

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

TWENTY WEST FORTIETH STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y. • BRyant 9-1400

September 5, 1963

Dr. Joachim Prinz, President American Jewish Congress 15 East 84th Street New York, New York

Dear Dr. Prinz:

I cannot longer delay passing on to you the sentiments I have heard, within the circles in which I move, on your most effective speech at the March on Washington rally before the Lincoln Memorial August 28.

You "got through" to the huge crowd after only a sentence or two and thereafter they were raptly attentive, as their instant applause for your stricture against silence indicated. When we consider that to the far-flung generality of the Negro population of the nation you were not a known name or personality, the completeness and warmth of your conquest of that audience in the space of four minutes is a feat of no small dimensions.

In the sober ruminations after the peak excitement of the day, the consensus among the many who have talked with me has been that "the Rabbi" was among the two or three best. I join personally in that view and offer my thanks, not only for your speech at the Memorial, but for your cogent observations and guidance in the various conferences and radio and television panels.

Finally, I pass on to you a third-hand report that the President is said to have commented specifically and favorably upon your remarks at the Memorial.

Thanks once more for your contributions to a great day for our country.

Roy Vilkins

Executive Secretary

RW:mso