

DR. KING SLAIN

Gunned Down in Memphis

PACIFIC
STARS
AND
STRIPES

★★ EDITION

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Saddened LBJ Postpones His Trip to Honolulu

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson Thursday night, in a nation-wide Radio-TV address from the White House, postponed until Friday his trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, because of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King.

"America is shocked and saddened by the brutal slaying tonight of Dr. Martin Luther King. I ask every citizen to stay away from the violence that struck Dr. King," Johnson said.

Storms Kill 18 in U.S.

By The Associated Press

Freezing air and bitter, strong winds lashed the Midwest Thursday as a savage snow and wind storm which left 18 dead from Nebraska to Kentucky pushed across the northern Great Lakes.

Readings fell to the freezing mark in 11 states from the Great Plains to northern Mississippi. Snow fell in Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan and the Dakotas.

Winds whipping at 30 to 50 miles an hour crossed the Great Lakes and turned toward the Mid-Atlantic States. Saginaw, Mich., recorded wind gusts of 47 miles an hour.

Freeze warnings accompanied flash flood threats in the lower Mississippi Valley where the thunderstorms and tornadoes of Wednesday night were followed by heavy rains.

A tornado struck the high school at Muscle Shoals, Ala., Thursday causing \$25,000 damage. (Continued on Back Page, Col. 3)

"I know every American of goodwill joins me in mourning the death of this leader and in praying for understanding throughout the land.

"We can achieve nothing by violence—it is only by joining together and working together that we can continue to move toward full equality for all of our people."

In his broadcast, the President said the United States "can achieve nothing by lawlessness and violence."

He expressed hope that the nation might learn from the tragic death of King that "only by working together and joining together can we find equality."

Johnson said he would delay his trip to Honolulu for a review of the Vietnam war until Friday morning.

Earlier Thursday, Johnson visited Secretary General U Thant at the United Nations.

Johnson's spur-of-the-moment discussion with Thant lasted 1 hour and 16 minutes and dealt with new peace initiatives in Southeast Asia. It was also learned that the President's curtailment of air and sea shelling of North Vietnam was discussed.

Afterwards, the President told (Continued on Back Page, Col. 4)



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

U.S. Force Poised To Enter Khe Sanh

SAIGON (AP) — An American relief force was poised just outside the Marine base at Khe Sanh at nightfall Thursday, ready for the final thrust that would lift the siege of the battered bastion.

Inside the base itself, Associated Press correspondent Lewis M. Simons reported the ap-

proaching U.S. troops could be seen maneuvering through the nearby hills.

A U.S. spokesman said he expected some of the Operation Pegasus relief force to link up with the 6,000 Marines inside Khe Sanh possibly by nightfall. (United Press International said a battalion of Marines

pushed 1.5 miles out of Khe Sanh Thursday and seized Hill 471 to the south. The Marines reported finding 30 dead North Vietnamese, most of them believed killed by U.S. artillery strikes.)

The three-pronged American relief force of Marines and helicopter-borne cavalrymen was pushing toward the base from the east, north and south. Reports said they were encountering sporadic artillery and mortar fire but little resistance otherwise.

A company of 3rd Div. Marines was spearheading the assault. They were closing in from the northwest above the base and were about a half-mile from the barbed wire per- (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner and America's leading exponent of non-violence in the civil rights struggle, was shot to death Thursday night, Asst. Police Chief Henry Lux said.

Two unidentified men were arrested several blocks from where King was shot while standing on a motel balcony.

The Rev. Andrew Young, executive vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference headed by King, said the shot hit King in the neck and lower right part of his face.

"He didn't say a word, he didn't move," Young said.

Immediately after the shooting, the civil rights leader was rushed to St. Joseph's Hospital where he was declared dead a short time later.

"Martin Luther King is dead," Lux said.

Rifle-armed police blocked the front entrances to the hospital to hold back a crowd which gathered quickly.

King came to Memphis Wednesday to take charge of continuing demonstrations in support of the city's 1,300 striking garbage collectors. A march led by King last Thursday erupted into rioting in which one person was killed. Another march had been planned.

National Guard troops rushed to Memphis to quell last week's riot but were pulled out Wednesday night.

Gov. Buford Ellington ordered 4,000 National Guard troops into Memphis. A curfew was clamped on the city.

Young said he and other members of King's staff were standing by a car in front of the motel when King walked to the balcony of his second-floor room.

King's death came only a night after he told associates that he was not disturbed by reports that he would be subjected to physical harm while in Memphis.

"He said he had reached the pinnacle of fulfillment with his nonviolent movement," Young (Continued on Back Page, Col. 1)