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The Riot in Memphis

The march to help the Sanitation workers began at about 11:30. A friend, whom I will call Miss X told me her experiences. Miss X was understanding in Handy Park waiting for the march to begin. A truck passed with a loud speaker attached, which told the people to stop standing around, and join the march. This aroused many people to start out before the march had begun. This was the first mistake made, she felt.

After the march had begun many windows were broken. Miss X felt this must have been planned because only specific stones were hit. The police saw the looting on Beale Street, but made no attempt to stop it.

When the march got to Main

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Street Miss X got as far as Peril and Lowenstein. The police then began shooting up in the air to turn back the march. The crowd scattered and began throw bricks [sic] and rocks in the windows. The police reacted by using Mase [sic] to stop the crowd.

The ministers then told everyone to return to the Temple. The police had the streets blocked and were using their billy [sic] clubs on the marchers. When Miss X got off of Main she went back to the Temple, and found the police were using Mase [sic] in the Temple.

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