

The North Side News

Atlanta's ONLY Independent Newspaper

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A story from outside Ivan's Wall

March on Washington's director has a record, Strom Thurmond shows

Before you receive your next (August 29th) issue of The North Side News, the March of the Muscle-ini Minorities within the U.S.A. will be the topic of the day.

It will have happened next Wednesday, August 28th, if sufficient funds have been provided those eager for the bus and railroad rides by their multi-millionaire sympathizers. What sort of people are these who will be aping Mussolini's March on Rome?

The NEWS prints below an extract of a Congressional Record profile of their deputy director, Bayard Rustin, from a Senate speech by South Carolina's U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond. The story was in The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer exactly as we photographically reproduce it here, delivered out of Washington to that newspaper by the United Press International. The NEWS received a clipping of the Observer's article from a Northsider who is vacationing at Graystone Inn, Roaring Gap, North Carolina, whose attached note said: "I bet you won't see the enclosed news item in either of the Atlanta daily newspapers. I thought you and your readers would be interested." The note was from Phil F. Tingle, the Peachtree Circle Northsider, an Atlanta who, in his pre-incident year, did much for the Atlanta building for which Mayor *W. Lee*, Jr., characteristically claims all the credit.

If THIS UPI STORY was printed in the Atlanta dailies, it was most ingeniously hidden on some unread page. The Charlotte Observer gave it a four-column headline.

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Sen. Strom Thurmond, D-S.C., accused the Washington Post Tuesday of "distorted and slanted reporting" and a "whitewash job" in favor of Bayard Rustin, the deputy director of the scheduled Aug. 28 civil rights march on Washington.

In a Senate speech, Thurmond charged that a feature story on Rustin Sunday was "a classic example of news reporting because the reporter took a series of hideous facts and directed them so that they literally radiated the darkness like a rose and looked like a gilded lily."

The Post story said that Rustin served 28 months during World War II as a conscientious objector and that he was convicted in Pasadena, Calif., in 1953 of a morals charge after being arrested with two other men.

Thurmond said the true facts were that Rustin was sentenced for failure to abide by the Selective Service law and failure to report for work of "national importance," as required for conscientious objectors.

The South Carolina senator said the words "morals charge" toned down the charge. He said Rustin was convicted of sex perversion and a subsequent priest-cowardness and lewdness.

Thurmond asserted in the Congressional Record clipping from the Atlanta Times that showed that Rustin was

sentenced to 60 days in Pasadena after pleading guilty to the morals offense.

He also included FBI records that showed that Rustin served in two federal penitentiaries from March 9, 1944 to June 11, 1946, on the draft evasion charge.

Thurmond added that although the Post said Rustin was a member of the Young Communist League and later quit and attended the Communist Party convention in 1955 as an observer, there is no mention of his ^{de-} renouncement of Communist biological dogma.

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A Phillip Randolph, the leader of the march on Washington, has called Rustin "Mr. March-on-Washington-Hindsell."

"I wonder if even Mr. Randolph could really condone the past activities of Mr. Rustin," Thurmond said. "Perhaps he can in view of the fact that Mr. Randolph's name appears on the letterhead of the Highlander Center in Knoxville, Tenn., as a sponsor of Highlander Center."

Thurmond said the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tenn., was closed by the state on grounds of immorality.

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