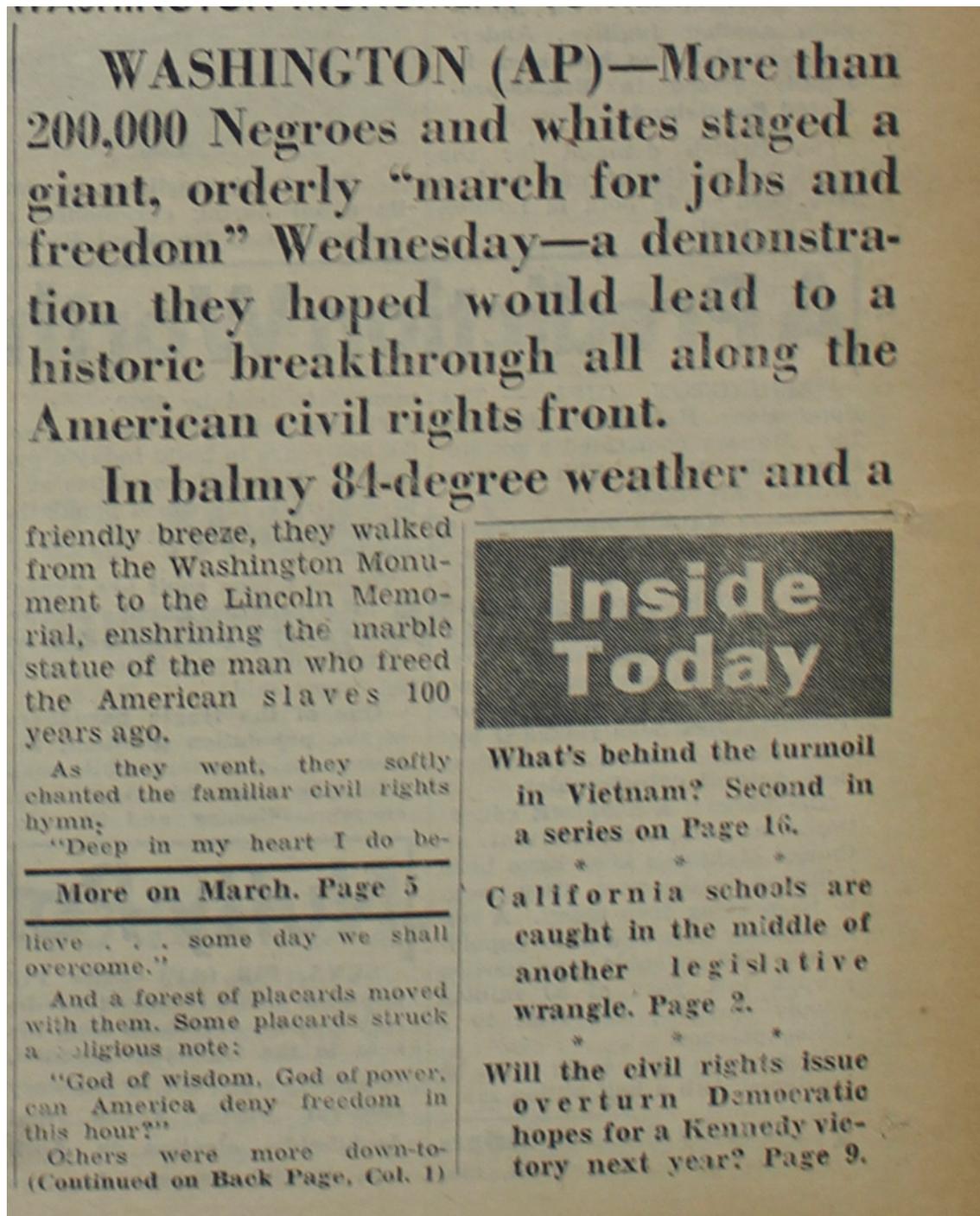


Image: "200,000 March in Capital"



Armed Forces in the Far East, *Pacific Stars and Stripes*, August 30, 1963.
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC09976.01)

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Image: "200,000 March in Capital"

200,000 March—Quietly—in D.C.

(Continued From Page 1)

earth and slay: "No U.S. dough to help Jim Crow!"

The estimate of more than 200,000 participants came from Washington Chief of Police Robert V. Murray. He made the assessment in mid-afternoon and added: "Up to now it's been a very orderly crowd, a very orderly gathering."

A holiday atmosphere pervaded the city. Many government workers took the day off and many business offices closed. Stores in the downtown area were largely deserted.

William H. Press, executive vice president of the Washington Board of Trade, said that while he had no actual figures "I imagine business is off 80 to 90 per cent...there's nobody in the stores."

The marchers had streamed into the capital in the early morning hours on trains, more than 1,500 buses, nine chartered planes, and by car and foot. One, Ledge Smith, rode 700 miles from Chicago on roller skates.

They came from hundreds of cities and hamlets in groups that represented nearly every condition of humanity from elderly white clergymen to young descendants of slaves—convinced, they said, that this was the high point of the long rights battle.

Even before the close of the ceremonies they started heeding the advice of their leaders and, weary from the strains of the day, headed toward Washington's Union Station and its bus terminals for the trip home.

As the rally broke up, police reported that 1,335 had required treatment at first-aid stations, none with serious injuries. Many fell over tent poles and down steps. There were two epilepsy seizures. Uncounted were the hundreds who fainted in the closely packed crowd and were revived on the spot.

Four arrests were reported, none involving demonstrators. Carl Allen, deputy commander of George Lincoln Rockwell's Nazi Party, was removed from the grounds by police after attempting to speak against the rally without a permit.

Edward Shell, 20, of Arlington, Va., was fined \$10 for grabbing and breaking one demonstrator's sign. A juvenile was arrested in suburban Hyattsville, Md., on charges of throwing a stone at a bus carrying demonstrators to Washington.

Robert Dugans, 21, of Alexandria, Va., was arrested at a downtown intersection by police who said he had a loaded sawed-off shotgun on the front seat of his automobile.

These isolated incidents were completely overshadowed by the sheer size and enthusiasm of the march itself and by the emotional demonstration before the Lincoln Memorial.

Estimates of the proportion of white people in the throng ranged from one in 20 to one in six, depending on the position of the observer. Police said it appeared to them that about one-tenth of the crowd was white.

Congregating at the Lincoln Memorial, the vast audience stretched far back toward the east end of the magnificent reflecting pool.

They heard many speeches, many songs and spirituals. They heard speakers demand passage of President Kennedy's civil rights bill—and much more.

A. Philip Randolph, 74-year-old prime promoter of the march, struck at those who want to amend the program to exempt little establishments from the proposed anti-discrimination ban—places like "Mrs. Murphy's boarding house."

"We must destroy the notion," said Randolph, president of the AFL-CIO brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, "that Mrs. Murphy's property rights include the right to humiliate me because of the color of my skin."

A great cheer went up when Randolph announced that more than 150 members of Congress were in seats on the broad marble steps of the memorial.

Marlon Brando was there, too, carrying with him a cattle prod of a type he said has been used in some places to make civil rights demonstrators move on.

"This instrument will burn you," he said. "I've seen the scars on people."

"But we must not believe that Southern people are entirely responsible. We are all responsible, East and West too."

What effect the march would have on Congress remained to be seen. The march leaders conferred with congressional leaders Wednesday morning, apparently getting some encouraging words but no new commitments. They later met with President Kennedy.

Despite advance predictions of possible wholesale disorder, the marchers—black and white, Protestants, Catholics and Jews—were studiously polite to one and all.



Tired by the walking, three civil rights demonstrators cool their feet in a reflecting pool while listening to speeches at a rally in the Lincoln Memorial area. (AP Radiophoto)

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Image: "March Helped All Mankind, Kennedy Says"

March Helped All Mankind, Kennedy Says

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy said Wednesday's massive civil rights demonstration in Washington advanced "the cause of 20 million Negroes" and all mankind.

The President issued a statement after meeting for an hour and 15 minutes with 10 leaders of the more than 200,000 marchers.

The President pledged that the federal government "will continue its efforts to obtain increased employment and to eliminate discrimination in employment practices, two of the prime goals of the march."

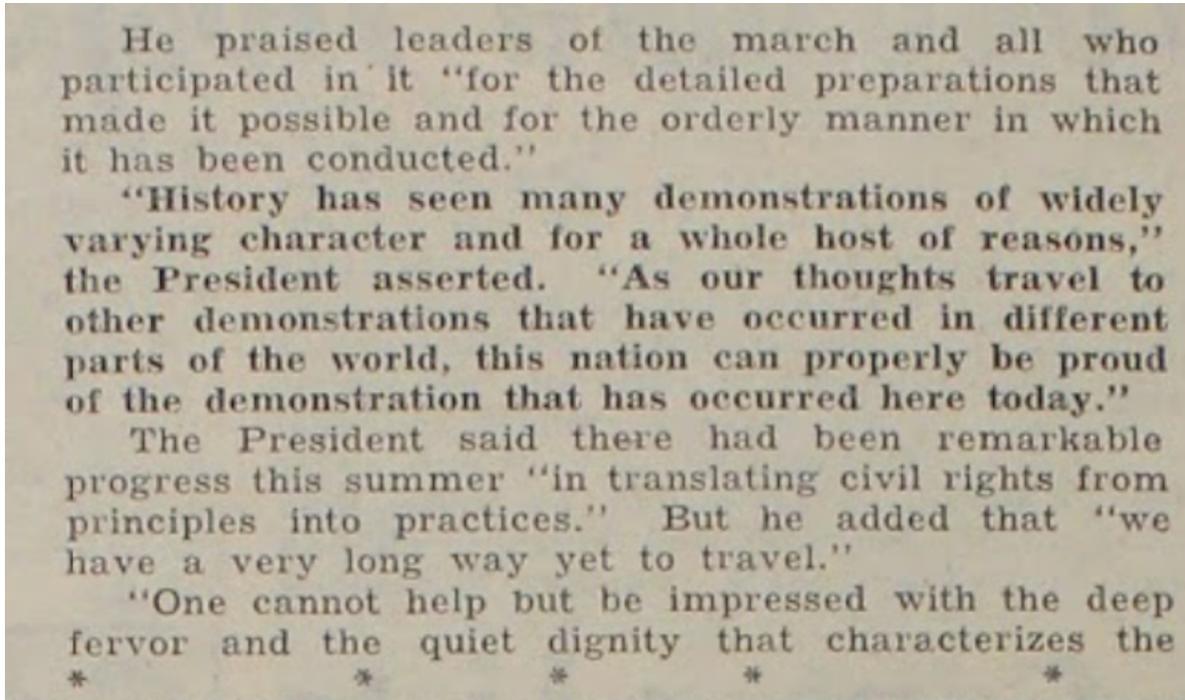
And he said the Administration also will keep up efforts to have Congress enact not only a civil rights bill but also a number of measures to strengthen the economy and to make it possible for more people to work and to get better jobs.

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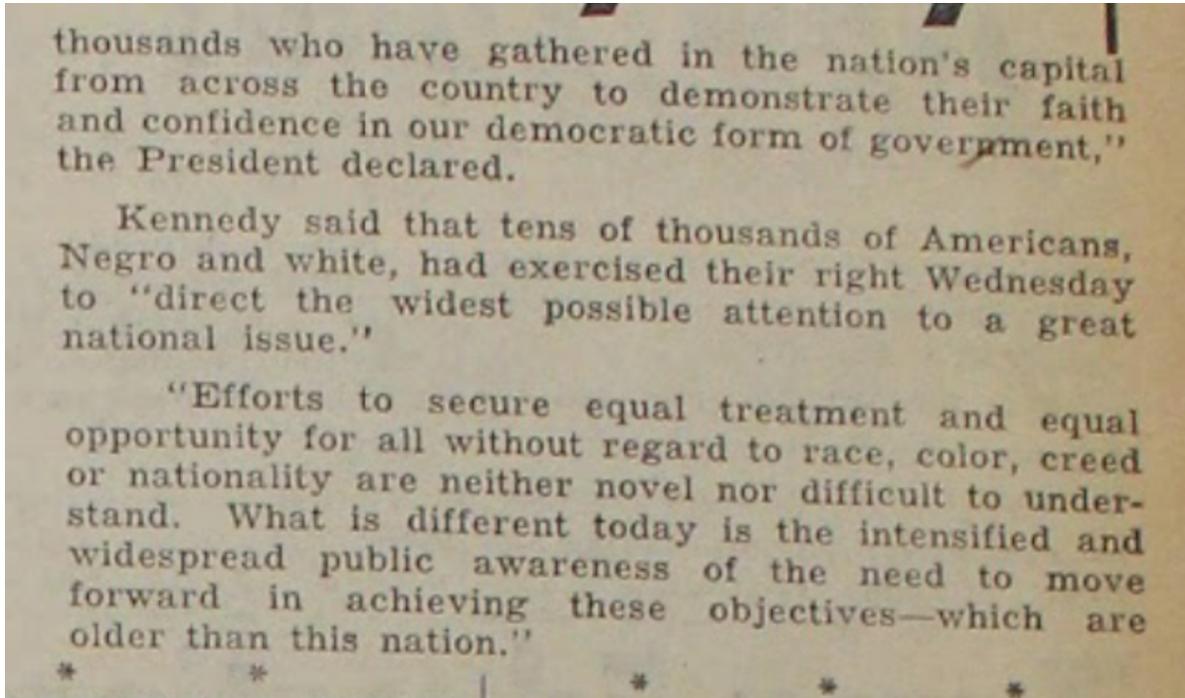
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Image: "McCormack Boosts FEPC"



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