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On Thursday, March 28, 1968, Memphis was a part of something that it has never been part of before. There was a march led by Dr. Martin Luther King and other ministers interested in the sanitation strikes. This was to be a peaceful march to aid the sanitation workers, but it wasn't.

The march affected many of the surrounding communities. I live in the southwest portion of Memphis and it was really affected. About 10:00 a.m. some of the black power advocates, just a few though, tried to start some commotion at Carver High School. They succeeded. Children started fighting and broke out some of the windows. The principal closed the school, that is, no one could leave and no one could enter. The students could only go home if their parents [illegible]

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them. The patrol cars came and tried to obtain order and in the process, two of them were injured. While this was going on, the principal of Kansas Elementary school closed its doors also. The children could only leave if their parents or some responsible person came for them. The principal at Kansas did this because he didn't want any violence to break out at the school.

There were several fights on the street as well. Patrol cars had to come and break them up and regain law and order. On Florida Street, several store windows were broken out by mostly just plain thugs or school drop-outs. This wasn't the work of the black power advocates, but they were the persons who broke windows and completely damaged two grocery stores on East Trigg Avenue. The people responsible for these acts of violence seemed only to be concerned with businesses owned by whites.