

Africans Express Shock at Slaying of Dr. King

Special to The New York Times

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, April 5—South Africans, black and white, expressed shock today at the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Newspapers printed special late editions this morning and Africans lined up to buy them on streetcorners here. The newspaper The World said in a front-page editorial:

"One trembles for the future of race relations in the United States. This senseless killing could set things back a decade."

Dr. W. F. Nkomo, a Negro leader of Pretoria, voiced a nonwhite view. "The assassins have now strengthened the hands of the likes of Stokely Carmichael and black-power advocates," he said. "They will now have all the evidence in their possession for propogating race hatred."

Die Vaderland, an Afrikaans-language paper, was the first to express shock at the killing. It said that Dr. King was a "victim of evil racial passions

Blacks and Whites Line Up for Johannesburg Papers—Nigerian Voices Concern

he helped to stir up and eventually could not control, so that he had to compete with the Rap Browns and Stokely Carmichaels to retain his position as Negro leader."

Nigeria Fears a Setback

Special to The New York Times

LAGOS, Nigeria, April 5 — Nigeria's Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Okoi Arikpo, said today that the assassination of Dr. King was a "sad and inhuman killing" that "may mean a serious setback for American leaders who are trying to integrate Negroes into the American community."

Lloyd La Beach, a 1948 Olympic gold medalist and world record holder in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes and a long-time friend of Dr. King, said here that he thought

the killing would "act as a catalyst" to the nonviolent movement. "I personally think there'll be a little sanity now," said Mr. La Beach, who is now the managing director of a dairy in Lagos.

The United States Embassy here hung a portrait of Dr. King draped in black crepe outside its front door where it would be visible to passersby.

Death Deplored in Tanzania

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DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania, April 5—The Rev. Trevor Huddleston, who was expelled from South Africa because of his stand against the policy of apartheid, or racial separation, today said that Dr. King's death was the greatest single tragedy since the assassination of Gandhi in India.

"This is a supreme tragedy," he said. "Both King and Gandhi were apostles of nonviolence. It challenges the complacency of the Christian church and its leaders and is a violent condemnation of racialism."

incalculable consequences." He said it was "an escalation of racial violence of which the American nation will be the victim."

Harm Buiter, secretary general of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, said in a cablegram to George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations:

"The entire free trade union movement shares your deep shock and profound grief at the loss to America and the world of Martin Luther King, Nobel Peace Prize winner and champion of the nonviolent campaign for civil rights."

SWEDEN

Prof. Gunnar Myrdal, author of the classic study of the American Negro "An American Dilemma," said in Stockholm of the death of his friend Dr. King, "This is terrible, frightening."

King Gustaf VI Adolf sent a message of sympathy to President Johnson, and Premier Tage Erlander, reacting to the murder of the civil rights leader "with despair," said, "This

will increase the feeling of powerlessness that has gripped so many, but let us hope that there are people who can complete his work."

NORWAY

In Oslo, where Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize Dec. 10, 1964, Premier Per Borten said in a cablegram to Mrs. King:

"I ask you to accept the deep-felt condolences of the Norwegian Government. We shall for a long time to come remember his courageous fight for the great cause for which he now has given his life."

DENMARK

Foreign Minister Poul Hartling said Dr. King "will not be forgotten, and murder cannot stop his cause."

SOVIET UNION

"United States Is a Nation of Violence and Racism," said a headline in Izvestia, the Soviet Government newspaper.

The paper charged in an editorial that American authorities feared Dr. King and had

been unwilling to defend him from death threats.

Izvestia said racists feared the march in Washington Dr. King had planned for later this month.

"The shot was well aimed," the editorial declared. "it was intended by the murderer as a warning to the Negro movement before the coming long hot summer."

Izvestia said Dr. King had lost favor in official Washington because of his opposition to the Vietnam war. Other Soviet reaction also emphasized this line.

A cablegram sent to several American organizations said Dr. King "symbolized America's conscience." The message, signed by the writers Nikolai Tikhonov and Aleksandr Korneichuk, by the film director Sergei Gerasimov and by others, added:

"In Martin Luther King the world public has lost one of the leaders of the antiwar movement and the struggle for civil rights in the United States, a man who had the courage to speak out loudly about the disastrousness of the present policy of the American Government."

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