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**Film on Dr. King Televised in 62 Cities**

During the week of April 4, four years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the motion picture "KING: A Filmed Record... Montgomery to Memphis" was shown on television for the first time. The documentary on Dr. King and the movement he led, produced by Ely Landau, was broadcast by stations in 62 cities. Television industry sources estimate that up to 20 million people saw it.

**Mrs. King, Belafonte Visit Prisoners**

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\* Some groups decided to help the movement with financial contributions. Church's Fried Chicken in several cities gave the Center a total of \$3,700 from their January 15th sales. Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority announced as a 1972 project a drive to raise \$20,000 to help restore Dr. King's birthplace. The contribution will be presented to Mrs. King by Mrs. Carey B. Preston, Executive Secretary, and Mrs. Mattelia B. Grays, Supreme Basilew, at the sorority's annual convention in Denver this August.

\* The First Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemorative Concert was given in Atlanta for the Center's benefit. Featured appearances included the Jackson Five, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Moms Mabley and Congressman Ronald Dellums.

\* Also in Atlanta, free showings of the King film were held for public school students.

\* Organizations and communities across the nation observed the holiday in many other ways, including such active programs as voter registration and community action.

Meanwhile, the movement to make each January 15th a national, legal holiday gained strength. A growing number of unions have the day off in their contracts. The holiday is officially recognized by many states, cities, and school systems. ■

**Trustees Meet in Atlanta**

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In a special ceremony at the mass meeting, Mrs. King is scheduled to present a print of the documentary "KING: A Filmed Record... Montgomery to Memphis" to the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (AFL-CIO), represented by Manuel Chavez. He is the leader of the farm workers' movement in Florida and the brother of Cesar Chavez, national head of the union.

Music for the public rally is being provided by the Atlanta University Gospel Ensemble and Miss Liz Spraggins, vocalist.

The annual Trustees meeting opens with a luncheon, followed by a business session with Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, Chairman, presiding. The agenda includes the President's annual report by Mrs. King and discussions on programs, strategy and planning for the Center.

For the first time, the Trustees are to see a site plan for the entire Center, encompassing the Center buildings, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Dr. King's entombment and birthplace, and the Memorial Park. The plan was prepared by Richard Stauffer and Richard Dober, architectural and planning consultants to the Center. ■



Cleveland Robinson (second from left) presents Mrs. King with a \$5,000 contribution to the Center from the National Council of Distributive Workers. Mr. Robinson, President of the union, is joined by aide Ralph Worrell (left) and Dr. Julius Scott, Jr., Executive Director of the Center.

**The Center and its Programs**

Like the man it is named for, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change has a dream and a plan — a dream of a society turned from war and injustice to peace and development; and a plan to combine activist programs with relevant scholarship as a means of achieving justice at all levels of society.

The Center encompasses a four-block area near downtown Atlanta, where Dr. King was born and raised — and is now buried. It includes the modest wood-frame house in which he was born, the Ebenezer Baptist Church where he served with his father as Co-Pastor, and a Memorial Park. A building complex is planned to house the Freedom Exhibition Hall and the Center staff.

At the heart of the Center will be two permanent, dynamic Center programs designed to perpetuate the philosophy and work of Dr. King: The Institute for Nonviolent Social Change and the Library Documentation Project.

**Institute for Nonviolent Social Change**

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr., President of the Center, recently said: "My husband believed that violence is the greatest threat to mankind — the violence of racism, of poverty, of war. He also believed that nonviolence raised to level of militant action is man's last hope for a world of peace with justice."

A Center-sponsored conference on "Nonviolence in the 70's" last summer marked the beginning of the Institute for Nonviolent Social Change as the key programmatic arm of the Center. Under the leadership of Andrew Young, Chairman of the Advisory Council to the Institute, the conference brought together activists, scholars and public leaders to discuss long-range planning and strategy for the nonviolent movement.

In recent months the Institute staff, coordinated by Thomas Porter, has been developing and planning various projects, including the following:

**Center for Economic Action**

This project draws upon the experience of the civil rights movement in economic forms of protest and action, such as the economic-withdrawal strategy that cracked the citadel of segregation, Birmingham, in the landmark 1963 movement.

The Center for Economic Action is working to develop a national network for united support actions. In a boycott situation, for example, the network would be designed to help churches, unions, movement organizations, citizens' groups, and individuals consolidate their power nationally.

Mrs. King, Rev. Young and staff members have already conferred with the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (AFL-CIO), under the

leadership of Cesar Chavez, on the possibilities of helping to coordinate economic actions for the farm workers movement, and continued support by the King Center for that movement in California and Florida.

The economic project would also provide strategic information and analysis of economic issues and institutions, and it would train personnel in such areas as negotiation and organizing for economic action.

**Minorities and Government**

The struggle for the right to vote necessarily must be followed up with organizing and using the power of the ballot. Since one means of nonviolent social change is the political process, the Institute, though nonpartisan, is deeply involved in the pursuit of representative government, and particularly in developing political power for minorities. Thus, none of the Center's programs is more important than its work in voter registration, political education, and special services to insure democratic elections and voter turnout.

**Violence in the Society**

The Institute has begun to provide a unique and much-needed service to the nation: the study of violence in social institutions so that this growing problem can be effectively dealt with. The Institute has already begun this project by examining violence in the schools, with the assistance of Dr. Robert L. Green, Director of the Center for Urban Affairs at Michigan State University and a King Center board member. In cooperation with SCLC, we have also been involved in a study of violence in the Atlanta public schools.

The Institute is seeking concrete approaches to the problem of violence in American factories — a problem whose severity and extent are not widely known. The Institute intends to provide labor and management with information and personnel skilled in the techniques of nonviolence and reconciliation.

**Prison Reform**

One of the most urgently needed changes in America is prison reform — reform of a system which utterly degrades and dehumanizes its captives,



Mrs. King recently went to support Philadelphia hospital workers. Since 1968 she has been Honorary Chairman of organizing drive by National Union of Hospital & Nursing Home Employees.

and fails to offer them any preparation for a meaningful life upon their release. The Institute has been addressing itself to this problem in visits to prison by Mrs. King and other representatives, showing the film "KING: A Filmed Record... Montgomery to Memphis" in prisons, and projecting serious study to define prison reform and find ways to bring it about.

**Publications**

The Institute is developing a wide range of publications, in cooperation with the Center's Library Documentation Project. Now available, for example, are a booklet of major speeches at our 1971 conference on "Nonviolence in the 70's," and a compilation of five of Dr. King's most important speeches.

**Regional Centers, King Clubs, and King Fellowships**

The Institute is seeking working relationships with various universities and groups across the country, such as it already has with the Center for Urban Affairs at Michigan State University and the Washington Center of the Antioch Graduate School of Education. This kind of program can help educate young people on both the needs for social change and the ways to achieve it.

A related project is to organize Martin Luther King Clubs to involve students in the struggle for human rights.

The Institute also seeks the creation of a graduate-degree program, hopefully at a black institution, with Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowships for students who will combine scholarship and practical experience in some major field of social change. ■

**Contributions**

*I wish to contribute to the work of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change.*

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Center for Social Change  
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(All contributions are tax-deductible)