

Dr. King's Funeral to Be Held Tuesday in Church Where He Was Co-Pastor

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ATLANTA, April 5.—Hundreds of Negroes and a scattering of whites watched today as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s body, in a bronze coffin, was unloaded from an airplane at the Atlanta Airport and taken to an unpretentious funeral home in the city's slum area.

The funeral will be held Tuesday morning at 10:30 A.M. in the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where Dr. King was co-pastor with his father.

After the service there will be a march to Morehouse College, a predominantly Negro institution that Dr. King attended. A memorial service will be held there, too.

Dr. King will be buried at the Southview Cemetery, where other members of the King family are interred.

The city had offered for the funeral the use of its new Civic Center Auditorium, which is larger than the church and seats 4,600 persons. Some civic leaders have suggested the new Atlanta stadium, an elaborate structure that seats 55,000.

Crowd in the Streets

Dr. King's body was carried in a black Cadillac hearse from the airport to Hanley's Funeral Home, a three-story brick building at 21 Bell Street N.E., where a large crowd waited in the streets.

Some wept. Others voiced threats against whites. But most Negroes in Atlanta appeared to go about their tasks with the blank look of a people accustomed to disaster. The Atlanta Journal observed in an editorial that Dr. King had often "bravely confronted the prospect of death in the interest of justice" and "any man who does that is hated." Therefore, the editorial con-



Following the coffin as it is carried into funeral home in Atlanta are, from left, Dr. King's brother, the Rev. A. D. Williams King; the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy; Mrs. King and two of her children, Martin Luther 3d and Dexter Scott.

tinued, "his assassination is no great surprise."

"That is how accustomed to apocalyptic violence we have become, and that is how sick the nation is," the paper said.

Dr. King's wife, Coretta, left Atlanta shortly after 9 A.M. aboard a four-engine American Airlines Electra chartered for her by Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Democrat of New York. Several hundred Negroes had gathered at the airport in Mem-

phis where the civil rights leader's body was loaded on the aircraft. They were faced by the police with riot sticks and National Guardsmen with fixed bayonets.

There was some delay while officials removed a number of seats from the airplane's passenger compartment to accommodate the coffin. A tense moment ensued when an unidentified Negro woman tried to reach the craft.

"I've been standing behind the lines all my life and I'm not going to stand behind any more," she said.

As the police moved to restrain her, one of Dr. King's aides took her through. The crowds in Atlanta seemed less tense. Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., who reported Dr. King's death to his widow last night, waited at the airport here with other dignitaries.

A few hours earlier, Mr. Allen went to the Atlanta University Center, a complex of six predominantly Negro institutions, and offered to lead a sympathy march staged by about 1,000 students.

The Mayor was rebuffed. A spokesman for the students informed him that "this is a black people's march." Mr. Allen rode a block or so ahead of the marchers in a closed automobile.

Overcome, the nonviolent protest movement's anthem, and cries of "black, hip and angry" and "black power" as they moved through the city's West Side. There was no trouble.

Mayor Waits Hour

Mr. Allen arrived at the airport nearly an hour before Mrs. King's return.

When the plane's door opened, Dr. King's four children, who had not accompanied their mother to Memphis, entered the aircraft.

A number of Dr. King's associates, including the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy and the Rev. Andrew J. Young, preceded the slain leader down a baggage slide from the airplane's rear entrance. The coffin was unloaded with some difficulty.

Burke Marshall, the former Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, flew here with Mrs. King, saying he did so as a friend of Dr. King and as a representative of Senator Kennedy.

Mr. Abernathy, who has been named to replace Dr. King as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, praised the Senator for having provided the aircraft.

Among the members of the family who accompanied Mrs. King was the Rev. A. D. Williams King of Louisville, Ky., the civil rights leader's brother. Dr. King's parents did not appear.

Mayor Allen escorted the procession to the funeral home. A number of motorists pulled off the city's busy expressway as the mourners passed. But many outside the funeral home seemed merely curious.

"It's going to be a long time before they straighten out this world," an elderly Negro man said, shaking his head. "There sure is a lot to straighten out in it, too."

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