

OPF 30-11

## The Involved

*Memphis Times*

FIRST THE woman who reported seeing the sniper didn't give a description and refused to give her name. Said she didn't want to get involved. Then motorists and pedestrians ignored emergency stop lights, slowing down police cars that were trying to rush to the scene. Then the curious gawked at the sight of police scamp-ering atop a parking a garage, endangering themselves and complicating police ef-forts.

It wasn't a TV show. It didn't happen in New York, where all the bad things are supposed to happen. It was downtown Memphis for about two hours Thursday.

Even though they didn't find a sniper, the woman did right in calling. But her name and a description might have helped police follow through and determine if there were a person there who had planned to kill. And considering the delay because of fighting traffic, it's only a guess as to how many might have been killed before police arrived.

It was an exercise in futility and frustra-tion, one that was confused by the un-thinking actions of some of Memphis' citi-zens. City of Good Abode?

CA

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