

Carmichael Says the Time Has Come for Guns

Stokely Carmichael said here yesterday that as a result of the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "a lot of people who were afraid to pick up guns will now pick up guns."

The black power advocate spoke at a press conference following a 45-minute keynote address marking the start of a three-day convention of a new Negro antidraft group at the Diplomat Hotel, 108 West 43d Street. About 300 Negroes attended the conference's opening.

White reporters were barred both from the convention session and the news conference.

Carmichael declared himself convinced, according to a Negro reporter for The Associated Press, that Dr. King's assassination was engineered by a conspiracy, and asked where the agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were at the time of the murder.

Black Power Advocate Also Charges That the Slaying of King Was Conspiracy

He recalled that Dr. King had been planning to organize a "poor people's" march on Washington, and said this "march was going to clearly turn this country upside down and that march had to be stopped.

"They clearly made a mistake when they killed Dr. King. It would have been far better if they killed Rap Brown and myself; then they could have said that 'they lived by the sword and they died by the sword'."

H. Rap Brown, national chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee, an ultra militant group formerly led by Carmichael, is being held in connection with a Federal gun charge.

In his address to the convention of the National Black Anti-War, Anti-Draft Movement before his news conference, Mr. Carmichael stressed that Negro and white antidraft organizations must be completely separate.

The group sponsoring the convention was set up last January after a rift between white and Negro participants in a conference of the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, an antiwar organization, had developed. The convention was called to discuss ways of evading military service.

Dissociating himself from whites who oppose the draft, Carmichael told the convention that theirs was an "intellectual exercise," whereas for black youths avoidance of military service was a matter of life and death.