

## **T.S. – 1**

History 304

Thursday morning my wife went to Hamilton for her practice teaching and was on the scene when the outbreak of trouble started in Memphis. Teacher was alerted to move their car from the school. She got hers and came home, then I carried her back to the school. When we got back to the school kid was throwing bricks and stone at car. The police was there, but couldn't handle all the kids until reinforcement come. During the outbreak a kid got hit in head with a stick and was taken in the school for first aid. She had blood running down her face, it was later reported that is was minor. Later reports reach downtown that a kid had been killed at Hamilton by the police. I left the school and headed for Clayborn Temple where Dr. King was to lead a march down town. The march was to leave the church at ten o'clock. It was late leaving the church because of bad weather. This delayed the march until about eleven o'clock. Tension build up because of reports that the police had killed a girl at Hamilton school. I stood around talking to friends around 45 minutes when Dr. King arrive with 3 body guard. He was escorted by Jerry Fanion of the Shelby County Human Relationship Committee. He refuse to enter the march because of the crowd. The people was trying to get a look at him and this he didn't like. He was (illegible) by Rev Lawson and he took up his position as the leaders of the march. As the march turned up Beale I saw the liquor store get looted. When the march turned up Main Street the police form a blockage and forced the crowd to turn around. The beat women and children and

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## **T.S. – 2**

History 304

I watched Dr. King leave the march, he asked the driver of the (illegible) truck to take him away, but he refused, then he got into a private car, the driver took him back to Clayborn Temple. As he was leaving a policeman broke the windshield of the car on the driver side. I left and went to my car which was parked at Danny Thomas and (illegible). When I got there people was standing around talking about what had happen. The police came and beat more people for no reasons. I left and went to my mother in law home where Wallace Callahan was waiting for me. He told how he had saw police beat people for little or no reason. As I was on my way home I saw the owner of Big Star Super Market shoot a Negro boy running down the street. A kid had thrown a brick through the window and he shot the first one he saw. This built up tension in North Memphis because rumors were spread that the boy was killed by a white man. The report was false but the boy was hurt badly. The people of North Memphis started one of the largest false reports in Memphis. They the police had killed 3 Negro boys and the store owner had killed a Negro boy also. There was lots of looting and (illegible) Memphis. The was large reports of police beating people for no reason at all also.

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