democratic Club (a Negro political and social organization) Feb. 17 urged massive civil disobedience to demonstrate support for the strikers.

Violence erupted during a march Feb. 23 by about 1,000 Negroes after the City Council rejected the union's demand for a dues checkoff. Police said the disturbance began when the protesters tried to overturn a patrol car; witnesses said policeman knocked marchers to the pavement. Police moved in with nightsticks and tear gas, a flare, an antiriot gas, to quell the disturbances.


121 strike leaders were arrested after a sit-in at the City Hall Mar. 5. Seven union officials, including Jerry Murf, of Washington, president of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, were sentenced to 10 days in jail and fined $50 each Mar. 6 on their conviction of contempt in disobeying a Feb. 24 injunction restraining them from encouraging or engaging in the strike.

9 persons marching in sympathy with striking garbage collectors were arrested Mar. 13. Bayard Rustin, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, and Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, expressed their support of the strike at a mass rally in Memphis Mar. 14.

The Southern Regional Council (a foundation-supported research and information organization) Mar. 23 issued a report describing the strike as "merely a symptom of Memphis' larger problem."

The report said the white community had failed to respond to Negro grievances, and it charged the police with "injudicious" acts. In Memphis, the report said, the record of police behavior "has not been a notably bad one," but "the police was where they were in the recent disturbance. In fact, the report concluded, the Memphis disorder revealed that police departments "have become themselves direct and dangerous influences toward disorder."

Disturbances began Mar. 28 when Negro students at the Hamilton High School, who were prevented from leaving school to join King's protest march, began pelting police with bricks. The march from the Claiborne American Methodist Episcopal Temple to City Hall had been held but Negro youths started alongside the procession and began smashing store windows along Beale Street and looting the store. 250 city and county police moved in with riot clubs and tear gas and sealed off one and 2nd streets. Altogether, immediately 4,000 National Guardsmen armed with rifles and bayonets entered the area in armored personnel carriers. Another 8,000 were placed on alert. The Memphis Transit Authority stopped all bus service, and Mayor Henry Loeb declared a 6-7 curfew. Estimates of the number of protesters ranged from a low of 6,000 to King's figure of 20,000 marchers.

At the outbreak of the rioting King was removed from the scene and taken to a nearby motel. Most of the marchers returned to the church. After King left, police began firing tear gas at the Negroes, looters and bystanders alike. Several persons were reported beaten by police. Larry Payne, 16, was shot and killed when, according to police, he turned on a policeman with a butcher knife. About 60 persons were injured. More than 150 persons were arrested, about 40 of them on looting charges. It was said that of 153 stores with their windows smashed, only 35% had window displays damaged and only 5% had been entered.

Pres. Johnson declared in Washington Mar. 29 that federal assistance to Memphis, should it be necessary, would be available. But, he cautioned, "our system of government and our society depend on capable local law enforcement." The President said. "The tragic events in Memphis yesterday remind us of the grave peril rioting poses. This nation must seek change within the rule of law in an environment of social order. Rioting, violence and repression can only divide our people. Every one of us has a responsibility to all Americans of every race and creed, the rich and the poor, the young and the old, our governments, businesses, unions and churches to obey the law and to preserve conditions of social stability which are essential to progress. I urge
local law enforcement to deal firmly, but 
always fairly and without fear, with 
every infraction of law—to work un-
ceasingly to prevent riots, and to train 
diligently if not to control them should 
they occur. I urge state law enforcement 
to prepare full support for local law en-
forcement whenever aid is needed to 
maintain order. Order must be 

preserved."

Earlier Mar. 29, in a speech to the 
Committee on \Political Education \(COPE\) of the AFL-CIO, Pres. Johnson 
asserted that "mindless violence— 
destroying what we have all worked so 
hard to build—will never be tolerated in 
America.

Several hundred persons escorted by 
police and National Guard drove 
through downtown Memphis Mar. 29 
in support of the striking sanitation 
workers. Many of the demonstrators wore 
placards that said: "I am a man."

At a news conference in Memphis Mar. 29, 
King said he would lead another 
"poor people's rights" demonstration 
in Memphis. He conceded that he had 
been "caught with a miscalculation" in 
the Mar. 28 protest. "If I had known there 
was a possibility of violence yes-
terday, I would have had that partic-
ular march," he declared. King, how-
ever, reaffirmed his determination to 
conduct his "Poor People's Campaign" in 
Washington beginning Apr. 22. "We 
are fully determined to go to Washington. 
We feel it is an absolute necessity," he 
said. [See Vol. XXVII, p. 353E1]

At a news conference in Washington 
Mar. 31, however, King said that either 
the President or Congress might be able 
to persuade him to call off the campaign 
by making "a positive commitment that 
they would do something this summer" 
to help the country's blacks. But, he said, 
"I don't know of any forthcoming 
Rev. Walter E. Fautroy, vice 
chairman of the District of 
Columbia Council, had announced Feb. 26 
that he would not yield to Congressional 
demands that he resign or break off with 
the city's Negro militants who were sup-
porting the "poor people's march." Fautroy also served as Wash-

ington bureau director of the Southern 
Christian Leadership Conference. A 
week earlier Rep. William J. Scherer 
(R., La.) had charged that Fauroy had 
"placed himself in a contradictory posi-
tion—cooperation which the city cannot 
counteract." Fauroy, appointed by Pres. 
Johnson in Sept. 1967, said: "You would 
have to ask the President. But I would 
hope that his silence means assent on 
this question." [See Vol. XXVII, p. 
435c1]

A meeting had announced in Atlanta Mar. 
4 that the "nonviolent poor people's 
March on Washington" would begin 
Apr. 22 when about 30 Negro leaders 
would start the "educational phase of 
the demonstration and formally call on 
the Legislature and Congress. A mule 
train" caravan of some 3,000 Negroes 
would set out the same day for 
Washington from Mississippi, he said. 
As he toured Mississippi at the opening 
of a 3-week recruiting drive for the poor 
people's march, King announced in 
Grenada, Miss., on Mar. 19 that he would 
call for "a massive outpouring of hun-
dreds of people, white and black," in 
Washington June 15 for a special day of 
protest."

During a visit to Harlem (N.Y. City) 
Mar. 26, King explained that the demonstra-
ators would create a "shanty town in 
Washington" and would stay there "60 
or 90 days, if necessary" to spur 
Congressional action.

In Newark Mar. 27 King said that the 
"crucial" character of election issues 
might compel him to reappear publicly 
for a Presidential candidate. He said both 
Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D., N.Y.) and 
Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D., Minn.) were 
"competent" men who offered an "al-
ternative" to Pres. Johnson's "dead-
end" policies.

New Haven Clashes. Negro and white 
students clashed for more than 30 min-
utes at Hillhouse High School in New 
Haven Feb. 18 and about 20 minutes at 
lee High School Feb. 6. 5 students at 
lee High were arrested, and several 
others suffered minor injuries. New 
Haven Mayor Richard C. Lee Feb. 6 
ordered "police patrols on a saturation 
basis" at the schools to prevent further 
outbreaks. About 65 of Lee High's 1,500 
students (43 Negro) and 62 of the 1,800 
students (500 Negro) at Hillhouse stayed 
home Feb. 7, and about 150 Negro 
students staged a walk-out and classes 
at Hillhouse at noon. [See Vol. XXVII, 
P. 358E1-A3]

Rap Brown Arrested. Chrmn. H. Rap 
Brown of the Student Nonviolent Co-
ordinating Committee (SNCC) was 
arrested by federal agents and local 
police in New York Feb. 20 on a New 
Orleans bench warrant for alleged 
violation of conditions of parole. The 
warrant was also served with a 
2-week 
order to appear in Richmond to show 
cause why bail should not be 
revoked for similar reasons. Brown, 
who had addressed black-power rallies 
with Stokely Carmichael in Oakland, 
Calif., Feb. 17 and in Los Angeles Feb. 
18, had been charged on $5,000 bail in 
New Orleans Sept. 8, 1967, with 
commission to move freely between 
New York and Atlanta and to meet 
15 speeclng engagements on specific 
dates around the country. The California 
parole board had not been formally 
notified of Brown's arrest. Brown 
had been charged on $10,000 personal 
recognizance bond in Richmond, Va. 
Sept. 18, 1967. The terms of the Rich-
mond release restricted Brown to the 
Southern District of New York—Man-
hattan and the Bronx. [See Vol. XXVII, 
P. 565c8]

During a hearing in New Orleans Feb. 21 
Brown was arrested on a new charge of 
threatening FBI agent William H. Smith Jr., a Negro, and his family. 

At the Los Angeles rally Brown proposed that any 
avoidance of Negro leaders be followed by co-
ordinated, "selected, protracted and swift re-
tribution on police stations and power plants."