

— APRIL 23 —

FOR

MARTIN LUTHER KING

AND

BOSTON



Southern Christian

Leadership Conference

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is organized as a service agency to facilitate coordinated action of local protest groups and to assist in their sharing of resources and experiences. The magnitude of the problem calls for the maximum commitment of resources of all institutions for social change, North and South. S.C.L.C. seeks to cooperate with all existing agencies attempting to bring full democracy to our great nation.

APRIL 23 FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. Malcolm Peabody, Coordinator for Fund Raising

Rev. Charles Adams

Rev. Gilbert Caldwell

Rev. Vernon Carter

Mr. Paul Chapman

Dr. Harvey Cox

Rev. William England

Rabbi Harvey Fields

Rev. John Harmon

Rev. Edward Hofler, CSP

Rev. Earl Lawson

Mrs. Anne Priest

Mr. James Reed

Dr. & Mrs. William Ryan

Mrs. Phyllis Stevens

Mrs. Jeanne Westheimer

Rev. Virgil Wood

Patrons, Donors, Friends, Contributors:

Because of the overwhelming and continuing response to our appeal for funds for S.C.L.C., it is impossible to list all the advanced gifts in this program. A mimeographed list has been prepared and is available at the bandstand and at the Mass. Unit office.

FREEDOM RALLY

Pre-Rally Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Gilbert Caldwell

Welcome: Governor John A. Volpe

A Message of Welcome from Richard Cardinal Cushing

Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Virgil Wood

Speakers: Mr. Alan Gartner, Mrs. Ruth Batson, Dr. Ralph Abernathy, Dr. Martin Luther King.

Benediction: Rev. Richard Owens



Mr. Alan Gartner

Chairman, Boston Congress
of Racial Equality



Mrs. Ruth Batson

Massachusetts Commission
Against Discrimination

Rev. Virgil Wood

President, Massachusetts
Unit, S.C.L.C.



Dr. Ralph Abernathy

Vice President at Large,
Southern Christian Leader-
ship Conference



Dr. Martin L. King

President, Southern Christian
Leadership Conference.



Only program participants are seated on the platform. There is a reserved section for special guests.

FREEDOM SONGS

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

This little light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

1. Everywhere I go, I'm going to, etc.
2. Up in Massachusetts, I'm going to, etc.
3. Round the School Committee, I'm going to, etc.
4. Down on my knees, I'm going to, etc.
5. We've got the light of Freedom, we're going, etc.

WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON

Which side are you on, boys, which side are you on?
Everybody which side are you on, boys, which side are you on?

My mother was a freedom fighter and I'm her son, you bet.
Will you fight de facto or Tom for Ross Barnett?

Come all you Freedom fighters, lift your voices and sing.
Will you follow Louise Day Hicks or Martin Luther King?

WOKE UP THIS MORNING

Woke up this morning with my mind
Stayed on Freedom
Woke up this morning with my mind
Stayed on Freedom
Woke up this morning with my mind
Stayed on Freedom
Hallelu, Hallelu, Halleluia.

1. Singing and praying with my mind, etc.
2. Walking and talking with my mind, etc.
3. Bussing to school with my mind, etc.
4. Casting my vote with my mind, etc.
5. Woke up this morning with my mind, etc.

OH FREEDOM

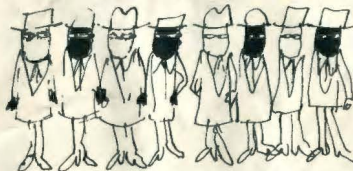
Oh Freedom, Oh Freedom, Oh Freedom over me
And before I'll be a slave,
I'll be buried in my grave
And go home to my Lord and be free.

1. No more weeping...
2. No segregation...
3. No more sadness...
4. No de facto
5. Oh Freedom

WE SHALL OVERCOME

We shall overcome, we shall overcome
We shall overcome, some day.
Deep in my heart, I do believe
We shall overcome some day.

1. We are not afraid...today
2. The truth will make us free...some day
3. We'll walk hand in hand...today
4. Black and white together...today
5. We are not alone,..today
6. We shall overcome...someday.



March Instructions

THIS IS A NONVIOLENT DEMONSTRATION, therefore,

1. You are expected to refrain from any hostile act or word, even when provoked.
2. The march will be quiet, orderly and serious.
3. You are expected to follow the instructions of trained marshals who are easily identified and stationed at regular intervals in the march. Marshals will remove any inappropriate signs.
4. At the Common, follow the lead of your marshal. There are several reserved sections--one for the aged and handicapped (please tell your marshal if you need a pass for this section), one for honored guests, and one for a group of marchers who, under marshals' directions, will leave the main line of march and return to the Common later. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT MARCHERS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THE MARSHALS IN KEEPING THE AISLES CLEAR.
5. At the Common, lunches should be eaten before the rally begins. All sandwich wrappers and papers should be deposited in the bags which the marshals will carry through the crowd.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dr. King will start the march; then it is planned that he will leave the march with community leaders to meet with the Mayor and School Committee. He will rejoin us at the Common.

The marshals will direct one section of the march past City Hall and the School Committee. This section will return to the Common before the rally begins.

An offering will be received during the rally. If you plan to give a large donation, please inform your marshal so that he can have it acknowledged by the platform.

Portable toilets, medical coverage, water supply, and lunches are available. Please check with your marshal.

The march committee has worked closely with Superintendent Muloney and others of the Boston Police Department, who have cooperated fully in the arrangement of this march.

Message from Rev. Virgil A. Wood ...

In its short but glorious history, the Massachusetts Unit, SCLC, has participated in three supporting actions in the South and is now working full strength for Boston.

In 1963, when the "Macedonian call" for help came from the Williamston, N. C. Unit, SCLC, we responded with 200 Freedom troops. In 1964, when the embattled Negro community of St. Augustine, Fla. issued a call for help, the response of the Mass. Unit with Freedom troops of dedication and renown helped catapult the St. Augustine movement into national prominence. Our third major Southern engagement came this year in response to the call of Dr. King following that fateful Sunday in Selma. The following verse, sung to the tune of the Battle Hymn, was composed to reflect our unity with our Southern brothers in the Freedom fight.

"In the days of Crispus Attucks there was love of liberty;
Now Jim Reeb and Jimmy Jackson, they cry out to you and me,
'As we died in Alabama, you must fight till Boston's free'.
Their blood has made us one."

The throat-choking conditions of life in the slum community of Boston yet finds many of our public officials turning deaf ears to the repeated cries of citizens for relief. The combination of segregated "mis-education" and segregated work (low jobs and no jobs) plunges the Negro urban dweller into depths of despair and apathy which seem well nigh irreversible. These two conditions of apathy in the community coupled with indifference by the public officials must be challenged by the moral equivalent of war. It is to this non-violent revolution that we are committed, as the way to deal with both conditions.

The Mass Unit, SCLC, with disciplined and experienced troops, now turns full attention and strength to Boston.

Virgil A. Wood

MASSACHUSETTS UNIT OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Rev. Virgil A. Wood, President
Rev. James P. Breeden, Vice President
Rev. John J. Harmon, Treasurer
Mr. Paul K. Chapman, Secretary

ADDRESS:

Mass Unit of S.C.L.C.
288 Blue Hill Avenue
Roxbury, Mass. 02119

Mail contributions to:

Treasurer: Mass. SCLC
41 Winthrop Street
Roxbury, Mass. 02119

Message from Dr. Martin L. King ...

In these turbulent days of uncertainty the evils of war and of economic and racial injustice threaten the very survival of the human race. Indeed we live in a day of great crisis. Yet, I am convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that the philosophy of nonviolence will redeem the soul of America. There is a great temptation to accept nonviolence solely as a strategy, a device; this we must guard against.

This is one of the chief aims of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference: to broadly disseminate through intensive training the heart of nonviolence, that our commitment to nonviolence will not only be a technique, but shall become for us a way of life with love and redemption as its center. Another chief aim of SCLC is in the area of voter registration. Here again it must be recognized that the right and proper use of the ballot is vital in our struggle for first-class citizenship.

Indeed, the past year has been a most tragic and historic one, and certainly the past decade a most exciting one. But in spite of the tensions and uncertainties of our times, something profoundly meaningful is taking place. Old systems of exploitation and oppression are passing away; new systems of justice and equality are being born. In a real sense this is a great time to be alive. Therefore, I am not yet discouraged about the future. Granted that we face a world of crisis, but every crisis has both its dangers and its opportunities. It can spell either salvation or doom. We would like to think that it will bring salvation to the hearts of men and the truth that unearned suffering is redemptive.

Martin Luther King Jr.

NATIONAL SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President
Dr. Ralph D. Abernathy, Vice President at Large
Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth, Secretary
Rev. Andrew Young, Executive Director

ADDRESS:

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference
334 Auburn Avenue, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303