

Christine Walker, Melissa Wills, Stephanie Young, Amanda Leitch, Ryan Levison, Dave Lyburner, Kelly Macneil, Joseph Martin, Jim Maxwell, Kerry McCarty, Caitlin McIntire, Robert Mee, Eric Meyer, Emily Morgano, Eric Mosse, Colleen Murphy, Cortiney Nye, Brian Paciulan, Jessica Pelletier, Lindsay Piper, Toby Porter, David Poberson, Katherine Rork, Seana Roussel, Amanda Rudy, Paul Schacht, Kayla Seaman, Carly Sheehan, Dennis Slozak, Stephanie Smith, Sarah Soucy, Jackie Sunderland, Georgia Theodore, Robert Tobin, Jay Vaccaro, Emily Violette,

Kerry Walton, Adam Wobrock, Victoria Zabierek, Amanda Lever, Jesse Lore, Drew Macculloch, Dan Marchegiani, Lance Martin, Rachel McCarter, Shannon McCarty, Jen McMahon, Dan Melnick, Deryc Miller, John Morse, Jessica Moulton, Jessica Napier, Amanda Oswald, Enrique Paniagua, John Perry, Sue Plissey, Rebecca Predko, Mike Roberson, Jennifer Ross, Melissa Roy, Jack Ryan, Andrew Schroeder, Matthew Sharpe, Tim Sheehan, Crystal Smith, Kevin Socha, Ethan Stern, Nicki Sweet, Sarah Thesse, Peter Tomaselli, Jeff Vaccaro, Christina Vitale, Richard Williams, Renee Wright, Scott Zdankiewicz.●

A TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN FREEDOM FIGHTER

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, as one man who had the privilege to march and demonstrate alongside this dedicated pioneer during the Civil Rights Movement, and another who has long respected his courage and is proud to represent him in the U.S. Senate, we both have enormous respect and admiration for James Farmer. Now, all Americans are being given the opportunity both to learn more about this man and to appreciate his lifetime of contributions to our nation as a civil rights activist, community leader and teacher.

Yesterday, on the birth date of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., President Clinton presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our country's highest civilian honor, to fifteen distinguished Americans. We are grateful that James Farmer, one of the "Big Six" leaders of the Civil Rights Movement and the father of the Freedom Rides, was among them.

As the Nation prepares to officially celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it is also fitting that we join the President in recognizing one of the great soldiers and leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. In the 1940's, while still in his early twenties, James Farmer was already leading some of the earliest nonviolent demonstrations and sit-ins in the Nation, over a decade before nonviolent tactics became a vehicle for the modern Civil Rights Movement in the South.

Early in his academic career, James Farmer became interested in the Gandhian principles of civil disobedience, direct action, and nonviolence. In 1942, at the age of 22, he enlisted an interracial group, mostly students, and founded the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), with the goal of using nonviolent protest to fight segregation in America. During these early years,

James Farmer and other CORE members staged our Nation's first nonviolent sit-in, which successfully desegregated the Jack Spratt Coffee Shop in Chicago.

Five years later, in what he called the "Journey of Reconciliation," James Farmer led other CORE members to challenge segregated seating on interstate buses.

In 1961, James Farmer orchestrated and led the famous Freedom Rides through the South, which are renown for forcing Americans to confront segregation in bus terminals and on interstate buses. In the spring of that year, James Farmer trained a small group of freedom riders, teaching them to deal with the hostility they were likely to encounter using nonviolent resistance. This training would serve them well.

During the journeys, freedom riders were beaten. Buses were burned. When riders and their supporters—including James Farmer and the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.—were trapped during a rally in Montgomery's First Baptist Church, Attorney General Robert Kennedy ordered U.S. marshals to come to their aid and protect them from the angry mob that had gathered outside.

In reflecting on the ride from Montgomery, Alabama to Jackson, Mississippi, James Farmer said, "I don't think any of us thought we were going to get to Jackson * * * I was scared and I am sure the kids were scared." He later wrote in his autobiography, "If any man says that he had no fear in the action of the sixties, he is a liar. Or without imagination."

James Farmer made it to Jackson and spent forty days in jail after he tried to enter a white restroom at the bus station. On November 1, 1961, six months after the freedom rides began, the Interstate Commerce Commission ordered all interstate buses and terminal facilities to be integrated.

Six years ago, James Farmer told a reporter that while the fight against racism in the 1960's "required tough skulls and guts * * * now it requires intellect, training and education."

Not surprisingly, James Farmer continues to do his part. Just as he taught his freedom riders how to battle segregation over three decades ago, he has taught civil rights history at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, for the past twelve years. He teaches his students how to remember and how to learn from history.

James Farmer has, in truth, spent a lifetime teaching America the value of equality and opportunity. He has taught America that its most volatile social problems could be solved nonviolently. He has reminded us of the countless acts of courage and conviction needed to bring about great change. He has shown us the idealism needed to act and the pragmatism needed to succeed. His respect for humanity and his belief in justice will forever inspire those of us privileged to call him mentor and friend.

As we celebrate the Martin Luther King Holiday on Monday, and as we honor James Farmer with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, let us vow to continue to learn. If we truly believe in the idea of the beloved community and an interracial democracy, we cannot give up. As a nation and a people, we must join together and strive towards laying down the burden of race. And we must follow in the footsteps of a courageous leader, to whom, with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, we can finally say: thank you, James Farmer.●

AUTHORIZING PRODUCTION OF SENATE DOCUMENTS BY SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 178, submitted earlier today by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 178) to authorize production of Senate documents and representation by Senate Legal Counsel in *United States f.u.b.o. Kimberly Industries, Inc., et al. v. Tralfalgar House Construction, Inc., et al.*

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a contract dispute, pending as a civil case in the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, between a subcontractor and the prime contractor constructing a Department of Labor Job Corps facility in Charleston, West Virginia. Prior to the litigation, the subcontractor, a West Virginia firm, sought assistance from Senator BYRD's and Senator ROCKEFELLER's offices in contacting the Labor Department regarding the firm's difficulties over payment for its work on the project. In the civil lawsuit that has ensued between the two contracting firms, the prime contractor has now requested that the offices of Senator BYRD and Senator ROCKEFELLER produce from their files copies of documents concerning the West Virginia Job Corps project.

The constituent subcontractor firm has advised, through the Senate Legal Counsel, that it has no objection to the release of its correspondence with the Senator's offices. Thus, the usual principle of constituent confidentiality is not implicated here. However, as is often the case when a constituent reports difficulties in dealing with an executive agency, Senator BYRD's office and Senator ROCKEFELLER's office have advised that their constituent's communications regarding this matter informed the Senators' consideration of potential alternatives to address the problem, including undertaking legislative or oversight action regarding the Labor Department's construction program and procurement procedures. In