

Law Enforcement Men to Outnumber Protesters at March of Poor in Capital

By BEN A. FRANKLIN

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WASHINGTON, March 3—

When the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. leads the vanguard of his "poor people's campaign" toward the Capitol next month, the Federal and city authorities will be better and more massively prepared to police and protect the demonstrators than at any such protest in history, including Dr. King's march in 1965 from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., Government officials say.

It is becoming obvious that they are also prepared to be more skeptical and tougher.

The forces of law and order are apparently far better organized than the leadership of the march to the Capitol, starting a campaign that may last for months, and they will clearly outnumber the marchers.

Dr. King is now reported to be thinking of beginning his campaign with perhaps fewer than 100 leaders and then bring-

ing in reinforcements of up to about 3,000 "permanent" marchers, and thousands more on weekends, as the spring and summer wear on.

Plan for 'Last Resort'

Major events would be held on weekends, one planner said, with nationally known entertainers as crowd-drawing attractions. Dr. King has said he will use disruptive civil disobedience "only as a last resort."

But District of Columbia and Federal officials have been planning for the "last resort" as if it were inevitable.

A stand-by Army communications and command post has been set up at police headquarters since the antiwar demonstration at the Pentagon last October. The Washington police have received special riot-control training and equipment, including Chemical Mace, an incapacitating gas device.

Mayor Walter E. Washington has acknowledged that city officials are holding periodic

meetings with Justice Department and armed forces officials on plans for disorders.

Some hotels report a decline in expected bookings for the early April cherry blossom season, and worried downtown department and specialty stores are reducing inventories and orders.

Force of 10,000 Available

More than 10,000 Federal policemen and troops are estimated to be available in the Washington area. No more than 1,500 Regular Army military policemen and Alabama National Guard troops were deployed for Dr. King's four-day march in 1965.

The campaign here, billed as a "stay-in," is designed to seek from an apparently unsympathetic Congress a \$10-billion-a-year package of legislation to aid the country's urban slums. The effort is to start in mid-April on a date to be announced Tuesday at the headquarters of Dr. King's Southern Christian

Leadership Conference in Atlanta.

Yet the conference is still unsure who and how many will come here, and when; where they will be housed, and what the demonstrators will be asked to do. Many of these details are to be settled at a staff meeting in Atlanta Monday.

"We still don't have chairmen of the committees on site selection, legal aid and others—we are just getting organized," a spokesman said this week at the conference's temporary headquarters here. The headquarters are in a former bank building at 14th and U Streets N.W., the Washington equivalent of 125th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in New York.

The spokesman, Anthony R. Henry, 29 years old, on leave from the American Friends Service Committee in Chicago, is the office manager of a staff that includes Hosea Williams and the Rev. James Bevel, both long-time organizers for the leadership conference.

Mr. Henry said that Mr. Williams was in charge of recruiting marchers. Mr. Bevel, who was on leave until recently to lead antiwar demonstrations, is in charge of nonviolent workshops for training demonstrators, he said. Both men have been traveling continuously for weeks.

The recruiting areas are New York City—which is expected to provide the largest number—Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Baltimore, Detroit, Newark, Philadelphia, Richmond, Va., Washington, and communities in Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Mississippi.

Could Stir Confrontation

The unnamed site selection committee is to find and negotiate probably with the United States Park Service, for the use of a camp ground here for up to 3,000 demonstrators who are to be housed in rented tents or "some kind of prefabricated structures."

The Rev. Bernard Lafayette,

national coordinator of the campaign, said, "We may want to camp in Lafayette Square." The park across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House, was recently brought under a Federal regulation limiting the size of assemblies and requiring a Park Service permit.

Putting temporary shelters there "may be our first point of confrontation," Mr. Lafayette said.

An Administration official said bluntly, "That's one test they will lose."

The detailed Federal preparations for Dr. King's march reflect mounting Congressional and Administration apprehension about his ability to maintain nonviolent discipline over a long period.

One law-enforcement official here said this week, "The word we get is that they are in such a muddle that it is quite possible they are not coming at all."
"That would not bother us one bit," he said.