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Flip Schulke-Black Star

LED MARCH ON WASHINGTON: Dr. King speaking to the marchers from steps of Lincoln Memorial on Aug. 28, 1963.

Aide to Dr. King Asserts March Of Poor in Capital Will Be Held

WASHINGTON, April 4 (UPI)—A top lieutenant of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said tonight that the "poor people's crusade" in the nation's capital planned for later this month by Dr. King definitely would be held.

"The march is going on," said Bernard Lafayette, coordinator of the King campaign in Washington. "If there ever was a March—this one will be held."

Mr. Lafayette spoke following the slaying in Memphis of Dr. King, who had planned to bring more than 3,000 of the nation's poorest to build a shantytown, among the city's monuments to try to get Government help for the needy.

At the same time, Lester McKinne, head of the Washington chapter of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee,

called on the city's Negroes to stage a strike tomorrow.

"While staying home, blacks should begin to analyze what the white racist Government is doing to black people," Mr. McKinne said. "We don't know what will happen to blacks in the United States if the Government allows King to be killed."

Mr. Lafayette said he did not know now who would lead the poor crusade, but that it might be the Rev. Ralph P. Abernathy.

Dr. King had said the poor people from around the nation would stay in the capital until the Government did something to help the poor. He had planned to bring the vanguard of the demonstration here by April 22 and have it reach full strength of at least 3,000 by mid-May.