



*March on Washington  
for Jobs and Freedom*

Called by:

Mathew Ahmann  
Eugene Carson Blake  
James Farmer  
Martin Luther King  
John Lewis  
Jochin Prinz  
A. Philip Randolph  
Walter Reuther  
Roy Wilkins  
Whitney Young

Administrative Committee:

Cleveland Robinson  
*Chairman*  
Courtland Cox  
Ann Arnold Hedgeman  
Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Jr.  
Rev. George Lawrence  
James McCain  
Gloster Current  
Guichard Parris  
Erwin Suall

March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom  
170 West 130th Street, New York 27, N. Y.

FI 8-1900

A. Philip Randolph, *Director*  
Bayard Rustin, *Deputy Director*

*Southern Administrators*

Dr. Aaron Henry      Att. Floyd McKissick  
Worth Long          Rev. Wyatt Walker

*March on Washington  
for Jobs and Freedom*  
170 WEST 130th STREET  
NEW YORK 27, NEW YORK

**the time is NOW**

for all Americans  
**Black and White**  
to join the March  
on Washington  
for Jobs and  
Freedom

*A call to action by*

JAMES FARMER  
MARTIN LUTHER KING  
JOHN LEWIS  
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH  
ROY WILKINS  
WHITNEY YOUNG

**Wednesday, August 28, 1963**

**America faces a crisis...  
Millions of citizens  
are unemployed...  
Millions are  
denied freedom...**

The twin evils of discrimination and economic deprivation plague the nation. They rob all people, Negro and white, of dignity, self-respect and freedom. They impose a special burden upon the Negro who is denied the right to vote, refused access to public accommodations, forced to accept inferior education and relegated to sub-standard ghetto housing.

One hundred years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the American Negro still bears the brunt of economic exploitation, the indignity of second-class citizenship, and ignominy of slave wages.

The rate of Negro unemployment is almost three times higher than that of white workers, breeding misery, frustration and degradation in every community — North and South.

Discrimination in education and in apprenticeship training renders Negroes, Puerto Ricans and other minorities helpless in our mechanized, industrial society. Shunted to relief, to charity, or to living by their wits, the jobless are driven to despair, to crime, to hatred and to violence.

Yet, despite this crisis . . .

Southern Democrats and reactionary Republicans in Congress are still working to defeat any effective civil rights legislation. They fight against the rights of all workers and minority groups. They are the sworn enemies of freedom and justice. They proclaim states rights in order to destroy human rights.

The Southern Democrats came to power by disenfranchising the Negro people. They know that as long as black workers are voteless, exploited, depressed and underpaid the fight of white workers for decent wages and working conditions will fail. They know that semi-slavery for one means semi-slavery for all.

We oppose these forces. We appeal for unity to destroy this century-long hoax.

**WE CALL UPON ALL AMERICANS,  
REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED,  
TO JOIN  
THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
*for freedom***

- ‡ To demand that Congress pass a civil rights bill that will restore the constitutional rights now denied the Negro people.
- ‡ To assure neither watering down, nor compromise, nor filibuster against civil rights legislation by either political party.
- ‡ To offer a great witness to the basic moral principle of human equality and brotherhood.

**WE CALL UPON ALL AMERICANS,  
REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED,  
TO JOIN  
THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
*for jobs***

- ‡ In their historic non-violent revolt for freedom, the Negro people are demanding the right to decent jobs — recognizing that their struggle is inextricably linked with the struggle for decent jobs for all Americans.
- ‡ They know that, in the long run, there is no way for Negroes to win and hold jobs unless the problems of automation, a stagnant economy, and discrimination are solved; therefore, the Federal government must establish a massive works program to train and employ all Americans at decent wages and at meaningful and dignified labor.

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We call upon you and upon all organizations — churches, fraternal societies, labor unions, civil groups, youth groups and professional associations — to accelerate the dynamic, non-violent thrust of the civil rights revolution by joining

***The March on Washington  
for Jobs and Freedom***

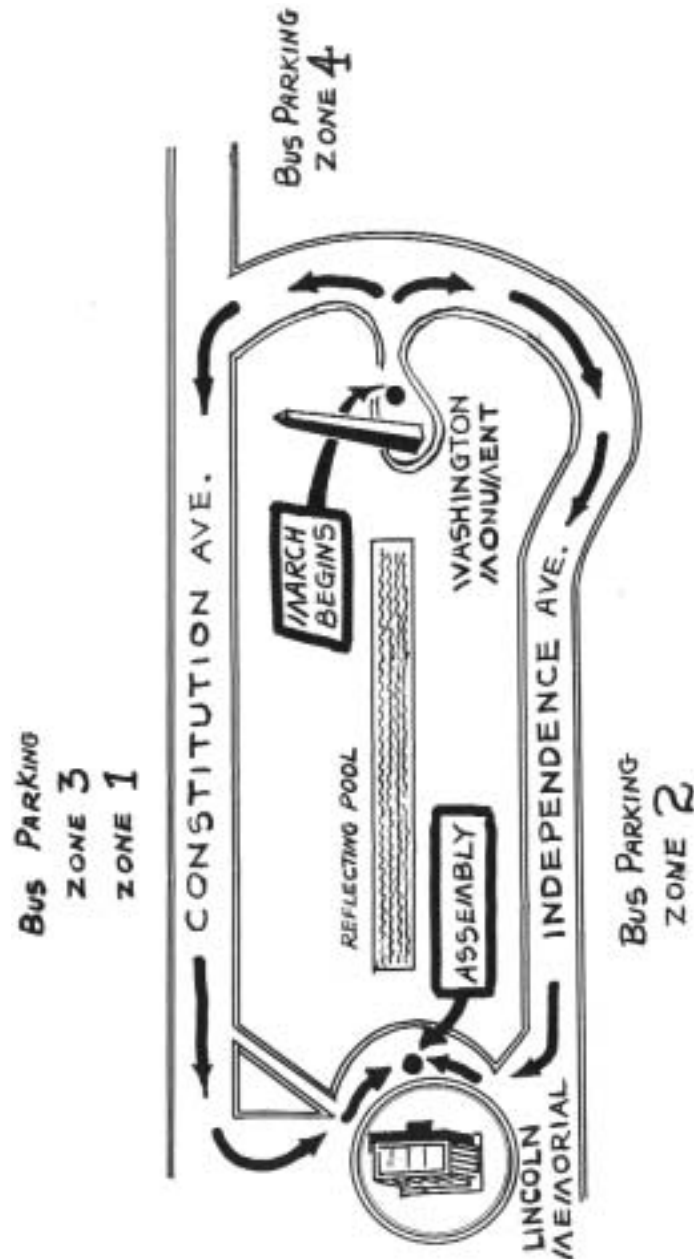
**TO RESTORE ECONOMIC FREEDOM  
TO ALL IN THIS NATION  
TO BLOT OUT ONCE AND FOR ALL  
THE SCOURGE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**

**the time is NOW**

# MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

AUGUST 28, 1963

## LINCOLN MEMORIAL PROGRAM



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|--|--|
| 1. The National Anthem                         | Led by Marian Anderson.  |
| 2. Invocation                                  | The Very Rev. Patrick O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington.   |
| 3. Opening Remarks                             | A. Philip Randolph, Director March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.   |
| 4. Remarks                                     | Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Stated Clerk, United Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A.; Vice Chairman, Commission on Race Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. |
| 5. Tribute to Negro Women Fighters for Freedom | Mrs. Medgar Evers  |
|  | Daisy Bates<br>Diane Nash Bevel<br>Mrs. Medgar Evers<br>Mrs. Herbert Lee<br>Rosa Parks<br>Gloria Richardson  |
| 6. Remarks                                     | John Lewis, National Chairman, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.  |
| 7. Remarks                                     | Walter Reuther, President, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, AFL-CIO; Chairman, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.                        |
| 8. Remarks                                     | James Farmer, National Director, Congress of Racial Equality.  |
| 9. Selection                                   | Eva Jessye Choir   |
| 10. Prayer                                     | Rabbi Uri Miller, President Synagogue Council of America.  |
| 11. Remarks                                    | Whitney M. Young, Jr., Executive Director, National Urban League.  |
| 12. Remarks                                    | Mathew Ahmann, Executive Director, National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.   |
| 13. Remarks                                    | Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.  |
| 14. Selection                                  | Miss Mahalia Jackson   |
| 15. Remarks                                    | Rabbi Joachim Prinz, President American Jewish Congress.   |
| 16. Remarks                                    | The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference.   |
| 17. The Pledge                                 | A Philip Randolph  |
| 18. Benediction                                | Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, President, Morehouse College.  |

**"WE SHALL OVERCOME"**

*Statement by the heads of the ten organizations calling for discipline in connection with the Washington March of August 28, 1963:*

"The Washington March of August 28th is more than just a demonstration.

"It was conceived as an outpouring of the deep feeling of millions of white and colored American citizens that the time has come for the government of the United States of America, and particularly for the Congress of that government, to grant and guarantee complete equality in citizenship to the Negro minority of our population.

"As such, the Washington March is a living petition—in the flesh—of the scores of thousands of citizens of both races who will be present from all parts of our country.

"It will be orderly, but not subservient. It will be proud, but not arrogant. It will be non-violent, but not timid. It will be unified in purposes and behavior, not splintered into groups and individual competitors. It will be outspoken, but not raucous.

"It will have the dignity befitting a demonstration in behalf of the human rights of twenty millions of people, with the eye and the judgment of the world focused upon Washington, D.C., on August 28, 1963.

"In a neighborhood dispute there may be stunts, rough words and even hot insults; but when a whole people speaks to its government, the dialogue and the action must be on a level reflecting the worth of that people and the responsibility of that government.

"We, the undersigned, who see the Washington March as wrapping up the dreams, hopes, ambitions, tears, and prayers of millions who have lived for this day, call upon the members, followers and wellwishers of our several organizations to make the March a disciplined and purposeful demonstration.

"We call upon them all, black and white, to resist provocations to disorder and to violence.

"We ask them to remember that evil persons are determined to smear this March and to discredit the cause of equality by deliberate efforts to stir disorder.

"We call for self-discipline, so that no one in our own ranks, however enthusiastic, shall be the spark for disorder.

"We call for resistance to the efforts of those who, while not enemies of the March as such, might seek to use it to advance causes not dedicated primarily to civil rights or to the welfare of our country.

"We ask each and every one in attendance in Washington or in spiritual attendance back home to place the Cause above all else.

"Do not permit a few irresponsible people to hang a new problem around our necks as we return home. Let's do what we came to do—place the national human rights problem squarely on the doorstep of the national Congress and of the Federal Government.

"Let's win at Washington."

SIGNED:

Mathew Ahmann, *Executive Director of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.*

Reverend Eugene Carson Blake, *Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Race Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America*

James Farmer, *National Director of the Congress of Racial Equality.*

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., *President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.*

John Lewis, *Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.*

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, *President of the American Jewish Congress.*

A. Philip Randolph, *President of the Negro American Labor Council.*

Walter Reuther, *President of the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, AFL-CIO, and Chairman,*

*Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.*

Roy Wilkins, *Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.*

Whitney M. Young, Jr., *Executive Director of the National Urban League.*

*In addition, the March has been endorsed by major religious, fraternal, labor and civil rights organizations. A full list, too long to include here, will be published.*

## WHAT WE DEMAND\*

1. Comprehensive and effective civil rights legislation from the present Congress—without compromise or filibuster—to guarantee all Americans

access to all public accommodations  
decent housing  
adequate and integrated education  
the right to vote

2. Withholding of Federal funds from all programs in which discrimination exists.

3. Desegregation of all school districts in 1963.

4. Enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment—reducing Congressional representation of states where citizens are disfranchised.

5. A new Executive Order banning discrimination in all housing supported by federal funds.

6. Authority for the Attorney General to institute injunctive suits when any constitutional right is violated.

7. A massive federal program to train and place all unemployed workers—Negro and white—on meaningful and dignified jobs at decent wages.

8. A national minimum wage act that will give all Americans a decent standard of living. (Government surveys show that anything less than \$2.00 an hour fails to do this.)

9. A broadened Fair Labor Standards Act to include all areas of employment which are presently excluded.

10. A federal Fair Employment Practices Act barring discrimination by federal, state, and municipal governments, and by employers, contractors, employment agencies, and trade unions.

\*Support of the March does not necessarily indicate endorsement of every demand listed. Some organizations have not had an opportunity to take an official position on all of the demands advocated here.

Courtesy of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.