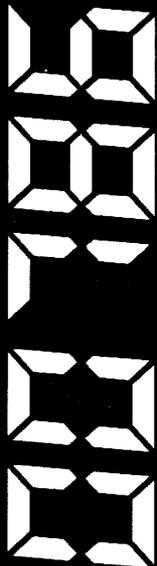


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Negro March on Washington Movement



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WAR DEPARTMENT

M. I. D.

MID 291.3
Negroes
3/30/43

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JYP

April 7, 1943.
(Date)

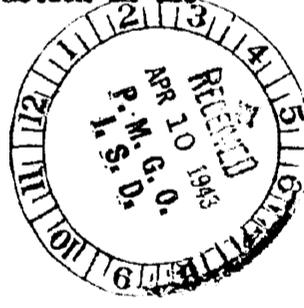
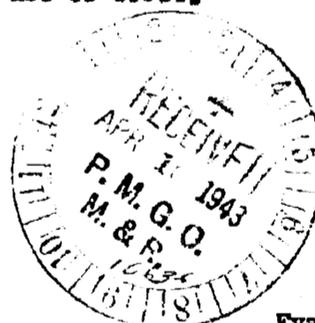
Subject: March on Washington Movement, Chicago, Illinois

Summary of Information:

It has been reported that the March on Washington Movement, supported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro Council, the Woodlawn Monthly Forum, and other Communist inspired Negro organizations has planned a civil disobedience and non-cooperation campaign which is to begin the first week in May, 1943.

Northern Negroes plan to boycott all concerns which employ Jim Crow tactics against the Negroes. They have been sending members to cafeterias where they think they will not be served. To date they have covered fifty per cent of the cafeterias in Chicago. A record is being kept of the results. Colored boys are being trained to be motormen on street cars. The March on Washington Movement intends to send colored boys to apply for jobs on street cars. If they are turned down, it is planned that picket lines will be employed to keep the street cars from leaving the barns.

Mr. Tarini P. Sinna, follower of Ghandi, has been visiting meetings of the March on Washington Movement where he has explained Ghandi's theories regarding civil disobedience. It has been reported that the Negroes are not actually in favor of the civil disobedience campaign without some retaliation. Informant believes that their action in the first week in May might entail the use of force.



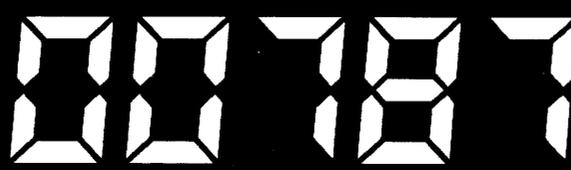
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MID 291.2
Negroes
6-9-42

WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

MIS/CI
JEP



September 17, 1942
(Date)

Subject: March on Washington Movement *080*

Summary of Information:

The New York Chapter of Subject organization held its bi-monthly meeting on August 26, 1942, and A. Philip Randolph and his assistant, Mr. McLaurin, were the principal speakers.

McLaurin reported on his recent trip through the South and conditions encountered and morale of Negro civilian population, particularly in Portsmouth, Virginia; Charleston, South Carolina; Jacksonville, Florida; Mobile, Alabama; New Orleans, Louisiana. He noted a new militant spirit among the Negroes in these cities and stated that the Negro has come to the realization that if he must fight abroad for democracy, he may as well fight for it at home, and he has determined to do that now rather than wait for a later date. He stated that he felt brewing what might well turn into a gigantic race conflict throughout the South. No longer would local police authorities be able to control the negro population by their methods of intimidation and mob violence.

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A. Philip Randolph outlined the curriculum for the organization for the immediate future, stating that on August 27 a meeting of the Executive Committee was to be called to plan a conference to take place about September 28 or 29 in Detroit, Michigan. Detroit was selected because at present there is no unit of the Movement there and it was thought that with the large Negro population in this area, the holding of such a council would stimulate organization of a chapter.

The Detroit conference is to be a policy-making meeting and a constitution for the national organization will be drawn up; election of officers will be held; and the policy of the Movement will be formed. Also plans will be laid for the calling of a national conference within the next two or three months.

At the Detroit meeting plans for recruiting new members for national membership will be worked out and over all of the cities of

Previous Distribution:
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SC's: 1,5,7,8,9.
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the United States will be organized block campaigns in which every block will be canvassed for members. Consideration will be given to forming marches on state capitals and city halls as well as on Washington, D. C.

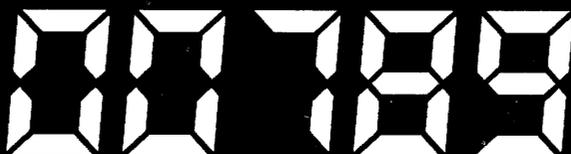
The New York Chapter is planning to conduct a survey of all Government offices in the Metropolitan area of New York City and conduct marches against those departments where no negroes are employed.

Randolph ended his speech by stating that the March on Washington Movement was going to demand that the United States support the people of India in their struggle for independence from Britain.

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291.2, Negroes,
7-21-42 (6-9-42)

WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

MIS/CI
JFP

July 21, 1942.
(Date)



Subject: March on Washington Movement

Summary of Information:

The latest advice is to the effect that the Washington, D.C., unit of the March on Washington Movement will sponsor a meeting at the Griffith Stadium on August 3, 1942. The purpose of the meeting as stated by Alexander Barnes of the Joint Citizens Committee, is the assertion of Negro rights and the preservation of their democracy "here at home".

The local Communist Party may be expected to support the March on Washington Movement, having changed its attitude accordingly, this being a confidential report of the statement of Martin Chancey, Secretary of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C.

One Calvin Cousins, Negro organizer for the Dry Cleaning and Laundry Workers Union, CIO, is reported to have been ordered by Chancey to work in the local unit of the March on Washington Movement. Chancey is reported to have made the remark that Cousins could influence the character of the program after he had started working "with them and helping on their committees". Chancey reportedly stated to Cousins that he wanted the Movement to avoid any "anti-war speakers".

Local officers of the March on Washington Movement are reported to be as follows:

Thurman L. Dodson
Lillian Speight
Rosena (Rosina) Tucker

Chairman, an attorney in the City of Washington.

Secretary-Treasurer of Ladies Auxiliary of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Reported listed in active indices of American Peace Mobilization and United American Spanish Relief Committee.

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ONI
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Wash.Mil.Dist.

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	Undetermined

July 21, 1942

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Frances Wells
S. Lester Perry
Amanda Gray Hilyer

A Mrs. Amanda G. Hilyer, 1833 Vermont Ave., N.W., was listed on active indices of American Peace Mobilization. A Dr. Amanda V. Gray Hilyer, 1833 Vermont Ave. N.W., was listed on active indices of United American Spanish Aid Committee; and Dr. Amanda G.V. Hilyer was listed with Washington Book Shop Association, as well as being listed on membership list of Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

W.C. Hueston

Attorney, 1914-14th St. N.W., Apt. 7, Washington, D. C.

Perry W. Howard

Attorney, 613 F. St., N.W.

James E. Scott

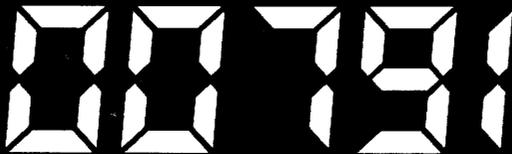
1260 Irving St., N.E. Listed on active indices of American Peace Mobilization as well as on Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

James C. Arnold

Executive Secretary of 12th Street Y.M.C.A., Washington, D.C.

Natalie Norman

2501 South Second Street, Arlington, Virginia, reported to be Communist sympathizer. Listed on active indices of Washington Committee for Democratic Action, American Peace Mobilization, and National Negro Congress.



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MID 291.2 Negroes (6-26-42) WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

MIS/OI
JTP



July 9, 1942 (Date)

Subject: March on Washington Movement

Summary of Information:

A study of the St. Louis weekly Negro Newspapers, ST. LOUIS ARGUS and the ST. LOUIS AMERICAN for the period May 14, 1942 through May 29, 1942, has revealed that the March on Washington Movement has gathered impetus and has developed into a nationally important pressure group, fostered by a militant Negro press.

A demonstration, believed to be a prelude to a March on Washington, took place June 20, 1942 in the vicinity of the St. Louis Ordnance Plant, St. Louis, Missouri. It was attended by approximately 300 Negroes, and appeared to be led by Richard B. Jefferson, clerk of the Urban League of St. Louis. No disorder or violence was observed in the parade, placards of which protested against the discrimination against Negroes in national defense industry.

Inquiries made on June 27, 1942 at the office of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People and also at the office of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, both in New York City, concerning the proposed March on Washington, revealed that no definite march on Washington was contemplated, but that a mass meeting in the District of Columbia, similar to previous mass meetings in New York City and Chicago, would be held.

The Chicago, Illinois, meeting, June 26, 1942, was attended by approximately 8,260 persons. Admission was free. There were no threats or indications of any violence. Charles Wesley Burton, who addressed the meeting and identified himself as the permanent Chairman of the Chicago Division of the March on Washington Movement, commented that he knew that FBI agents were present in the throng. There were no indications at the meeting that an actual march on the City of Washington would take place. With respect to the Chicago Division of the March on Washington Movement, there are indications that the Communist Party in that area is presently

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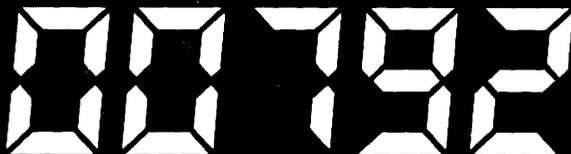
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presently supporting this group in attempting to gain leadership of it. Communist Party literature was distributed at the meeting. It is reported that the Communist Party, District 8, advanced the money to finance the Chicago meeting.

The attitude of the Trotskyite Workers Party toward the March on Washington Movement, as reflected in the June 8, 1942 issue of LABOR ACTION, official party organ, is one of hot encouragement, criticizing the Movement only because of the apparent reluctance of its leaders to arouse "real mass pressure."

The Trotskyite Socialist Workers Party, through its official organ, THE MILITANT, June 27, 1942, likewise attacks Randolph for his timid efforts to secure concessions from the Administration, but supports the Movement itself. The pertinent article, styled, "The Stalinists Betray the Negro Struggle", claims that the Communist Party is opposing the March on Washington because "their line on the Negro question as on everything else, is determined by the Stalin bureaucracy in Moscow, which is concerned only with protecting its own interests."

Two meetings, the Trade Union and Negro Peoples Victory Conference, New York City, June 27, 1942, and the Negro Labor Victory Committee Meeting, New York City, June 28, 1942, are reported to be part of a program by the Communist Party to counteract the influence of the March on Washington Movement.

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MID 291.2, Negroes,
(6/9-18-26/42)

WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

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NIP 770120

WARS. Date 10/17/77 July 2, 1942.
(Date)

Subject: March on Washington Movement

Summary of Information:

Background of Movement

The present March on Washington Movement has as its origin a reportedly anti-Communist group of Negroes who separated themselves from the National Negro Congress, a reported Communist organization, in April, 1940. During the latter part of 1940 this group of Negroes met with A. Philip Randolph, head of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and decided to plan an organization for an actual march on Washington to be carried out during the Spring of 1941. Original purposes of the organization were as follows:

1. To present in the American way the grievances of the Negro people to the President of the United States and the Congress.
2. Inclusion of the Negro in the eight-point Atlantic Charter.
3. Stop the exploitation of Negro grievances by Communists and other subversive elements.

The earlier March on Washington was abandoned by A. Philip Randolph upon receipt by him of a letter from the President requesting delay of such action. When the March was called off, the Communist elements of the organization were reported to be very angry and tried to oust Randolph and proceed with the March. Later the officers and executive members of the organization were reported to have purged the movement of Communists and Communist sympathizers.

Since then, Negroes have been increasingly vigorous in using war conditions as an excuse for pressing social demands, the campaign being aimed mainly at the Army and Navy.

Previous Distribution:
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The Kansas City, Missouri, Call, a Negro Newspaper, reported on April 17, 1942, that Walter F. White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and A. Philip Randolph of the International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, had met to discuss plans for a series of nationwide meetings centering around the Negro problem, the chief of which was planned for Washington about July 4. The conference was said to be an outgrowth of the March on Washington idea and called for gigantic meetings for Chicago and New York.

Purposes

The purposes of the March on Washington Movement, as announced in THE AGE, Negro paper in New York City, June 13, 1942, in an article entitled, "Land of the Noble Free", by Layle Lane, is as follows:

"1. We demand in the interest of national unity, the abrogation of every law which makes a distinction in treatment between citizens based on religion, creed, color, or national origin. This means an end to Jim Crow in education, in housing, in transportation and in every other social, economic and political privilege; and especially, we demand, in the capital of the nation an end to all segregation in public places and in public institutions.

"2. We demand legislation to enforce the 5th and 14th amendments guaranteeing that no persons shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law so that the full weight of the national government may be used for the protection of life and thereby may end the disgrace of lynching.

"3. We demand the enforcement of the 14th and 15th amendments and enactment of the Pepper Poll Tax Bill so that all barriers in the exercise of the suffrage are eliminated.

"4. We demand the abolition of segregation and discrimination in the Army, Marine Corps, Air Corps and all other branches of national defense.

"5. We demand an end to discrimination in jobs and job training. Further, we demand that the Fair Employment Practice Committee be made a permanent administration agency of the United States Government by legislative sanction and that it be given power to enforce its decisions based on its findings.

"6. We demand that federal funds be withheld from any agency which practices discrimination in the use of such funds.

"7. We demand a Negro cabinet member and representation of minority racial groups in the United States on all administrative jobs.

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agencies so that these groups may have recognition of their democratic right to participate in formulating policies.

"8. We demand representation for the Negro and minority racial groups on all missions, political and technical, which will be sent to the peace conference so that the interests of all people everywhere may be fully recognized and justly provided for in the postwar settlement.

Officers

The officers of the March on Washington Movement are reported to be as follows:

A. Philip Randolph, National Director
Lawrence M. Ervin, President
Bessye J. Beardsen, Vice-Chairman
J. Victor Cools, Vice-Chairman
E. E. Williams, Vice-Chairman
James C. Thomas, Secretary
Princess Wynder, Corresponding Secretary
Aldrich Turner, Treasurer
Perry Ferguson, Secretary of Membership

Executive Committee:

George Cannon	Perry Ferguson	Thelma Haylock
Layle Lane	Louise McDonald	Pearl Morton
Frances Townsend	Rachel Corrothers	Quentin R. Hand
Emma Keith	Blanche Lee	B. F. McLaurin
Channing Tobias	Princess Wynder	

Legal Committee:

Bardlie John	James C. Thomas	Sarah P. Speaks
Harold Stevens	Cornelius McDonald, Jr.	

Labor Committee - New York Division:

B. F. McLaurin, Chairman
Edith Hanson, Secretary
Aldrich Turner, Treasurer
Noah C. A. Walters, Co-Chairman
Charlotte Abelman, Laundry Workers Union CIO
Benjamin Benton, Retail Grocery and Clerks Local 338 CIO
Theodore Burton, Theatre and Amusement Service Local 54 AFL
Dick Campbell, Negro Actors' Guild
Sylvester L. Corrothers, U.T.S.E.A.
Frank R. Crosswaith, Negro Labor Committee
Winifred Gittens, Blouse and Waist Makers Local 25, I.L.G.W.U.
Theodore Jackson, Dining Car Employees Local 370 AFL

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Manning Johnson, Bar and Grill Employees Local 341 CIO
Layle Lane, American Federation of Teachers Local 2
Claude Mason, Dining Car Employees Committee
E. P. Nolan, Harlem Transit Employees Committee
Esra L. Parrott, Local 501 U.T.S.E.A.
Eldica Riley, Dressmakers Local 22 I.L.G.W.U.
Ralph Redmond, Musicians Local 802 AFL
Ashley Totten, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
E. E. Williams, Blasters and Drill Runners Local 29 AFL
Thomas Young, Building Service Employees Local 32 B, AFL

National Committee (Labor)

Walter White	Rev. Wm. Lloyd Imes	Layle Lane
Dr. Rayford Logan	A. Philip Randolph	T. Jackson
A. Clayton Powell, Jr.	Lester B. Granger	Richard Parrish
Frank R. Crosswaith	Henry K. Craft	J. Finley Wilson
E. F. McLaurin	E. E. Williams	

Sponsoring Organizations

The following organizations are stated to be supporting the March on Washington Movement:

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Manhattan Central Medical Association
Negro Labor Committee
Friends of Negro Labor
Negro Welfare League of Jamaica, New York
National Urban League
American Virgin Islands Civic Association
Hotel Belmans Beneficial Association
United Sons of Georgia, Incorporated
United Negro League of Queens
St. Vincent Benevolent League
Baptists Ministerial Council

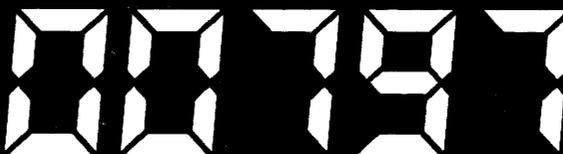
Headquarters

The headquarters of the March on Washington Movement is located in the Hotel Theresa, 2084 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

Membership

The New York Division of the March on Washington Movement is reported to have a membership of well over 1,200 persons and attempts are being made to secure additional members. The membership fee is stated to be ten cents. Membership is limited strictly to Negroes. It was reported confidentially that at a recent meeting a small group of white persons attended but were politely advised their presence was

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not desired. Meetings of this organization are stated to be held regularly each Wednesday night at the Y.M.C.A., 185th Street, Harlem. It has been reported that approximately 200 persons attend each meeting. Extent of membership in other cities is as yet undetermined.

Finances

It has been reported that the finances of the Movement come entirely from contributions made by members and affiliated organizations. During the first part of April, 1942, approximately \$1,500 had been collected by the organization and further attempts were being made to raise a total of \$6,000 which was contemplated to have been used for the mass meeting held at Madison Square Garden, June 16, 1942.

A. Philip Randolph expected to collect \$25,000 at the Chicago meeting on June 26. The extent of realized contributions has not been ascertained.

Program

In connection with the March on Washington, Randolph plans a "blackout" whereby every business in the Negro communities should be closed, all churches closed, all homes with their window shades pulled down, and the various social and recreational activities of the communities completely stopped for an all-out descent of Negroes upon white New York, White Chicago, and white Washington.

The following plan of action is announced as a part of the program of the March on Washington Movement as announced in THE AGE, Negro paper in New York City, June 13, 1942, in an article entitled, "Land of the Noble Free", by Layle Lane.

"1. Publicity in Negro press; similar publicity in white press under caption: Wake up, white America!

"2. Post card, and letter campaign to the President, to all Governors and Congressmen to secure their support of the program, committees to wait on each for the same purpose.

"3. Campaign to introduce eight-point program into both white and Negro clubs, churches, fraternal organizations and especially labor unions to secure their endorsement and support.

"4. Intensive drive during summer and fall to get out the Negro vote to make sure that we use our ballot as a weapon in our behalf.

"5. Poll of all Congressional candidates on our eight-point program and publicity on their replies.

"6. Cooperation with other organizations in instituting a suit to cut down the representation in Congress of states which dis-

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franchises voters in accordance with the following section of the 14th amendment, "when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, for Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a state, or the members of the Legislature thereof is denied to any male inhabitant or in any way abridged... the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of male citizens bear to the whole number."

"7. Campaign among Negro workers to acquaint them with the necessity of securing the technical training needed for defense jobs; Where the training is not given to force the withholding of federal funds till training is made available to Negroes; to use collective bargaining, picketing and boycott of firms which continue to discriminate in hiring workers."

Miscellaneous Sympathetic Movements

The Baltimore, Maryland, AFRO-AMERICAN, Negro newspaper, reported on April 25, 1942, a mass meeting in Baltimore, led by Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., and attended by some 1200 persons. It advocated a program, March on Annapolis. Powell is quoted as saying: "We have gotten up enough nerve to march on Annapolis and we don't give a damn what happens. We believe it is better to die fighting for freedom than to live a slave." A Lillie M. Jackson, President of the local National Association for Advancement of Colored People who presided, presented Carl Murphy, chairman of the Citizens Committee for Justice, composed of 150 organizations which were sponsoring the March. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, director of the Committee, made an appeal for money to finance the trip, to pay for necessary busses, trains and cars.

The PITTSBURGH COURIER, Negro paper, June 20, 1942, reported that Jessie L. Vann, Brooklyn Realtor, had issued a call to all borough residents to withdraw deposit money in savings banks for an all-out offensive against the policy of the banks of refusing to loan mortgaged money in Negro sectors. Date for the march of the Brevoort was set for July 15, 1942.

Said Vann: "This movement, I am confident, will show every savings bank in the city of New York that Negroes are tired of un-democratic practices, not only in the Third Reich, but also in the First National... This is a national problem. The community of Brooklyn will have the honor of showing the country how to lick it. If we can do it here, public-spirited real estate men, tax-payers and civic groups can do it throughout the length and breadth of the United States."

The March on Washington Movement has assumed as a special project the release of Odell Waller, Negro share-cropper who has been

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condemned to the electric chair for killing a white landlord. Governor Darden of Virginia refused to commute Waller's sentence and the Workers Defense League appointed a committee to call on President Roosevelt to appoint an investigating committee for the case. The Workers Defense League Committee consisted of the following:

A. Philip Randolph, president of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Walter White, Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Frank Crosswaith, Chairman of Negro Labor Committee of Harlem and a member of the New York City Housing Authority.

Layle Lane, Vice President of the American Federation of Teachers.

Channing Tobias of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A.
Elmer Carter, Editor of the Negro magazine, "Opportunity".

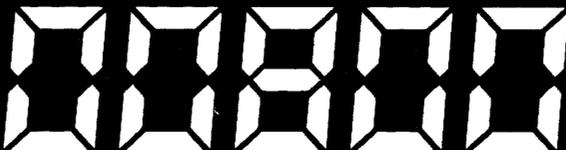
The National Negro Associations seeking a stay of execution for Odell Waller, has abandoned hope of a last-minute intervention by President Roosevelt and in a statement, the Associations said Waller's death will "stab in the back a group of people who are asked to defend their country, but whom the leaders of their country will not defend."

New York Meeting

The AMSTERDAM NEWS STAR, Negro paper in New York City, June 6, 1942, endorsed the March on Washington Movement, and stated that 50,000 Negroes were expected to attend the New York Meeting on June 16, 1942. The actual attendance was estimated as 17,000. The meeting was held June 16 at the Madison Square Garden, New York City. The following individuals spoke at this meeting: Dr. Lawrence Ervin, Chairman; Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Director of Negro Youth Division of the National Youth Administration; Reverend A. Clayton Powell, Jr., member of the New York City Council; Reverend John La Farge, Associate Editor of AMERICA; Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Director of Negro Division of the Y.M.C.A.; Frank R. Crosswaith, Chairman, Negro Labor Committee; Walter White, Executive Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Reverend W. O. Carrington, President, African American Methodist Episcopal Church of Zion Ministers Alliance of New York City; Lester B. Granger, Executive Director, National Urban League; and Dr. O. Clay Maxwell, Pastor, Mount Olivet Baptist Church; Arthur Reid, organizer, 125th Street Job Campaign.

The crowd included a sprinkling of whites and a few persons in Army uniform. A series of sketches called, "The Watchword is Forward" were presented by a professional Negro cast. The Reverend A. Clayton Powell, Jr., and Frank R. Crosswaith are mentioned as particularly forceful and effective speakers. The Reverend John La Farge, S.J., was the only white speaker. Randolph proposed several resolutions, one being a resolution for a division of mixed troops in the United States Army. Speakers pointed out that there could be no lasting peace

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unless Indians, Ethiopians, Africans, and the Negroes sat in at the peace table. The aforementioned sketches were inflammatory and verged on the seditious, pointing up alleged racial discrimination in the United States Navy and in the operation of the Selective Service Act.

The New York JOURNAL AND AMERICAN, June 18, 1942, reported that Mayor La Guardia had approved the March on Washington Movement at the June 16 rally at Madison Square Garden.

Chicago Meeting

The Chicago mass meeting of the March on Washington Movement, held in the Coliseum, Chicago, was attended by over 10,000 Negroes protesting alleged discrimination by the Government against members of their race serving in the armed forces and in defense industries.

The Chicago DAILY NEWS, June 27, 1942, reporting the meeting of the day before, quoted A. Philip Randolph as saying, "The Negroes are going to march on Washington and not care what happens unless Jim Crowism is stopped." Walter White, another of the speakers, is reported to have said: "The principles of the Atlantic Charter must be made applicable to the brown, yellow, and black people of the Orient to win our aid."

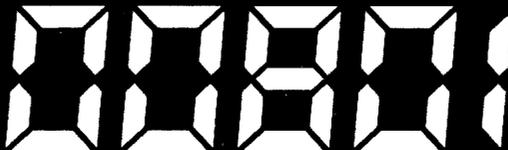
Handbills had been distributed several days before announcing that between 9 and 10 P.M. of June 26, 1942, there would be a blackout in the colored area, with an organization of teen-age Negro boys to enforce the blackout, by force if necessary. Contrary to the expectation of informants, no violence attended the meeting nor was there any wholesale looting in connection with the blackout.

On June 21, 1942, about 50 members of the Youth Squadron of the March on Washington Committee, staged a parade in Chicago. It is believed that the parade was handled by a James Weldon Johnson of the Youth Council of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People.

Extent of Communist Influence

The attitude of the Communist Party toward the March on Washington Movement has changed from one of discouragement and opposition to one of collaboration, if not active support. This support has been accepted by leaders of the March on Washington Movement, although Randolph has publicly disclaimed any such connection and has even attacked Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, as a "red" for consenting to address a mass meeting of the Negro Labor Victory Committee in Harlem, June 28, 1942, which Randolph regarded as part of a Communist-inspired counter movement.

The Communist Party policy at present, however, seems to be its characteristic one of "boring from within" in an attempt to control



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and direct the policy of the March on Washington Movement through a dominant Party faction.

The Chicago DAILY NEWS, June 27, 1942, reported a meeting supplementary to the Coliseum mass meeting held the evening before. The meeting on June 27 was in connection with the Midwest Conference on the Negro and the War, and was held by the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. This conference was reported by the Chicago HERALD TRIBUNE of June 27, 1942, to have taken place at the Hotel Sherman and to be sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Speakers were: Barnet Hodes, Ira Latimer, Howard Mayer, Herbert Agar, John J. Guteknecht, and Al Foster. The conference prepared four demands to place before the country: Right to equality in the armed forces in assignments and promotions, the right to get and hold war industry jobs, the right to participate in the government through ballot, and the general right to participation in world democracy.

Possible March on Washington

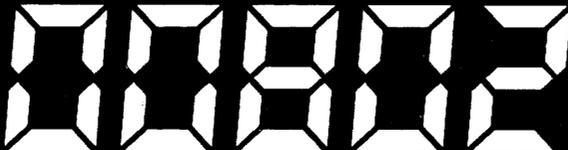
The actual probability of a Negro march on Washington, D.C., remains undetermined.

On June 5, 1942, information was received that there would be such a march on Washington about the 4th of July, to assemble at the Griffith Stadium, Washington, D.C. Major Key, superintendent of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., has stated that he has no information concerning plans for the march. A. Philip Randolph has said that Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, has denied permission for the Movement to use the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., for the mass meeting, and that the Committee is negotiating for lease of the Washington Ball Park, and if unable to secure this lease, would hold the rally in Logan Circle, Washington, D.C. That such a march is expected by the local Negroes is indicated by a report of the regular meeting, June 28, 1942, of the Negro organization, Temple of Allah, #4, 1527 - 9th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. At this meeting the coming "March on Washington" was hailed with warm approval. No definite information on the intended march, however, was given out.

There is a report that Randolph and other leaders actually do not contemplate a march on the City of Washington and that the Movement is being used for the personal gain and national recognition of some of the leaders. There is also an opinion of some weight that Randolph is merely creating a situation in hope of a request by the President or someone in the White House to abandon the project and by doing so, to secure political favor. The St. Louis ARGUS, Negro paper, June 12, 1942, claimed that the name, "March on Washington", was being retained because it was known and respected, but that no actual march on the capital city was planned to take place during the war.

- 9 -

SECRET



SECRET

There is a further report of June 19, 1942, that no actual march on Washington is being contemplated, but that the National headquarters of the movement is planning a large meeting to take place in Washington, D.C., at some unspecified date.

On June 22, 1942, before dawn, in Meridian Park, three shots were fired and apparently a gathering of Negroes took place in that vicinity. At the same time, in the general neighborhood, a small crowd of thirty or forty white people assembled. It was reported that members of the police force were disinclined to intervene, and that the white group threatened to go in and clean out the Negro gathering. This is regarded as being indicative of present strained relations existing at present between white and colored elements in the District, and evidence of what may materialize should the threatened Negro March on Washington take place.

A. Philip Randolph

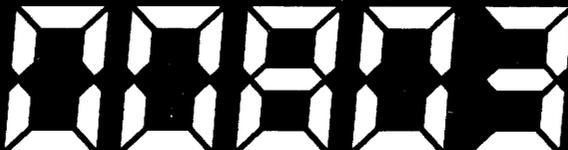
A. Philip Randolph has the following background: Sponsor, Emergency Peace Campaign, 1936, which was the fore-runner of the American Peace Mobilization; chairman, Labor League for Thomas and Nelson (Socialist); national president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; member, sponsoring committee, 1936, testimonial dinner to Norman Thomas; sponsor, 1937, for mass celebration in honor of "Mother" Bloor (alleged mother of Communism in the United States); president, National Negro Congress, 1937; member, sponsoring committee, Second World Youth Congress; editor of the MESSENGER, allegedly radical Negro magazine; member, Scottsboro Defense Committee; sponsor, National Share Croppers Week, held under the auspices of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, 1939.

Thurman L. Dodson

A committee is reported to exist in Washington, headed by a Negro attorney named Dodson, with offices on F Street, possibly a part of the Movement headed by Randolph. Thurman L. Dodson, attorney with offices at 615 F Street, N.W., was a member of the presiding committee, National Negro Congress. He held this position at the same period when A. Philip Randolph was President of the organization. Dodson, in August, 1931, relative to an alleged assault upon two police officers by one Henry Johnson, a Negro, stated that he had advised all members of his race in the Ninth Precinct of the Metropolitan Police Department, to resist all efforts of the police and to resort to weapons.

Previous Military Preparations

At the time of the unmaterialized March on Washington in 1941, the G-2 of the Third Corps Area, in cooperation with the G-2, Second Corps Area, made arrangements to cover such a march completely until



SECRET

such time as it should reach the District Line; to secure exact information as to the numbers and exact time of departure of the New York contingent, which was expected to be the largest and most radically-minded of the columns; to establish liaison with all appropriate agencies, maintain a situation map in the Third Corps Area office; receive reports at a minimum of once an hour on the subject; and to cover the main highways into Washington in such manner that before the arrival of any groups of automobiles the names of the owners of the automobiles would be supplied the War Department; together with any available information concerning these owners.

- 11 -
~~**SECRET**~~

00004

7-1-41

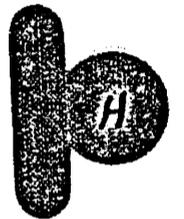
On the 7:30 A.M. July 1 newscast, Arthur Godfrey made the following statement.

The Negro march on Washington is staging a victory rally at Lincoln Memorial 8:00 P.M. July 1, 1941, in celebration with President Roosevelt's decision *to* ~~to~~ *against* discrimination in defense activities in regard to race, color, creed, etc.

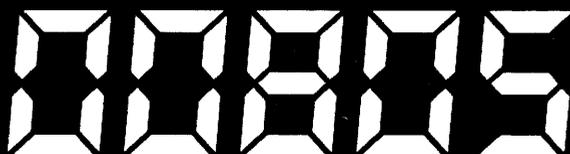
Commanding General, Washington Provisional Brigade has the situation in hand and considers use of troops will not be necessary.

Order in the vicinity of Lincoln memorial is the responsibility of Park Police who will be on the job, and also the metropolitan police who have reserves standing by.

Major LaGuardia of New York will address the negro assemblage about 8:00 P.M.



*noted
ESW
7-1-41*



CONFIDENTIAL
WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

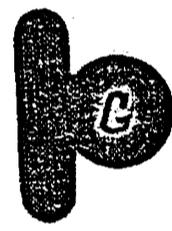
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
3-2 10218-463
JUN 30 1941
WAR DEPARTMENT
WCG/td
Headquarters Second Corps Area

June 27, 1941
(Date)

Subject: **NEGRO MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND DEFENSE JOBS.**

Summary of Information:

1. It has been reported to this office that the MARCH proposed for July 1, 1941 on Washington by Negro organizations has been cancelled.
2. The news to that effect was also published this date in the "Daily Worker" and other local newspapers.



For the A. C. of S., G-2:

S. V. CONSTANT,
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,
Executive Officer, G-2.

M.I.D. DISTRIBUTION: G-2 ✓
FBI

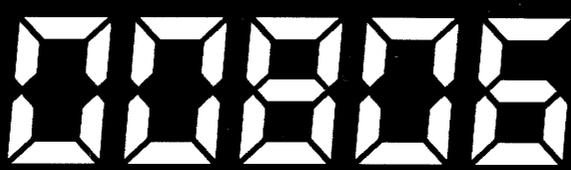
WW/ceh 7/1/41
Distribution:

3 copies: G-2, W.D. ✓
1 copy G-2, 3rd CA

Evaluation	
-of source	-of information
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reliable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credible
<input type="checkbox"/>	Questionable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Undetermined

CONFIDENTIAL

16-17007 GPO



HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS AREA
UNITED STATES ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF G-2
BALTIMORE MARYLAND

JUN 27 1941

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEN. DIV.

10218-463

WAR DEPARTMENT

III-1870
(I)

June 26, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Negro "March" on Washington

To: Assistant Chief of Staff G-2, War Department, Washington, D. C.

1. Reference is made to AGO letter, dated June 12, 1941, file AG 350.05 (6-10-41)MC-B-M, subject, Submission of Estimate of Subversive Activities.

2. This office is advised through the columns of the "Daily Worker" and other confidential sources, that a movement of negroes on Washington, described as a "march" is shaping up for arrival in the Capital on or about July 1, 1941. No present estimate of the exact number of persons who will be involved in this "march" is as yet available to this office. Reports of uncertain reliability suggest that there might be several thousand. The same reports expect the group to be in an aggressive mood.

3. This office is of the opinion that such an estimate of the situation is probably exaggerated. It is felt that the moving force behind any such mass action to embarrass the government is the Communist Party, and it is believed that the action of the Administration in coming out for assistance to Russia is likely to confuse the issue for American Communists to such a point that much of the driving force will be lost. As for the temper of the marchers, even the Communists appear to be in some doubt as to whether a sufficiently grim mood can be maintained, for the "Daily Worker" of June 23, 1941 says "participants in the march should be on guard against any attempt to make this demonstration a pro-Roosevelt, pro-war rally."

4. Nevertheless whatever the scale and temper of the "march," this office is planning to cover it completely from now until such time as it may reach the District of Columbia line. The enclosed message ~~has been~~ has been sent to the Second Corps Area, in confidential code, in an attempt to secure information as to the numbers and time of departure of the New York contingent, which is expected to be the largest and most radically-minded of the columns. The Acting Commanding Officer of the C.I.P. Detachment has been assigned exclusively to covering this matter and he will establish appropriate liaison with all the agencies with which this office is in close cooperation to make certain that no important part of the movement, whether it proceeds by road or by rail, will escape the observation of agents or agencies reporting into this office. The negro member of the G.I.P. will be employed from now on until the situation is clarified in such a fashion as to supply this office, and through it the War Department, with a reliable check on the temper of the most important group headed for Washington.

FBI M.I.D. DISTRIBUTION
G-3

WH/ceh 6/27/41

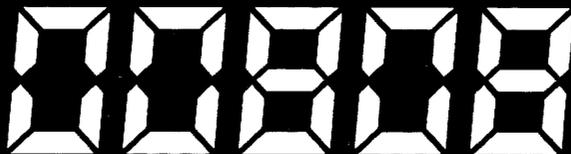
Subject: Negro "March" on Washington

5. A G-2 situation map will be maintained at this office, with arrangements being made for frequent reports to keep it up to date until the night of June 30, 1941. Thereafter, during June 30 and July 1, 1941, reports will come in at a minimum of once an hour, and this office will be in a position to supply the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff G-2, War Department, with the more important details of those reports at any time of the day or night over that period. Measures are being taken to cover the main highways into Washington in such a fashion and at such points that before the arrival of groups of automobiles, the names of the owners of those automobiles will be supplied the War Department, together with any information which this office may have on the individuals named.

6. It is requested that any information now in the hands of the War Department respecting this movement, which may be of assistance to this office in carrying out the above mission be supplied in detail as soon as possible, and that further information received be transmitted without delay.

1 Encl.
Coded teletype

THEODORE ASTER
Lt. Col., U. S.
Acting A. C. of S., G-2



CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT

M. I. D.

negro

JUN 30 1941
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTEL. DIV.
10218-463
WAR DEPARTMENT
LOP/rpd

Headquarters Second Corps Area

June 26, 1941
(Date)

Subject: **NEGRO RACE MOBILIZATION MARCH ON WASHINGTON.**

Summary of Information:

1. Reliable information reaching this office indicates that a march to Washington will definitely take place as scheduled on Tuesday, July 1, 1941. It is planned that as many organizations as possible will take part. Most of the transportation is to be furnished by private auto, bus, and for those who can afford it, train. Plans are being made for a large group to walk from Baltimore to Washington and some plan to walk from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, scene of Lincoln's address, to Washington.
2. The plan appears to be gaining adherents all over the country and large groups are expected to converge on the Capital from all sections of the United States. The march is being supported by the Communists, Socialists, and Socialist-Workers parties as well as by the National Negro Congress, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and many lesser organizations.
3. It is reported that there is a possibility that the March may be called off because of some dissension among members of the Committee. However, there has been no official announcement of any decision to call it off.
4. Any further information obtained will be promptly forwarded. The above is transmitted for your information.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2:

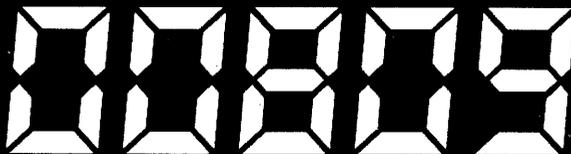
S. V. CONSTANT
Lt. Col., G. S. C.
Executive Officer, G-2

M.I.D. DISTRIBUTION: G-5
FBI
NW/csh 7/1/41
Distribution:
2 copies, G-2, 3d CA
3 copies, G-2, W.D.
1 copy, DIO, 3d ID, NY
1 copy, FBI, HI

Evaluation	
-of source	-of information
_____	Reliable ✓
_____	Credible
_____	Questionable
_____	Undetermined

CONFIDENTIAL

16-17097 GPO



WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING DIVISION, G-3
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SECRET

G-3/6230-29

June 24, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL OTT:

Subject: Negro march on Washington, about July 1, 1941.

1. Information available on subject obtained from two sources, MID resume of newspaper reports and Captain Walker, Intelligence Officer, Fort Myer, Virginia.

2. Resume newspaper accounts, see Tab A.

Negroes plan march on Washington, July 1, 1941. This demonstration for purpose of presenting negro demands for their share of jobs, equal rights, and for influencing action on anti-poll, anti-lynch, and anti-discrimination law. Communist party apparently trying to dominate the situation and convert march to a communist outlook.

3. Resume Captain Walker's statements, see Tab B.

Colonel Starling (White House) in conference with Col. Smith (Washington Provisional Brigade) stated information on march evidently substantiated by advance railroad ticket sales to negroes. That the Commanding Officer Washington Provisional Brigade is taking precautions to prevent race riots or any other trouble.

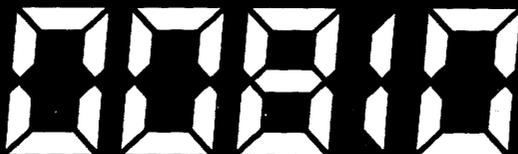
4. The radio to Commanding General, Second Army, directing one Battalion, 29th Division to be subject to call of Commanding Officer Washington Provisional Brigade, attached hereto.


C. H. SCHABACKER,
Major, General Staff Corps.

noted
ESO

SECRET

Return to G-3 for file.



OPERATIONS BRANCH
G-3 Division
WDGS

*2nd
Group*

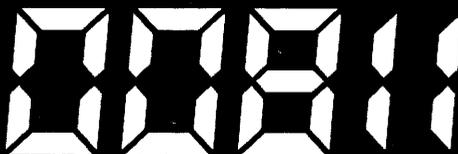
6/26

<u> </u> Lt. Col. Ott	<u><i>ew</i></u>
<u> </u> Lt. Col. Campbell	<u> </u>
<u>2</u> Lt. Col. Shelton	<u><i>m. f. c. c.</i></u>
<u> </u> Major Kutschko	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Fitts	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Hughes	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Bixby	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Dalbey	<u> </u>
<u>1</u> Major Schabacker	<u><i>noted ew</i></u>
<u> </u> Major Hodes	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Horne	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Major Pearson	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Captain Humphries	<u> </u>
<u> </u> Captain Stoebe	<u> </u>

Chief of Branch.

*Copy prepared to
file this in
my E.P.W. file.*

9



G-3 DIVISION, WDGS

JUN 26 1941

- Chief, Operations Branch
- Chief, Training Branch
- Chief, Mobilization Branch
- Chief, Miscellaneous Branch
- Chief, Civil Defense Branch
- Chief, Planning Branch
- Executive Officer, G-3
- Chief Clerk, G-3

In a conference attended by Gen Bryden, Col Gordon & al. complete instructions were given to Col Gordon as to how situation would be handled

Gen Bryden gave Col Gordon a personal note to Gen Reckord (with copy) to make available 1 day from on call

no further action required by G-3 for the time being
1941

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE, SECRETARY, GENERAL STAFF

DISPOSITION SLIP

Subject of paper: _____

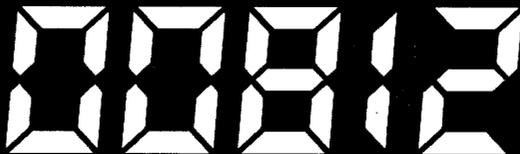
To	TALLY No.	DATE
Office, The Asst Sec. of War	20504-52	
Adm. Ass't S/W		
A. C. of S., G-1		
A. C. of S., G-2		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. C. of S., G-3		6/26/41
A. C. of S., G-4		
A. C. of S., W. P. D.		
The Adjutant General		
Budget & Legislative Planning Branch		
Statistics Branch		
Executive for Reserve Affairs		

- For—
- Necessary action.
 - Preparation of study.
 - Note and return.
 - Remark and recommendation.
 - Comment or concurrence.
 - Inviting attention to (notation/direction) of Sec. War D. C. of S.
 - Draft of reply.
 - Direct reply.
 - Note and file.
 - File.
 - Signature.

By direction of D. C. of S.

ORLANDO WARD

WAR DEPARTMENT Col. General Staff
O. C. of S.—Form No. 3-10116
Secretary, General Staff



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

To
G-3 (Gen Tompkins) 6/25/41

Radio not used but
the gist thereof telephoned
to C/S, First Army (2nd)

He was told not to
send word down to
the 29th, through Corps
or otherwise, but that

Col Gordon would see
Gen Richardson about

the matter and any
necessary arrangements
would be made

by them. Col. Gordon should
see me before going to Omaha.

OTB

SECRET

Operations & Training Division 3-3

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING DIVISION, G-3
WASHINGTON, D. C.

6-24-41 Date
E.S.O. Initial

G-3/6230-29

June 24, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Temporary domestic disturbance employment
one Infantry Battalion, 29th Division.

The Secretary of War directs:

I. That a secret radiogram be sent to the Commanding General,
First Army, substantially as follows:

agm desired
REQUEST ONE INFANTRY BATTALION, ~~COMMA~~ WITH
MOTOR TRANSPORT, ~~COMMA~~ TWENTY NINTH DIVISION, ~~COMMA~~ BE
MADE SUBJECT TO THE IMMEDIATE CALL OF ~~THE~~ COMMANDING
OFFICER WASHINGTON PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ~~COMMA~~ FOR
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE EMPLOYMENT VICINITY WASHINGTON
D C. PERIOD ~~THE~~ DETAILS FOR SPECIAL TRAINING AND
EMPLOYMENT OF THIS UNIT, ~~COMMA~~ TO BE AS MUTUALLY ARRANGED
BETWEEN COMMANDING OFFICER WASHINGTON PROVISIONAL BRIGADE
AND COMMANDING GENERAL TWENTY NINTH DIVISION. ~~END~~

JUN 24 1941



RECEIVED
W. P. SUB SECTION

II. That the Commanding Generals Third Corps Area, 29th Division,
and Commanding Officer, Washington Provisional Brigade be informed of
this action.

NOT USED

47 A G O

JUN 24 1941

Received
4:30 PM

JUN 24 1941

HARRY L. TWADDLE,
Brigadier General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

BY:

W. E. Chambers

W. E. CHAMBERS,
Lt. Col., General Staff,
Executive.

(See next page For Record Only.)

SECRET

603/20504-52

47
of 370.6

(6-24-41)
B-1



SECRET

G-3/6230-29; Memo TAG (6-24-41) Subject: Temporary domestic disturbance employment one Infantry Battalion, 29th Division.

For Record only.

Newspaper and MID reports indicate Negro march on Washington, D. C. about July 1, 1941.

Commanding Officer, Washington Provisional Brigade has verbally requested Deputy Chief of Staff (General Bryden) for one additional battalion to prepare for any domestic disturbance that may result.

Request of Commanding Officer Washington Provisional Brigade approved. The Battalion of Infantry to be taken from the 29th Division Fort Meade, Maryland.

Radio instructions prepared as directed by General Twaddle.

SECRET

- 2 -

JUN 24 1941

00015

SECRET

G-3/6230-29

June 24, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL OTT:

Subject: Negro march on Washington, about July 1, 1941.

1. Information available on subject obtained from two sources, MID resume of newspaper reports and Captain Walker, Intelligence Officer, Fort Myer, Virginia.

2. Resume newspaper accounts, see Tab A.

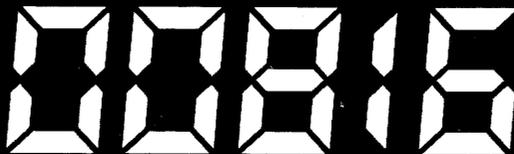
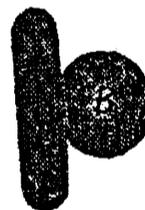
Negroes plan march on Washington, July 1, 1941. This demonstration for purpose of presenting negro demands for their share of jobs, equal rights, and for influencing action on anti-poll, anti-lynch, and anti-discrimination law. Communist party apparently trying to dominate the situation and convert march to a communist outlook.

3. Resume Captain Walker's statements, see Tab B.

Colonel Starling (White House) in conference with Col. Smith (Washington Provisional Brigade) stated information on march evidently substantiated by advance railroad ticket sales to negroes. That the Commanding Officer Washington Provisional Brigade is taking precautions to prevent race riots or any other trouble.

4. The radio to Commanding General, Second Army, directing one Battalion, 29th Division to be subject to call of Commanding Officer Washington Provisional Brigade, attached hereto.

SECRET C. H. SCHABACKER,
Major, General Staff Corps.



CONFIDENTIAL

**WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.**

Tab
A

June 24, 1941
(Date)

Subject: Negro March on Washington

Summary of Information:

Article from the Daily Workers of 18/June/41 states that Lyndon Henry, organizer of Local 188, Fancy Fur Dyers, stated that the negro people should by all means march to Washington on July 1 in spite of the fact that the march on Washington was sponsored by a group of National Socialists, Democrats and Reformers and is designed to tie the negro people behind Roosevelt's war program. He stated that this demonstration would be an expression of the determination of the negro people to get their share of the money this Government is spending on the defense program. He stated that this would be a tremendous demonstration for jobs and peace and place emphasis on the imperativeness of preparing the anti-poll law, anti-lynch law and the Marc Antonio anti-discrimination law. He stated that the negro people, in this demonstration, would be marching not only for jobs, but they will be demonstrating against the present administration's policy of discrimination which he said is condoned in private industry by the Government. He said that the march must be more than a march but must have the full character of a people demonstrating for all those rights the negro people are supposed to enjoy under a democracy.

The Daily Worker of 10/June/41 states that the job march on Washington has been called for 1/July/41 by A. Philip Randolph and Walter White. Article says that negro people will seek more jobs and is a major opportunity to display united opposition of the war program and all its discriminatory aspects. James W. Ford is quoted in the Daily Worker of 11/June/41 as saying that the Communist Party indorses all efforts of the negro people to fight against Jim Crowism which now is the policy of the Government. The Communist Party supports them 100%.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of 15/June/41 announces the march on the capitol for July 1 and states that their objective is to seek an issuance of an executive order by the President to include negroes:

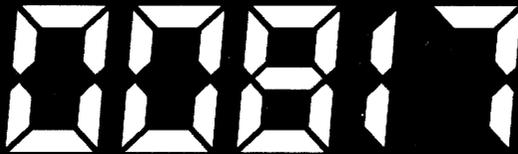
Distribution: General Bryden
G-3

WW/rjd

Evaluation	
-of source	-of information
_____	Reliable _____
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_____	Questionable _____
_____	Undetermined _____

CONFIDENTIAL

16-12887 GPO



CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT

M. I. D.

Page Two

June 24, 1941

(Date)

Subject: Negroe March on Washington

Summary of Information:

in labor unions and on defense jobs and also to include them in all branches of the armed forces. Organizations supporting this move are: Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, National Negroe Congress, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Urban League, Benevolence Order of Elks and Y.M.C.A.

Negroes, headed by A. Phillip Randolph, a Harvard graduate and a very bright negroe, plan a march on the capitol July 1st. Phillip Randolph was formerly head of National Negroe Congress.

Another man who is in charge is Walter White, a negro, head of National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

The negroes will concentrate here from all directions. Their purpose is to oppose discrimination of all kinds - racial discrimination - but more particularly racial discrimination in national defense industries and in the armed forces. It has the support of all radical groups in the country; however, each group supports it for a different reason. They have what they call "ideological differences".

The Communists have not admitted it, but according to the Daily Worker and speeches, there is some indication that, at least before the Soviet Union was invaded, they would attempt to seize the march. They try to dominate the situation and inject their own propaganda in order to convert the march to a Communist outlook. They are on the "outs" with Randolph because he resigned from the National Negro Congress, fearing that it was Communist dominated. They will participate in the march to inject into the negro masses a hostility to the so-called imperialistic war.

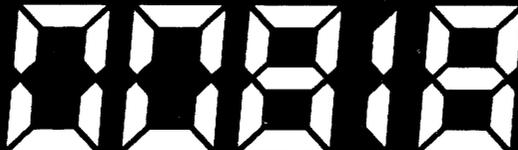
Randolph is not a revolutionary; neither is Walter White. They are very able men. They have held conferences with Secretary Knox.

Distribution:

Evaluation	
-of source	-of information
_____	Reliable_____
_____	Credible_____
_____	Questionable_____
_____	Undetermined_____

CONFIDENTIAL

16-17007 GPO



June 24, 1941.

Subject: Negro March on Washington.

Statement of Captain Walker, IO, Ft. Meyer, Va. to G-3

Summary of Information:

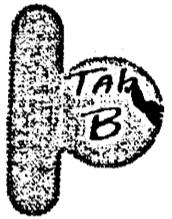
Colonel Starling has been in conference with Colonel Smith who is the S-2 of the Washington Provisional Brigade Headquarters in connection with a reported march, a negro demonstration, on Washington to be held on or about July 1, 2, or 3. The headquarters of the march is reported to be set at Lincoln Memorial. The information has evidently come from railroad companies because of advance ticket sale. They are in constant hourly communication with the railroad companies in connection with transportation.

Colonel Gordon, Provisional Brigade, is responsible for the security of the city of Washington and has taken steps in that direction. One report states that there are 40,000 in the group. It seems that the Southern wing is rather disorganized, but groups from Philadelphia, New York, and Baltimore seem to have considerable organization. The basis for the march is job discrimination in connection with defense contracts.

According to the White plan for the domestic security of Washington, the troops will be the 3d Cavalry Regiment of Fort Meyer, plus one battery 75mm guns, 703d Military Police Battalion at Arlington Cantonment, a battalion from Fort Meade which has been added to Brigade from the 29th Division, which will come over by trucks.

There have been newspaper reports which you have seen in spot news and which we all know about. Undercover there is race trouble in Washington which we have been alarmed about for some weeks now and which is under consideration. It seems that for the past two weeks, in my own knowledge, severe stress has been noticed in white-negro relations. On the basis of all this the Brigade Commander has taken extra precautions. One battalion is going to put on a practice loading and unloading drill. The current thing may be nothing, but it may be serious. Colonel Gordon doesn't feel justified in taking any chances on the repetition of race riots in 1921.

One battalion of the 29th Division will be placed at C.O. Washington Provisional Brigade's disposal for the entire time of the emergency. He said that he was going to bring them over here in a few days to learn the route and for the officers to familiarize themselves with the situation. When he was over there he talked to General Grant and Colonel Eddy, and said that the order would be issued through General Bryden. The battalion will be available as long as this emergency lasts.



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WAR DEPARTMENT
M. I. D.

Page Two

June 24, 1941
(Date)

Subject: Negro March on Washington

Summary of Information:

capt. Walker

(Co. Washington Brigade)

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Distribution:

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16-17077 GPO



June 24, 1941.

Subject: Negro March on Washington.

Statement of Captain Walker, IO, Ft. Meyer, Va. to G-3

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One battalion of the 29th Division will be placed at O.O. Washington Provisional Brigade's disposal for the entire time of the emergency. He said that he was going to bring them over here in a few days to learn the route and for the officers to familiarise themselves with the situation. When he was over there he talked to General Grant and Colonel Eddy, and said that the order would be issued through General Bryden. The battalion will be available as long as this emergency lasts.

