

Team Redstone celebrates Dr. King's legacy

*Challenges remain,
says federal judge*

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

U.S. District Judge U.W. Clemon saw some unfinished business on the 21st anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

"We have not yet reached the promised land," he said during Team Redstone's celebration program Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium. He pointed out that "racial divides still abound" and King's dream of freedom and justice for all has not become reality.

"And so the challenge to us today is pretty much the same as it was for Dr. Martin Luther King – to make 'America' America again," he said.

Clemon, who was appointed by

President Jimmy Carter in 1980 as the first black federal judge in the history of Alabama, was the program's keynote speaker. He recalled highlights from King's life as a civil rights pioneer. "On this day and on this occasion we remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," he said.

After each accomplishment – from the ending of segregated seating on Montgomery buses, to national anti-discrimination laws – King kept fighting, Clemon told the estimated 500 attendees. "He did not take a day off to bask in the bright sunlight of the victory itself."

The program's theme was, "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On – Not a Day Off!"

Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, program executive officer for missiles and space, gave the welcoming remarks. "We all have a great deal to thank Dr. Martin Luther King for," he said. "This nation is stronger because of him and (because of) people like him."

Team Redstone sponsored an essay writing contest and a static display contest in support of this year's observance. The essay winners included first place (tie), Jeffery Cox of the Program Executive Office for Aviation and Richard Browning of the Criminal Investigation Division; second, Chief Warrant Officer Harry Hobbs of HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade; and third, Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Jones of Criminal Investigation Division. The display winners included first place (tie), Missile System Training Depart-



Associated Press/World Wide Photos

MARCH ON WASHINGTON— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. prepares to speak to a crowd of 200,000 marchers in Washington, D.C., in August 1963.

ment and the Criminal Investigation Division; second, Bravo Company; and third, Renata Walker of Logistics Support Activity.

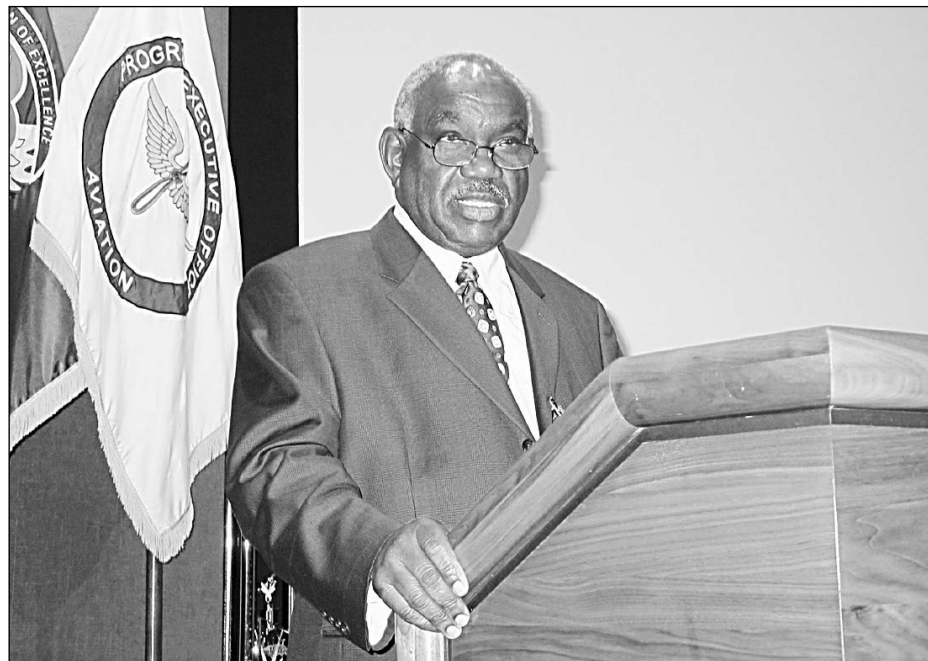


Photo by Skip Vaughn

KEYNOTE ADDRESS— U.S. District Judge U.W. Clemon delivers his remarks during Team Redstone's celebration for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.