

### **P.H. -1**

The Mass March last Thursday, which was led by the prominent civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King along with other supporters of the Sanitation Workers Strike ended in turmoil and mob violence.

It all started about 11 o'clock A.M. As a participant in the March, [sic] I consider my account of major events as valid.

I shall list these events as I saw them happen:

The large crowd of approximately two thousand strong began slowly walking toward Beale Street from Clayborn Temple. Ministers and other march leaders were passing the word to "keep plenty of space between lines to make us look larger."

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Being somewhere in the middle of the crowd, I could not see how the end of the front looked but as I was told, the leaders, including Dr. King and his close associates, had proceeded up Beale Street and had turned right on Main Street as far as Haverty's Furniture Store when the "beginning of the end" of the march started.

It appeared to me that a group of about 25 or 30 outsiders, mainly teenagers not participating in the march, came into the crowd and began breaking windows in stores along Beale Street near Handy Park. They used bricks, sticks, and bottles. They entered the stores and

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began pilfering all they thought they could use. Mainly concerned with themselves, the looters got what they could and began running away from the main body of marchers.

When the ministers on the side line became aware of what was happening, they told us all to "turn around and go back to the Temple." "We can't go on if they're going to break windows."

Excited, afraid, and panicky could describe the crowd's reactions. Everyone began running.

The police had so far restrained themselves from interfering with us, but at this time they began using force to handle the mass crowd of approximately 99% Negroes. I saw two of the "brutes"

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### **P.H. -4**

Absent

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The church and began throwing the mace bombs. [It all] seemed inhuman to me, but who was I to be the judge.

The march ended unfortunately and unsuccessfully, but it was not a sign that a non-violent march is impossible. Dr. King is determined to prove that a non-violent march can be conducted and carried out successfully.

I was overwhelmed to see the large number of participants in the march. They were of all ages. Practically all wore signs sympathizing [sic] the Sanitation Workers' spirit.

I guess one bad deed deserved another, because throughout the remainder of the day outbursts of violence were all kinds, fires, injuries, and brutality characterized the day.

I think that day in March will always be remembered.