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Mayor, Quoting King, Urges Racial Peace Here

By RICHARD REEVES

Mayor Lindsay solemnly quoted the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. yesterday in urging residents of Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant to avoid a repetition of the street violence that followed Dr. King's murder Thursday night.

"I can only close the gap in a broken community by meeting hate with love," Mr. Lindsay said, in quoting Dr. King.

Then, the Mayor added in his own words:

"Every citizen must make it his business to share in the common community and share in keeping the peace. The churches should keep their doors open. There should be prayer. Parents should be close with their children and urge their boys and girls to keep off the streets."

The Mayor spoke at an afternoon news conference in City Hall in the middle of a day of walking tours in Negro neighborhoods and meetings with police officials, religious leaders and the members of his staff primarily responsible for race relations.

Mayor Reports on TV

Eleven hours later, at 11:30 P.M., Mr. Lindsay went on television to report that the city was "relatively peaceful."

He drove to the Columbia Broadcasting System studio at 524 West 57th Street after spending five hours at Gracie Mansion receiving reports on the telephone and police radio on the state of the city.

"New York is a great city," he said with a touch of pride on the late broadcast, "because people of all races, colors and creeds have been able to live here in tolerance and respect in an atmosphere of individual freedom that has existed nowhere else."

The Mayor returned to the mansion shortly after midnight. As he walked up the stairs of his home, he said: "It could have been grim. I'm going to make the rounds of the city by telephone and get some sleep."

On television, Mr. Lindsay referred to a statement by Dr. King last Wednesday, when the civil rights leader said he had

Lindsay Calls on Negroes in City to Follow Doctrine of Using Love to Fight Hate

"been to the mountaintop."

"We [the white majority] failed Dr. King and his philosophy because too few of us have been willing to go to the mountaintop," the Mayor said.

"Now, however, Americans are preparing to undertake that long climb. It seems clear that the great majority of Americans, white and black, are willing to do what is necessary so that the principles Martin Luther King stood for shall not perish with him; that we shall pledge our hearts and our resources to the achievement of human dignity and equality."

Mr. Lindsay noted that both President Johnson and Governor Rockefeller had reacted to Dr. King's murder by pledging to press for new legislation designed to aid victims of poverty. Then he added: "I'm especially hopeful that the recommendations contained in the report of the President's Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders will be acted upon."

Mr. Lindsay, who was vice chairman of the commission, had said during the afternoon that he was worried about new violence. "Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant are up-tight," he said then.

He told newsmen then about "the terrific wave of passion, understandable frustration and even resentment" in Negro neighborhoods when they heard that Dr. King had been shot down in Memphis.

"I think I understand the temptation to strike back," he said later in the afternoon at a Harlem news conference with The Most Rev. Terence J. Cooke, the new Roman Catholic Archbishop of New York, and other religious leaders. "I hope the young men of the city will help me to cool it. I need strong arms to keep the peace."

The Mayor also conferred during the day with other clergymen including the Right Rev. Horace W. B. Donegan,

Episcopal Bishop of New York; Archbishop Iakovos, Greek Orthodox Primate of North and South America, and Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, executive vice president of the New York Board of Rabbis.

The conference with Catholic and Protestant clergymen at the Ministerial Interfaith Association, 110 East 125th Street, was held as the Mayor toured Harlem for the fourth time since Thursday night.

Although he was manhandled by a Harlem crowd Thursday night, the Mayor was greeted with smiles and handshakes yesterday in Harlem and during two walks in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn.

"How're you doing, Mayor?" said two of the men Mr. Lindsay met as he walked along Fulton Avenue in Brooklyn. Almost in answer, a man on Saint Nicholas Avenue in Harlem said, "There's nothing you can do, Lindsay."

City's Control Uncertain

An aide of the Mayor's, who was present when Mr. Lindsay met twice yesterday with his Urban Task Force, admitted that the city did not know how much it could do to prevent a repetition of Thursday's sporadic arson and looting.

"You can't control the small minority of kids who want to run wild," he said. "We're developing a strategy to keep this thing from becoming a real riot."

The keystone of that strategy is the Urban Task Force, a group of 16 city officials responsible for maintaining contact with local task forces of community and youth leaders in poor neighborhoods.

Mr. Lindsay, who met yesterday with Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary, praised the police actions during the night of violence. "The police did exactly what was best under the circumstances," he said. "They acted quickly and firmly but with restraint."

The Mayor, who canceled a scheduled trip to New Haven yesterday afternoon for a meeting of the Yale University Corporation, returned to Gracie Mansion at 6 P.M.



The New York Times (by William E. Sauro)

AT PRAYER MEETING: Mayor Lindsay at a meeting of the Ministerial Interfaith Association in Harlem. With him are the Rev. Earl Moore, center, pastor of a Harlem Baptist church, and the Rev. William James, pastor of the Metropolitan Community Methodist Church. The Mayor spoke at the meeting, which opened with a prayer for Dr. King.