A Mood of Tension and Violence

summer to frightening reality --exploded. The assassination of tos in many parts of the country struck down at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis, the Negro ghetmonths early. brought the fears of a long hot the apostle of nonviolence had after Martin Luther King was WASHINGTON - Within hours

war on black Americal" ing, "White America has declared of the nation's capital, proclaimship Conference, Roy Wilkins of the N.A.A.C.P., Whitney Young itant. He went into the streets Carmichael, the young black milseemed to express the mood and But the ghetto-dwellers did not of the Urban League, and others at the Southern Christian Leaderthe temper was that of Stokeley listen to them. The voice which Ralph Abernathy, his successor friends and followers-the Rev. King's teachings came from his now more than ever to follow Dr Pleas for calm, for the need

Rioting Builds

mounted into a second night on Friday, and into Saturday. The order in Detroit, Chicago, Memfirst, the police in most cities acted with restraint and fore-bearance. But the violence phis and elsewhere, to quell the rioters and restore National Guard was called out burning, breaking and looting. At ful mood as they rampaged, life and work—in an almost gleeironically in light of Dr. King's to the streets. Some were therethe country, young Negroes took In more than 40 cities across

President Johnson declared town areas. Friday afternoon, ghettos but also in the downlooted not only in the Negro The young rioters burned and the Capitol and the White House. breaks came in the shadow of One of most destructive out-

> state of domestic violence and an uncounted number injured, at least 19 dead by nightfall and day, with thousands under arrest around the nation all day yesteroutbreaks in Washington and ing the city. There were sporadic only partially successful in calmout Federal troops; but they were disorder in Washington and called

eral agents in that task; he said prevent another. The first step, early solution. yesterday that he expected an Ramsey Clark was guiding Fedapprehension of Dr. King's killer if possible. Attorney General almost everyone agreed, was what can be done now, not just to stop this outbreak, but to was the critical question of As the rioting continued, there

fighting against — inequality and poverty, hatred and bigotry. take affirmative steps to end the demands that the nation must conditions that Dr. King was From all sides there were also

nation's underclass. campaign in Washington spring and summer poor people's slightest indication of acting on "jobs or income now" for the King's demands, in his planned or really even listening to Dr ident Johnson had shown not the Until last Thursday night, Pres-

King's noble dream for America. overdue and now (thanks to Dr charge—there will be no room in the Federal budget for the gency to act sweepingly on Dr King's murder) self-evident urcent Federal income tax sur-\$30-billion a year—even if Mr. Johnson finally gets his 10 per continues to drain away \$20- or As long as the war in Vietnam

for the otherwise unemployable, eral package costing about \$10billion a year-W.P.A.-type jobs been talking in terms of a Fedbargaining losses, Dr. King had Obviously allowing room for

and the racially disinherited of one knows oppresses the poor cruel catalogue of ills that everytraining, housing, transportation guaranteed incomes, massive in-fusions of money and talent to and real improvements in the ghetto education,

Johnson's Reaction

Negro Democrat from Detroit. yers, Jr., a respected moderate Act of Representative John Conduced. The outstanding one is specifications - even exceeding any specific legislation, although the proposed Full Opportunity them — already have been introa number of bills meeting his King's demands are not tied to

even an attractive prospective bill as it stands is going nowhere in Congress. Dr. King knew it his enemies in Congress an easy ment by him would merely give flop, a measure whose endorseand sought to avoid embracing But the \$30-billion Conyers

Congress than a summer of nonto a basically anti-revolutionary and astonishing switch by prolooting will apply more pressure national agony of rioting and ironically for Dr. King—that the posing some of Dr. King's revolucould—freed now of the chains of candidacy—make a dramatic of national need." The President destructive action in this hour evision, before the nation, at 9 P.M. tomorrow to propose "constructive action instead of session of Congress and, by telthat he would go before a joint tion, cannot be underrated. Mr. fiery aftermath of the assassina-

vocational

For a number of reasons, Dr

Johnson announced last Friday the King demands now, in the President Johnson's reaction to

when Mr. Johnson told him at the White House: "Martin, we recall the day in December, 1964, was a possibility. He liked to bill through Congress." that the President's conversion last week, Dr. King himself constantly reminded his followers just can't get the Voting Rights While he lived, as recently as

passion gap. some of the Congressional comple's campaign. Corporations, of total failure of the poor peosigned to avoid the appearance ployment and training programs from the private sector. This outpouring of both lobbying aid lition have been prepared to fill foundations and the urban coanon-government response is dein Congress and substitute emway to deliver an unmatched a major effort has been underhe "have a win" in Washington, have been deeply concerned that King's plans this summer who known outside a group of influ-Significantly, and almost unsympathizers with

If not, the dream is certain to become a nightmare. Dr. King recognized that possibility, too, this nation to hell." and warned that it would "send ghettos, the result may be a fraction of Dr. King's dream. national scandal and crisis of the go as far as war or peace Congress reacts at last to the Vietnam will let him, forts, if the President chooses to If they now redouble their efpoace in and if

weekend in more than 40 Amer a testing time for the American state as well as the American ican cities. only a pistol shot away this of repression of the Negro revolution by force of arms seems prochecy of a "Fascist" reaction The next few weeks may be King's apocalyptic

-BEN A. FRANKLIN

violent demonstrations.