

# MANY FIRES SET

## White House Guarded by G.I.'s—14 Dead in U.S. Outbreaks

Text of proclamation and Executive order, Page 22.

By BEN A. FRANKLIN  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5—President Johnson ordered 4,000 regular Army and National Guard troops into the nation's capital tonight to try to end riotous looting, burglarizing and burning by roving bands of Negro youths. The arson and looting began yesterday after the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

The White House announced at 5 P.M. that because the President had determined that "a condition of domestic violence and disorder" existed, he had issued a proclamation and an Executive order mobilizing combat-equipped troops in Washington. Some of the troops were sent to guard the Capitol and the White House.

Reinforcements numbering 2,500 riot-trained soldiers — a brigade of the 82d Airborne Division from Ft. Bragg, N. C. — were airlifted to nearby Andrews Air Force Base, to be held in reserve this weekend.

### Guard Called In Other Cities

The National Guard also was called out in a half-dozen other cities in an effort to stem disorders or guard against them—Chicago, Detroit, Boston, Jackson, Miss., Raleigh, N. C., and Tallahassee, Fla.

The death toll from the violence stemming from Dr. King's assassination stood at a total of 14 tonight. Besides five deaths in Washington, they included seven in Chicago, one in Detroit and one in Tallahassee.

Mayor Walter E. Washington, who is a Negro, declared a 13-hour curfew, from 5:30 P.M. to 6:30 A.M. The Mayor's emergency order halted the sale of liquor and forbade the sale,

transportation or possession of firearms, explosives or flammable liquids.

At midnight, the police reported five dead, all but one of them Negroes, in 28 hours of disorders in this city of about 800,000, 63 per cent of them Negroes. Four Negroes were killed today, including two suspected looters, one of them 14 years old, who were shot to death by policemen in separate isolated encounters across the Anacostia River, far from the areas of general disorders. The two other Negro deaths today were described as apparently the result of accidents.

The white man, George Fletcher, 28, of suburban Wood-

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### Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

bridge, Va., died this morning from injuries he received when a gang of Negro youths attacked him and three white companions in a Washington filling station at 2 A.M.

More than 350 persons were treated at hospitals including seven policemen and six firemen. More than 800 persons were arrested.

The police said reports of fires and lootings were diminishing apparently in part due to a sudden drop in the temperature. After a sultry day, the night air was a brisk 40 degrees.

The violence in Washington affected four areas of the city. For hours this afternoon and early evening, disorderly youths roamed most of the downtown shopping district, between 15th and Seventh Streets and F and H Streets N.W.

The three other areas were all Negro sections. There was no precise count of the number of fires or looted stores, but they ran well into the hundreds.

George Christian, the White House press secretary, said the President had acted on the recommendation of Mayor Washington, the Mayor's public safety director, Patrick V. Murphy, and the police chief, John B. Layton.

The 2,800-man District of Columbia police force, after a night of looting and arson set off yesterday by the assassination, lacked the manpower to respond to mounting calls to detain looters and protect motorists and firemen.

The looting and fires continued tonight. The police dispersed crowds as they gathered but made little or no effort to stop scattered looting by indi-

viduals and groups of two and three.

The city was abandoned tonight. Buses stopped running at dusk after a midafternoon rush of Government employees to flee the city. The Government workers and other civilians were advised by the police and Federal authorities to go home at about 2:30 P.M., a decision that caused a massive traffic jam and aided the looters. Police and fire vehicles were caught in the jam.

### Tourists Affected

Also caught up in the unexpected disturbances were Washington's spring crush of thousands of tourists. Events scheduled for today and the weekend in connection with the Washington Cherry Blossom Festival — a major money-making attraction in this city, where tourism is the biggest industry — were canceled.

The opening game of the baseball season, the American League debut between the Washington Senators and the Minnesota Twins at D. C. Stadium, was postponed from Monday to Tuesday as a gesture of respect to Dr. King.

Both the outbreak of trouble last night and today's renewal of arson and looting followed angry public outbursts on Dr. King's death by Stokely Carmichael, the militant former chairman of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee. He has been active as a committee field representative in Washington since his return from an around-the-world trip last January.

The looting last night followed a protest march led by Carmichael down 14th Street N.W., the center of a principal Negro commercial and shopping area. He demanded that businesses close for the night as a gesture of mourning for Dr. King. Then he urged Negroes to "go home and get your guns."

### A Breathing Spell

By dawn 14th Street was a shambles of shattered glass and scattered merchandise. But sunlight brought a breathing spell. Sanitation workers began shoveling up the shards of glass.

At 10 A.M. Carmichael called a news conference at the 14th Street headquarters of the New School for Afro-American Thought. Before television cameras he declared that "white America has declared war on black America" with the murder of Dr. King.

There is "no alternative to retribution," he said. "Black people have to survive, and the only way they will survive is by getting guns," he said.

Less than an hour after the

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**ARMY TROOPS IN CAPITAL  
GUARD SENT INTO CHICAGO,  
JOHNSON ASKS A JOINT**

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APRIL 6, 1968

10 CENTS

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**AS NEGROES RIOT;  
DETROIT, BOSTON;  
SESSION OF CONGRESS**



Associated Press

**ON DUTY IN WASHINGTON:** A soldier with a machine gun and another with a rifle, left, stand guard on the steps outside the Senate chamber. Flag was lowered to half-staff in tribute to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

30-minute news conference ended, Carmichael was in the street with a following of 50 Negroes. Both newsmen and the police lost track of him as the day progressed.

The police either could not or would not interfere with the looting, and much of it was done brazenly, under the gaze of outnumbered police officers. Loot was hauled away in automobiles and trucks. During most of the afternoon the police dealt only with large groups of looters and a seemingly endless series of fires.

In the downtown shopping area of large department and specialty stores, the windows of such stores as Hecht's and Woodward and Lothrop's were smashed and looted. There

were fires at both stores. The police appeared to concentrate their protective maneuvers along F Street, giving the other areas less priority.

In the second area hit, along Seventh Street N.W. from K to P. Streets, looting and fires—the major fires of the day were concentrated there—gradually drained off the scattered police manpower.

In a third area, looters and firebombers struck along 14th Street from downtown F Street as far north as Park Road N.W.,

nearly halfway to the Maryland line at Silver Spring.

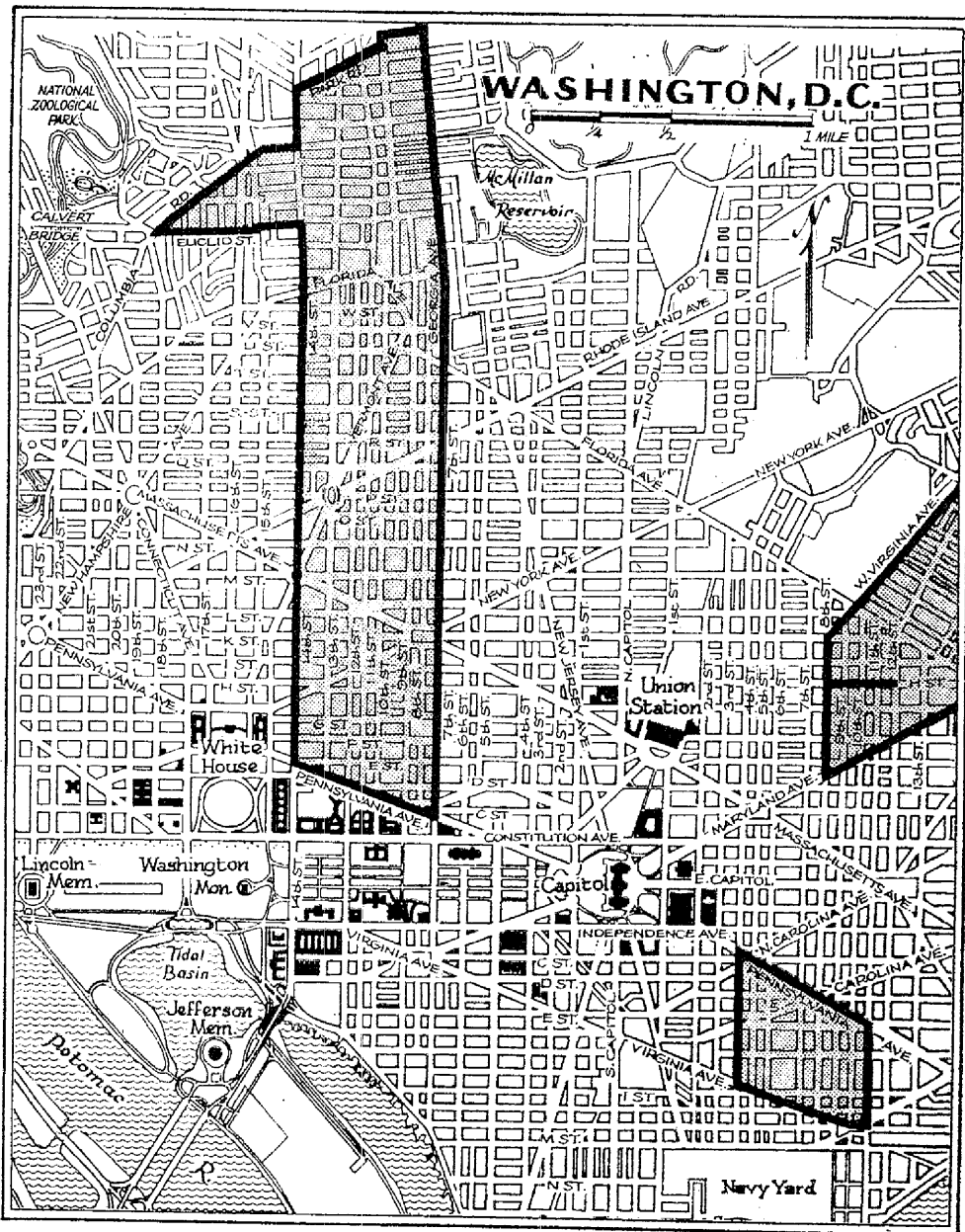
Another less well defined area of looting and arson was across the Anacostia River, in heavily Negro Southeast Washington. Two of today's deaths occurred there.

North and West of the city, the two contiguous suburban jurisdictions in Maryland, Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties, both declared local emergencies during the day, invoking most of the special powers, with the exception of a

curfew, authorized in the city. More than 50 pieces of fire equipment from volunteer companies in suburban counties were rushed into the city during the afternoon to aid the overtaxed district fire department.

A rash of major fires broke out in the fourth area hit, along H Street N.E., a section of block-square department store and food warehouses just east of Union Station.

It was the opening of this new front that appeared to con-



The New York Times

April 6, 1968

**VIOLENCE IN WASHINGTON:** Dark lines enclose the major areas of disorder in the city

vince reluctant city officials that the police could not continue the battle alone. Despite extended tours of duty that had kept some officers on their feet for nearly 24 hours, no more than about 1,000 patrolmen were available to cope with the spreading disorder.

Openly, on the police radio, precinct commanders and other police officials expressed their exasperation.

Once the decision was made to summon Army troops, the deployment came rapidly. Mr. Johnson signed the orders at 4:02 P.M., similar to those he signed in sending Army troops to Detroit last summer during rioting. By the time the White House announced the arrival of military reinforcements an hour later, helmeted combat troops carrying rifles with sheathed bayonets were in position to protect the White House and the Capitol.

A company of trained riot troops was billeted in the White House itself. Outside, other troops took station at the south-east gate.

Troops ringed the Capitol and set up a light machinegun post on the Capitol's west steps, overlooking the Mall.

The precautions were more than routine in the case of the White House. Looting and fires reached within two blocks of it at about the time the troops began to arrive.

Within hours, Army troops and federalized Guardsmen began establishing "a visible presence"—merely standing at parade rest—along 14th Street. As the soldiers arrived, the looting and arson advanced ahead of them into areas nominally still under police jurisdiction.

Tonight, as Guardsmen moved to occupy the upper reaches of 14th Street, as far north as Randolph Street, N.W., besieged residents of apartment buildings—most of them Negroes—cheered from their windows.

The troops fired a rolling barrage of tear gas before them. As they advanced, they passed a small shopping area—a dry cleaning establishment, delicatessen, bar and liquor store—all in flames. There was no fire fighting equipment on the scene.

The troops included 2,000 men of the Army and Air Force National Guard of the District of Columbia, under regular Army command. There



Associated Press

**BURNING BUILDINGS IN WASHINGTON** send smoke over northeast section, obscuring the Capitol at top right

were two companies from the Third Infantry Regiment, the Capital's crack ceremonial unit at nearby Fort Myers, Va., and a squadron of the Sixth Cavalry Regiment from Fort Meade, Md., the Third Army headquarters halfway between Washington and Baltimore.

The troops also included elements of the 91st Engineering Battalion from nearby Fort Belvoir, Va.

It was the first time regular Army troops had been ordered into Washington for a civil disturbance since 1932, when cavalry under the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur drove hundreds of protesting bonus marchers from a squatters' encampment on the Anacostia River.

### Alert in Boston

By JOHN H. FENTON

Special to The New York Times

Boston, April 5—Lieut. Gov. Francis W. Sargent placed several units of the Massachusetts National Guard on stand-by alert tonight as a precaution against possible rioting following the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mr. Sargent, acting in the absence of Gov. John A. Volpe, who is on a State Department trip to Japan, said the troops

would be assembled in their armories and not patrol the streets.

He conferred by telephone with Mr. Volpe and in person with Maj. Gen. Joseph S. Ambrose, commander of the National Guard.

More than 15,000 persons gathered in Post Office Square today to express their grief and outrage at the slaying of Dr. King.

The throng swelled during a march that started at Northeastern University in the Back Bay district and went three miles, through Boston Common and past the Massachusetts State House. Most of the marchers were white.

The group was joined downtown by young people from the Roxbury district, the heart of the Negro slum. The demonstration, aside from tying up traffic, was orderly.

Speakers warned of "bloody violence" if white racism did not soon end. The demonstration, chiefly arranged through telephone calls during the night and morning, was called by the Congress of Racial Equality, People Against Racism and New England Resistance, an antidraft organization.

The Roxbury and North Dorchester Districts were quiet

but tense today, after a night of sporadic stone-throwing at windows and cars.

Mayor Kevin H. White stayed at City Hall through most of the night, conferring with Negro leaders about avoiding destructive demonstrations.

### Philadelphia Bars Closed

By MAURICE CARROLL

Special to The New York Times

PHILADELPHIA, April 5—A limited state of emergency, providing for the closing of all bars and liquor stores and a ban on outdoor gatherings of more than 12 persons, was declared here tonight.

There was only scattered disorder in Negro neighborhoods in reaction to the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. However, Mayor James H. J. Tate said that, "based on intelligence given us," there was a threat that the violence that struck other cities could erupt here.

So, at 9:02 P.M. Police Commissioner Frank L. Rizzo signed a sheet proclaiming a "limited state of emergency in the city of Philadelphia."

At the same time, the city's red painted police squad cars began visiting the 3,900 tap rooms, ordering them to close.

The proclamation, which also

prohibits possession of dangerous weapons in public, will run until 6 A.M. Wednesday.

So far, said Mr. Rizzo, "Philadelphia has done a real fine job."

There has been no looting, he said, but some 75 windows had been broken since midnight, a couple of dozen persons had been beaten and there were some instances in which cars stopped for traffic lights had been rocked back and forth by bands of youngsters.

Earlier in the day, the 7,000-member police force was put on 12-hour shifts and all leaves were canceled. At key points through the city about 17 buses—50 policemen in each—were stationed to rush to any potential trouble spot.

State police and the National Guard had been alerted to stand by, Mr. Rizzo said.

But the city weathered without major trouble an incident that had held considerable potential for violence, a memorial rally for Dr. King in Independence Square. It spilled into a march by some 5,000 persons toward City Hall, almost a mile away. "Black, black, black," chanted some of the marchers, led by a man who called himself "Freedom Smitty."

But after more oratory the march petered out without major disorder.

About one-third of Philadelphia's two million residents are Negro.

### Vandalism in Pittsburgh

**PITTSBURGH, April (UPI)**—Widespread vandalism broke out in the predominantly Negro Hill district tonight and spilled over into several other areas of the city.

Up to 20 persons were arrested. A white man was shot and wounded seriously. Detectives said the shooting was connected with the disorders.

The city's 1,400-man police force was placed on 12-hour

shifts. All days off and leaves were canceled.

Matthew Moore, an officer of the United Negro Protest Committee, said all windows in a 10-block area of the Hill district had been smashed. About 200 policemen were operating in the district. Others investigated window smashings and break ins in the adjacent Hazelwood, Uptown, fringe areas of Oakland, East Liberty and downtown Pittsburgh.

At least two liquor stores in the Hill district were broken into and some looting was reported.

Gangs of 50 to 100 persons roamed the Hill chanting "Dr. Martin Luther King" and smashing windows on white-owned stores on Fifth and Centre Avenues.

### Emergency in Detroit

Special to The New York Times

**DETROIT, April 5**—A state of emergency was declared in Detroit this afternoon because of scattered violence, and 3,000 National Guardsmen were ordered into the streets. One looter was killed in a scuffle with policemen.

The city was placed under an 8 P.M. to 5 A.M. curfew.

By 6:30 this evening, the police said 24 adults and as many juveniles had been arrested. Two Negroes were shot, one by the police and one by persons unknown, the police said. Both were shot in the 12th Street area, the scene of last summer's riots, but neither was seriously injured, the police said.

The police also said there were only two fires that they could connect with the disorders.

A looter was killed "accidentally" by the police, Gov. George Romney said, in Highland Park, a separate city that is an enclave of Detroit.

There are 650,000 Negroes in Detroit, which has a population of 1.65 million.

Governor Romney joined Mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh at police headquarters this afternoon, the main command post for police operations in the city.

A tour of the city tonight showed the curfew completely effective. Police cruised through the areas and guardsmen were visible at marshaling points.

There were incidents all afternoon. Gangs of Negro youths marched in the streets, broke windows and looted a few stores. One cab driver was pulled from his taxi and beaten in the 12th Street area.

Mayor Cavanagh, who proclaimed the state of emergency, said, "It is better to overreact than underreact."

He went on radio and television and urged parents to keep their children home.

The Mayor ordered gasoline stations and liquor and gun stores closed this afternoon.

In Negro areas of the city people lined up in front of grocery stores to buy food, and a few Negroes painted "Soul" on their storefronts. From midafternoon on, freeways leading out of the city were jammed with workers or shoppers going home early.

Gov. George Romney ordered 9,000 National Guardsmen alerted. State policemen were also alerted for riot duty, and 400 joined the 4,500 Detroit policemen.

In the 12th Street area, crowds of young Negroes threw rocks at cars, but squads of policemen, in three-car convoys, cruised the streets dispersing the crowds.

The police wore steel Army

helmets and carried shotguns.

### Curfew Imposed in Toledo

**TOLEDO, Ohio, April 5 (UPI)**—Mayor William Ensign imposed a curfew on this city today in the wake of a disturbance involving about 2,000 Negro high school students.

Mayor Ensign said the curfew would forbid persons under 22 years of age from being on city streets and in public places during the hours it is in effect—from 8 P.M. tonight until 6 A.M. tomorrow.

The students had earlier refused to attend classes at predominantly Negro Scott High School in reaction to the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The police said the students roamed a square-mile area of the West Side, throwing rocks at windows and passing cars.

### Outbreak in Missouri

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 5 (AP)**—Some 200 Negro students from Lincoln University marched into downtown Jefferson City today, broke several

store windows and, the police said, "stole at least five rifles from a sporting goods store."

The window-breaking took place after the students had gone to a newspaper office and protested an editorial that had criticized the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. the day before his assassination. The editorial was published in The Post-Tribune and Capital-News.

The students demanded a retraction, but the newspaper declined.

### Five Hurt in Greensboro

**GREENSBORO, N. C., April 5 (AP)**—Five policemen and National Guardsmen were injured tonight in an exchange of gunfire with snipers near the campus of predominantly Negro North Carolina A. & T. State University at Greensboro.

Two of the policemen were shot. One suffered apparently minor injuries from shotgun pellets. Another policeman and a guardsman were hit by bricks.

About 900 guardsmen and an undetermined number of police were in the university neighborhood. Guardsmen split into two groups and moved toward Hodgkin Hall, a dormitory, but were pinned down. Police said sniper fire was coming from a corner of the building.

Police reports said the shooting started when someone passing in a station wagon fired into a crowd of Negroes, but missed hitting anyone. Two white men later were arrested.

Col. Guy Langston, who is commanding the guardsmen in Greensboro, sent his men to the area with orders for selected sharpshooters to return the fire.

### Mississippi Guard Alerted

JACKSON, Miss., April 5 (AP)—“The entire National Guard is either on alert or stand-by,” Gov. John Bell Williams told a statewide television audience today. He said “troublemakers are fanning the flames of hatred and giving encouragement to lawlessness, anarchy and violence.”

Calling the assassination of Dr. King “a senseless atrocity,” Mr. Williams said he had given the State Adjutant General authority to call as many National Guardsmen as needed to quell any violence.

Over 1,400 guardsmen were already on active duty, the Governor told a news conference held after his television appearance. The full force of more than 10,000 could be mobilized within minutes, he added.

### Three Hurt in Savannah

SAVANNAH, Ga., April 5 (AP)—Three persons, including a fireman, were injured early today as a result of sporadic incidents of violence that broke out in the coastal city, apparently in reaction to news of the slaying of Dr. King.

The police said one white-owned department store in a predominantly Negro section was destroyed after a firebomb was thrown through a glass window of the store.

### Kirk Mobilizes Guard

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., April 5 (UPI)—Gov. Claude R. Kirk Jr., mobilized 50 National Guardsmen tonight and alerted 200 others in an attempt to prevent a second night of violence near the Florida A. and M. University campus.

A spokesman for Mr. Kirk's office said that the helmeted guardsmen were being deployed by local law enforcement officials.

Roadblocks were set up in the area and nobody was allowed in or out of the area. Florida A. and M. was closed for a week. One person died last night, five were injured and 14 arrested.

### San Francisco Looting

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5 (Reuters) — Gangs of Negro youths began looting stores in San Francisco and the neighboring cities of Oakland and Berkeley today, but the police said that they were “pretty well contained.”

Bands of about 50 in number moved through streets here, breaking store windows and taking merchandise from a five-and-dime after an open air memorial service for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. attended by 7,000 persons.

All members of the police force were on duty or standing by here and in Oakland, where Negroes make up almost half the population of 367,000.

### Evers Decides to Pass Up Another Try for Congress

Special to The New York Times

JACKSON, Miss., April 5 — Charles Evers, Negro leader, decided today to pass up another race for Congress this year because of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his own work with the National Association of Colored People in Mississippi.

Mr. Evers, who lost in a run-off special election last month to Charles Griffin, a white middle-of-the-roader, had considered running as an independent candidate against Mr. Griffin in November for the full term in the Third Congressional District seat. The qualifying deadline passed this afternoon.

### Memphis Strikers Aided

ATLANTA, April 5 (AP) — A Southern Presbyterian group voted today to send \$5,000 to striking sanitation workers in Memphis for hunger relief so “that Martin Luther King will not have died in vain.” Members of the denomination's Board of National Ministries executive committee also wired President Johnson in support of pending civil rights legislation.