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Labor Day Weekend 1957

Association of Citizens' Councils of Mississippi

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During Labor Day Weekend, 1957, there assembled at Highlander the leaders of every major race incident in the South, prior to that time since the Supreme Court decision. This meeting was directed by Reverend John B. Thompson, chaplain, University of Chicago. Reverend Thompson has a lengthy record of Communist affiliations which appears elsewhere in this folder. The direction of the entire school was under the leadership, as usual, of Myles Horton.

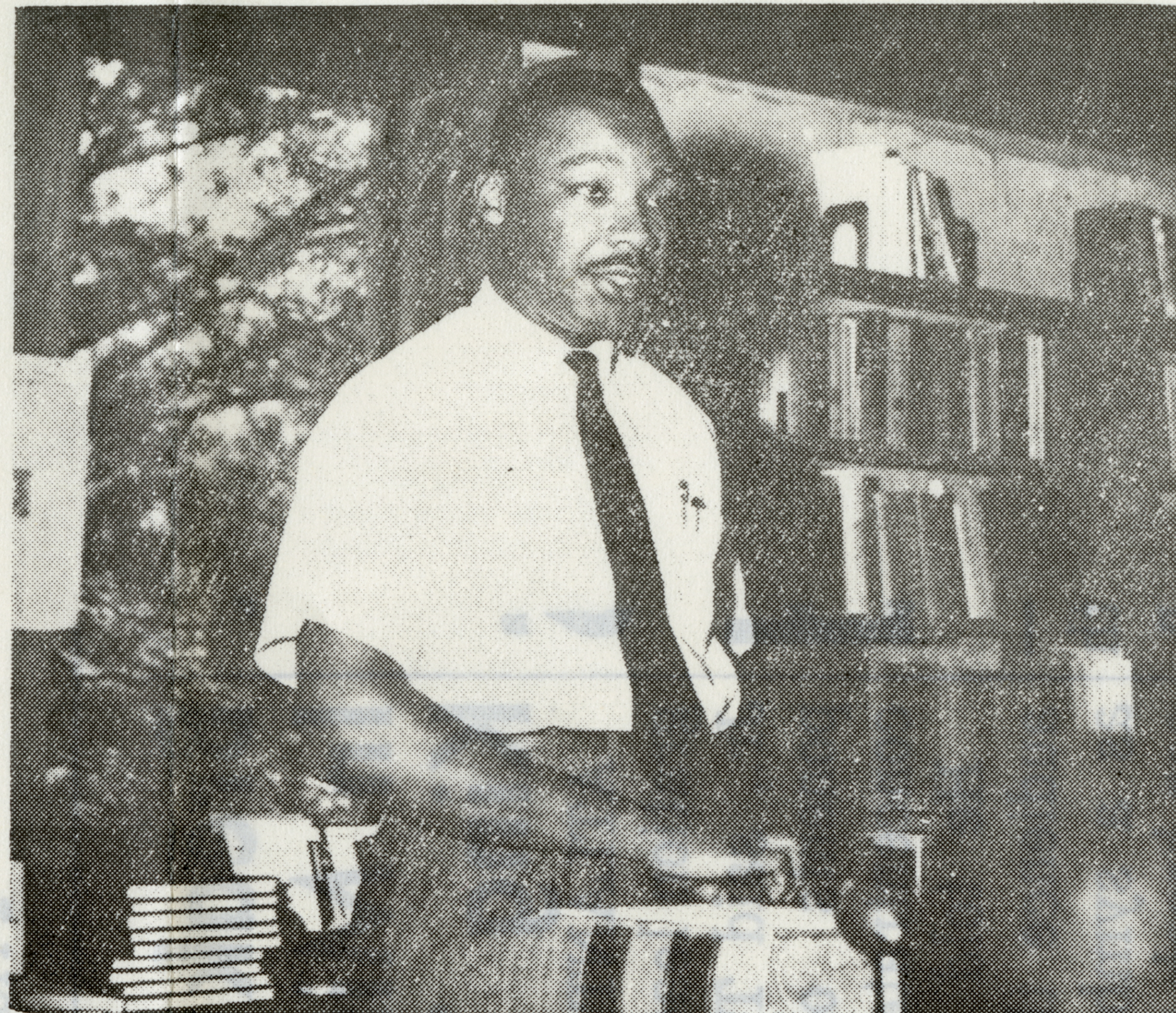
There were representative leaders of the TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA BOYCOTT, the TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA BUS INCIDENT, the MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA BUS BOYCOTT, the SOUTH CAROLINA - NAACP SCHOOL TEACHERS INCIDENT, the KOINONIA INTER-RACIAL FARM - AMERICUS, GEORGIA, and CLINTON, TENNESSEE, SCHOOL INCIDENT among others.

They met at this workshop and discussed methods and tactics of precipitating racial strife and disturbance.

The meeting of such a large group of specialists in inter-racial strife under the auspices of a Communist Training School, and in the company of many known Communists is the typical method whereby leadership training and tactics are furnished to the agitators. This was a general workshop and would be the most common method of developing a long range program.

In specific emergency situations, leadership would be sent into the communities to assist.

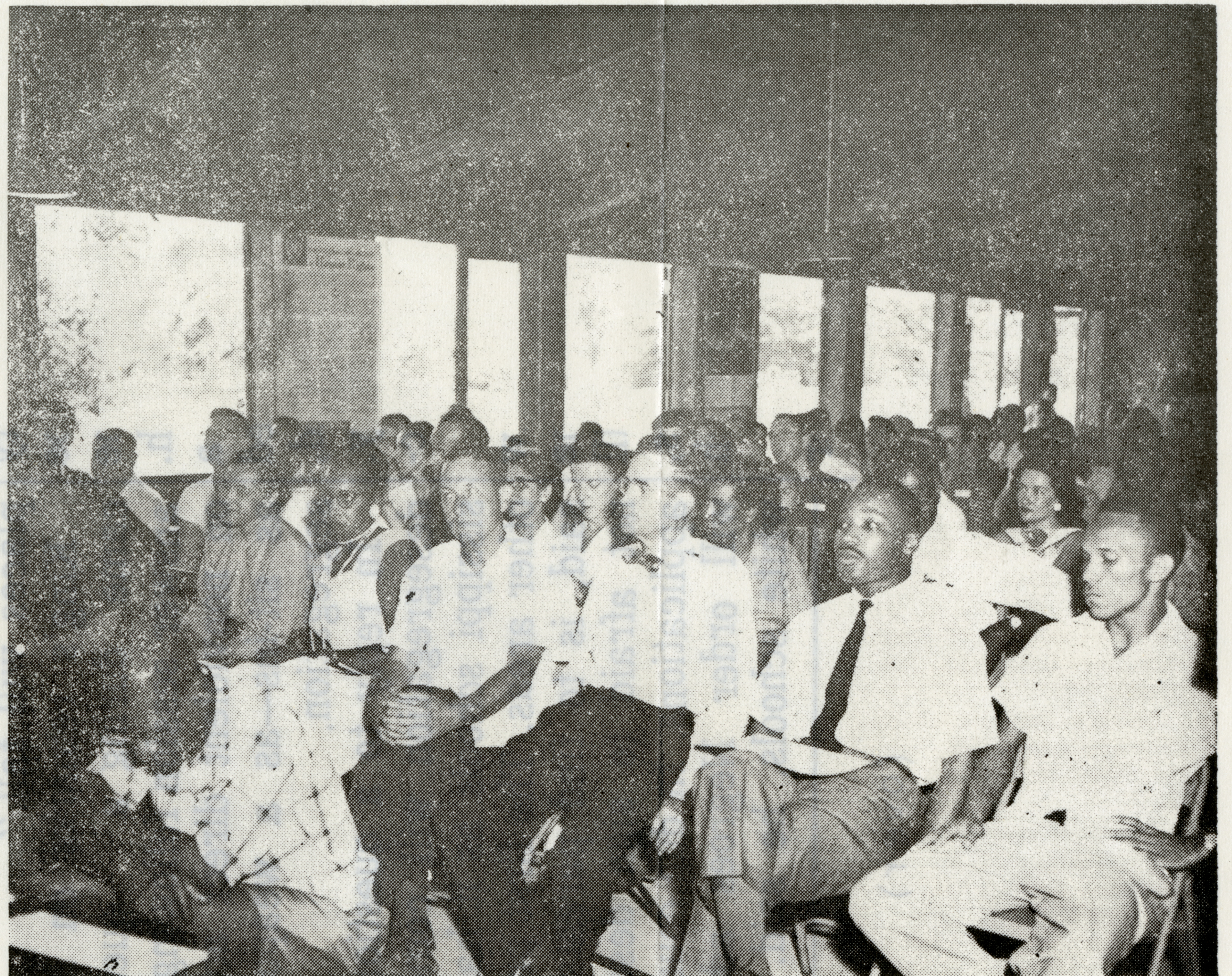
Good examples of the infusion of leadership was the appearance of Bayard Rustin, who appeared in the Daily Worker, as secretary of Rev. Martin Luther King, The appearance of Don West, prominent Communist functionary, at Koinonia Farm disturbances and the preliminary surveys conducted by John Hope, II, preparatory to the Tallahassee Bus Incident.



REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING addresses the assemblage. Reverend King, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is best known for his activities in the Montgomery Boycott, Montgomery Improvement Association and the March on Washington which he conducted with Bayard Rustin. The Daily Worker lists Bayard Rustin as one who attended the 1957 convention of the Communist Party USA. Bayard Rustin is identified in the Daily Worker as secretary to Reverend Martin Luther King.

The activities of Reverend Martin Luther King represent the ultimate in "civil disobedience." It is doubtful that Reverend King could have carried on such a program without outside leadership and financing; Bayard Rustin is perhaps the leading expert on "civil disobedience" in this country.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is a new organization founded by Reverend King for region-wide agitation of racial violence and strife.



PICTURED HERE (foreground) is Abner W. Berry of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. On the first row are Reverend Martin Luther King (2nd from right) of the Montgomery Boycott, Aubrey Williams (3rd from right) president of the Southern Conference Education Fund Inc. and Myles Horton (4th from Right) the director of Highlander Folk School. These "four horsemen" of racial agitation have brought tension, disturbance, strife and violence in their advancement of the Communist doctrine of "racial nationalism".

**THE FOUNDERS OF
HIGHLANDER SCHOOL**

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL was founded in 1932 by Myles Horton and Don West; James Dombrowski joined them shortly thereafter. Don West, presently operating in Georgia, was district director of the Communist Party of North Carolina.

Paul Crouch, the top Communist Party functionary in the South, testified before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities that Dombrowski "gave me the impression of being completely pro-Communist and anxious to collaborate with the Communist Party and follow its leadership without taking the risk of actual Party membership."

John Butler, another former Communist Party functionary testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security that "The Highlander Folk School is a school operated at Monteagle, Tennessee, ostensibly as an independent labor school, but actually working in close cooperation with the Communist Party."

Myles Horton was identified before the Dies Committee on Un-American Activities as a person who "attended a secret convention in North Carolina, at which time plans were made for spreading the revolutionary theories throughout the South."

Paul Crouch testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security that "The Highlander Folk School is a school operated at Monteagle, Tennessee, ostensibly as an independent labor school, but actually working in close cooperation with the Communist Party."

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