PRESS CONFERENCE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

MARTIN LUTHER KING will hold a press conference at 11 a.m. on Monday, June 8, at the Overseas Press Club, 54 West 40th Street, 3rd floor.

He will outline his plan to submit to the federal government a proposal for a Bill of Rights for the Disadvantaged.

He will make a statement about the impact of the counter-revolution as symbolized by Governor Wallace of Alabama.

He will amplify the views on non-violence expressed in his new book, WHY WE CAN'T WAIT, to be published that day and he will answer questions from the press.

The press conference will be sponsored by his publishers, Harper & Row and New American Library. Photographers are welcome.

Stuart Harris, Publicity Director, Harper & Row, MU-3-1900

Miss Jay Tower, Publicity Director, New American Library, MU-8-3470
May 28, 1964

For Immediate Release

A new book by Martin Luther King, titled "Why We Can't Wait," will be published by Harper & Row on June 8.

The book will also be published in a Signet paperbound edition on July 9.

In it, Dr. King, who has been called the symbol of moderation in the struggle for Negro equality, states why the Negro must have his rights now.

Drawing back the curtain on last summer's battle in Birmingham, he describes in detail the strategy behind the demonstrations. He regards this campaign as the toughest test of his entire leadership career.

The book includes, published for the first time in full, Dr. King's letter from the Birmingham jail to the clergymen who had called his actions "unwise and untimely."

Dr. King sees non-violence as means of self-assertion contrary to established American thinking. "We are a nation that worships the frontier tradition," he says, "and our heroes are those who champion justice through violent retaliation against injustice."

He analyzes the causes behind the events of the 1963 Negro Revolution which drew world attention.

In his book, Dr. King condemns the "step-at-a-time" theory, holding it responsible for the creeping pace of integration since the Emancipation Bill a hundred years ago. The practice of tokenism, he states, merely obscures the persisting reality of segregation and discrimination.

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In a blunt evaluation of the various factions in the Civil Rights fight, he criticizes the Church's attitude. He also views the role played by the Black Muslims and the major personalities in the Civil Rights struggle, from President Johnson to "Bull" Connor. The final chapter sets forth the political implication of the Civil Rights battle on the forthcoming elections.

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