

Lesson Three: *Who Makes a Movement?*

Objective

Through historic images and documents students will learn about the riders, the authorities, and everyday citizens who helped them.

Materials : Breach of Peace introduction, Biography and mug shot sheets - (*Level 1 – grades 4-8 & Level 2 – grades 9-12*); Construction paper, scissors and glue Level 1; Computer classroom; *Listen in on History* worksheet

Activity One: *Who are the Riders?*

Using images and biographies to confront stereotypes of those involved in the rides and the civil rights movement.

- Discuss arrests and Breach of Peace charge.

Level 1

1. Break the students into groups.
2. Hand out the biography sheet and the mug shots sheets.
3. Have the students cut out the biographies and mug shots.
4. Have the students match and paste the biography with the mug shot that they think it matches.
5. Have them present their matches.
6. Once they have all presented them reveal the correct matches.
7. Discuss the idea of stereotypes and how they played a role in their matches.

Level 2

1. Break the students into pairs/groups, and give a rider mug shot to each pair.
2. Have the students write a one paragraph biography about who they imagine that person to be.
3. Give the student the matching name and have them start searching the MDAH online digital collections Sovereignty Commission Files. http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/sovcom/
4. Have the students research the person assigned to them.
5. Discuss the many types of people who took part in the Freedom Rides.
6. Have the students write a biography of their person and present it to the class.
7. Discuss the idea of stereotypes and how they played a role in their stories of the riders.
8. Also discuss the idea of the Sovereignty Commission and its surveillance of people during the civil rights movement.

Activity Two: *Listen in on History*

Understand the feelings and actions of Mississippians on both sides through their own words.

1. Listen to the Clarie Collins Harvey recording at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/freedom> under "Resources."
2. Listen to the Ross Barnett recording at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/freedom> under "Resources."
3. Have students work on the *Listen in on History* worksheet.
4. Discuss the students' answers and findings based on their observations.

Extension Activities

Elementary: The riders kept their spirits up on the bus and in jail by singing freedom songs. Have the students do some research on freedom songs from the Freedom Rides.

High School: Conduct your own oral history with someone who lived through the Freedom Rides in Mississippi. Interview them and present it to the class.

Breach of Peace (Introduction)

In *Boynton v. Virginia, 1961*, the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed segregation in all interstate public transportation and facilities. Individual states ignored the ruling and were ready to fight anyone who tried to push the ruling to action.

When the Riders tried to enter the segregated waiting rooms as a “mixed” (black and white) group, they were told by police to move along. When they attempted to sit down or enter a restroom they were arrested on the charge of breach of peace. In 1960 the Mississippi State Code defined, breach of peace as “Disorderly conduct; or acts performed with the intent to provoke breach of peace.”

- Is it a breach of peace to walk into a waiting room to sit down and wait for the bus to leave again?
- How did Mississippi justify arresting people in these circumstances?
- Did the federal government overturn any of these convictions?

<http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/97/035/0003.htm>

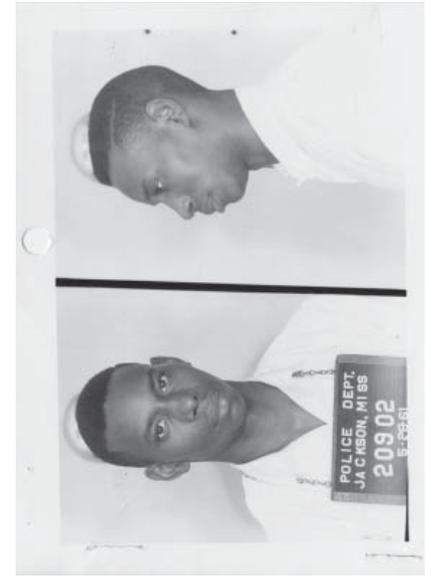
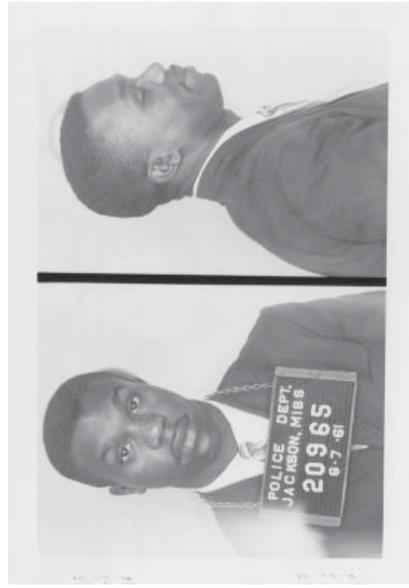
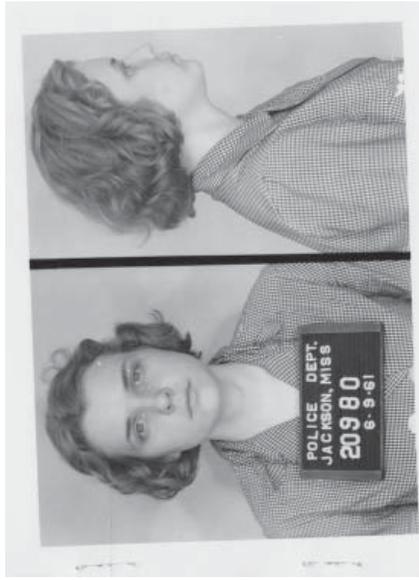
<http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=us&vol=386&invol=547>

Who are the Riders?

Mugshot sheet

Level 1

Cut out the images and try to match them to the rider biographies on the next page.



Who are the riders?

Level 1 Biographies.

Cut out the biographies and match them to the images of the riders

1. Winonah Margaret Beamer

Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio

Age: 19

Occupation: Student

Organization: Central State College

Arrest Date: June 9, 1961

Transportation: Train / Illinois Central Railroad

Fact: Beamer was arrested 5:35 a.m. at the Central depot after arriving from Nashville, via Birmingham and Meridian.

2. Patricia Elaine Bryant

Hometown: New York City, New York

Age: 20

Occupation: Student

Organization: Central State College

Arrest Date: June 9, 1961

Transportation: Train / Illinois Central Railroad

Fact: Bryant was member of the twelfth group of Freedom Riders that were arrested in Jackson, coming from Nashville, at 5:30 a.m.

3. John Luther Dolan

Hometown: San Francisco, California

Age: 20

Occupation: Student

Organization: University of California

Arrest Date: June 25, 1961

Transportation: Train / Illinois Central Railroad

Fact: Dolan was a member of the CORE in 1961. Dolan filed into the white-only section of the train depot and was arrested.

4. William Edd Harbour

Hometown: Piedmont, Alabama

Age: 19

Occupation: Student

Organization: Tennessee A&I College (now Tennessee State University)

Arrest Date: May 28, 1961

Transportation: Bus / Greyhound Bus Lines

Fact: Harbour was expelled from Tennessee A&I College due to his participation in the Freedom Rides. He was reinstated later in 1961.

5. David Kerr Morton

Hometown: Salt Lake City, Utah

Age: 21

Occupation: Folk singer and freelance writer

Organization: ?

Arrest Date: June 11, 1961

Transportation: Bus / Greyhound Bus Lines

Fact: Morton was arrested at the Jackson bus depot for trying to order a meal in the Negro section.

6. Carolyn Yvonne Reed

Hometown: Nashville, Tennessee

Age: 21

Occupation: Nurse's aide

Organization: Meharry Hospital

Arrest Date: June 2, 1961

Transportation: Bus / Trailway Bus Lines

Fact: Reed was a member of the seventh group of Freedom Riders who arrived in Jackson from Montgomery, June 2, 1961, at 6:55 p.m. at the Trailway Bus Terminal.

7. Ralph Edward Washington

Hometown: Webster Grove, Missouri

Age: 24

Occupation: Receptionist - pathology assistant

Organization: St. Louis County Hospital

Arrest Date: June 7, 1961

Transportation: Airplane/ Jackson Municipal Airport

Fact: Washington arrived in Jackson from Memphis, June 7, 1961 at 5:25p.m. by Delta Airlines.

8. Helene Dorothy Wilson

Hometown: Brooklyn, New York

Age: 26

Occupation: Housewife

Organization: ?

Arrest Date: June 8, 1961

Transportation: Train / Illinois Central Railroad

Fact: Wilson worked as a NAG and CORE activist.

Who are the Riders?

Mugshot sheet

Level 1

Cut out the images and try to match them to the rider biographies on the next page.

KEY



Patricia Elaine Bryant



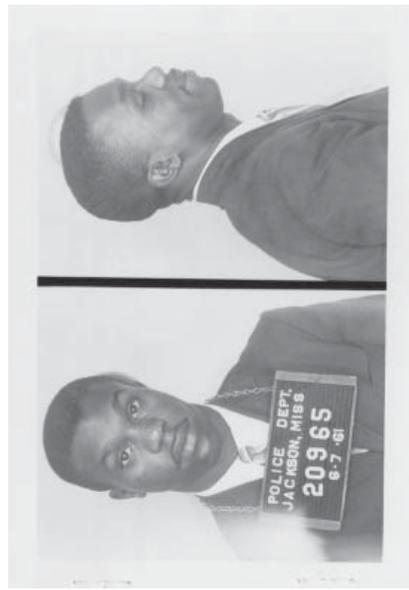
Winonah Margaret Beamer



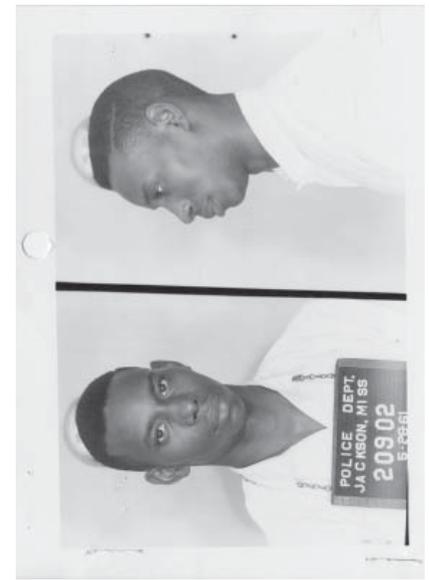
John Luther Dolan



Carolyn Yvonne Reed



Ralph Edward Washington



William Edd Harbour



David Kerr Morton



Helene Dorothy Wilson

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#1



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

What have you found out about this person? _____

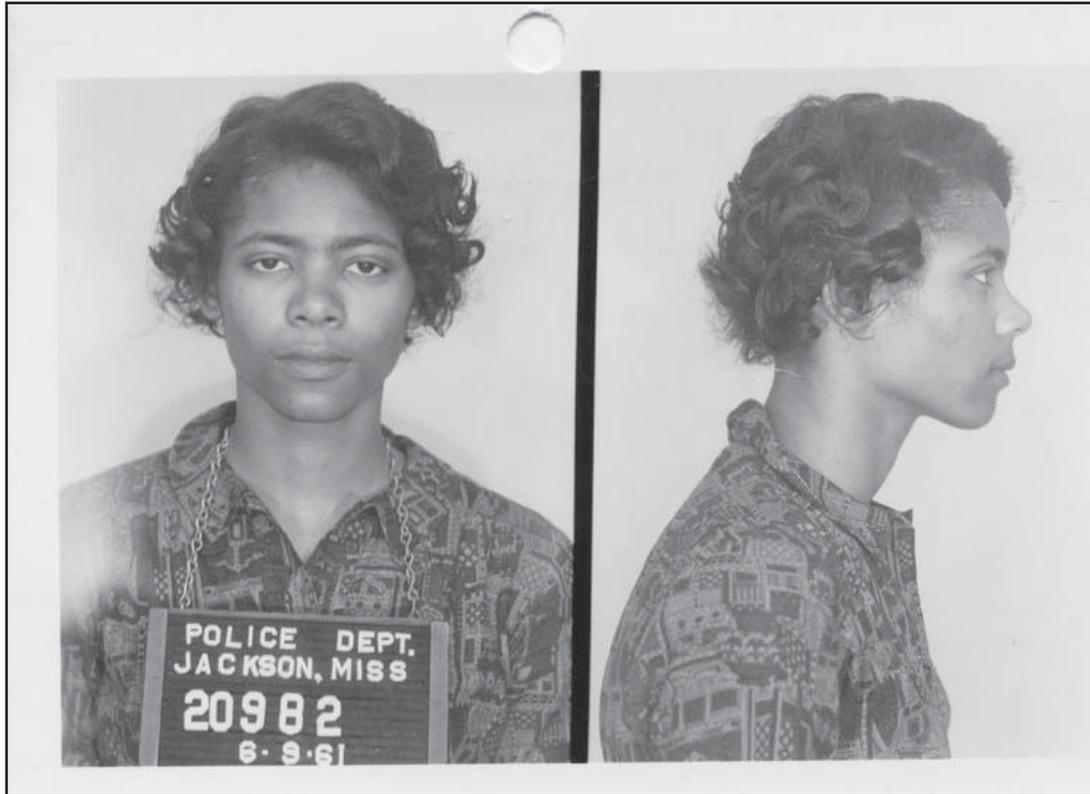
Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#2



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

What have you found out about this person? _____

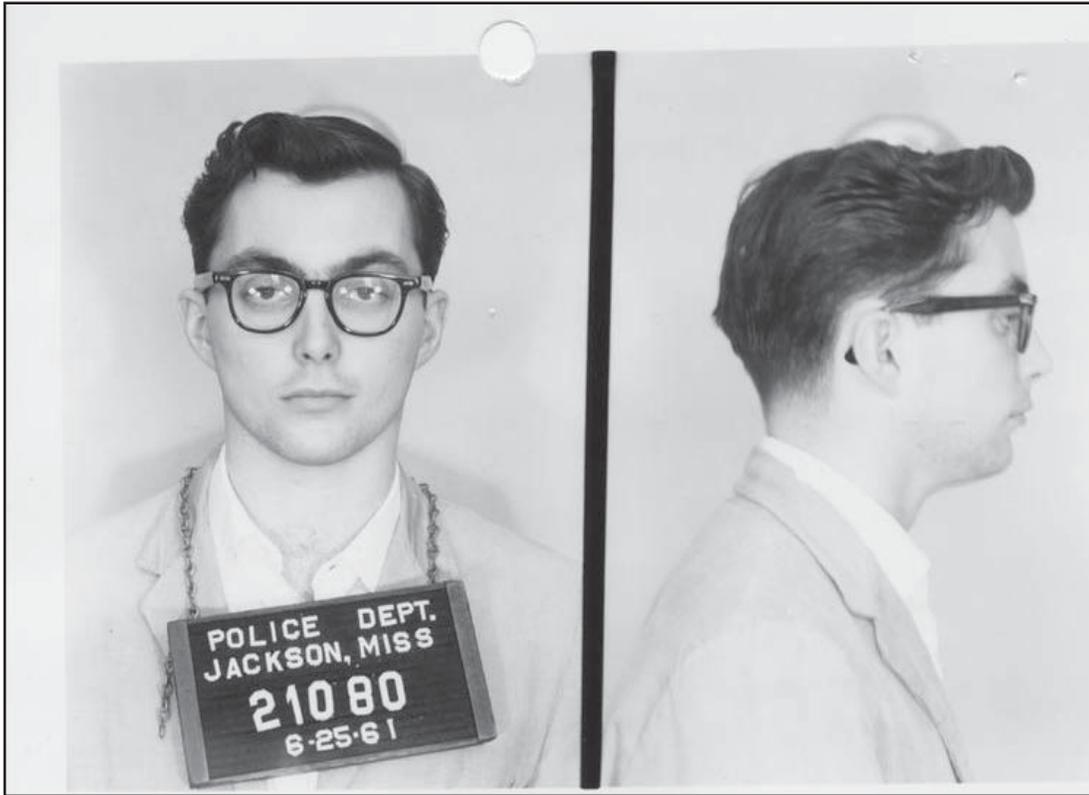
Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#3



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

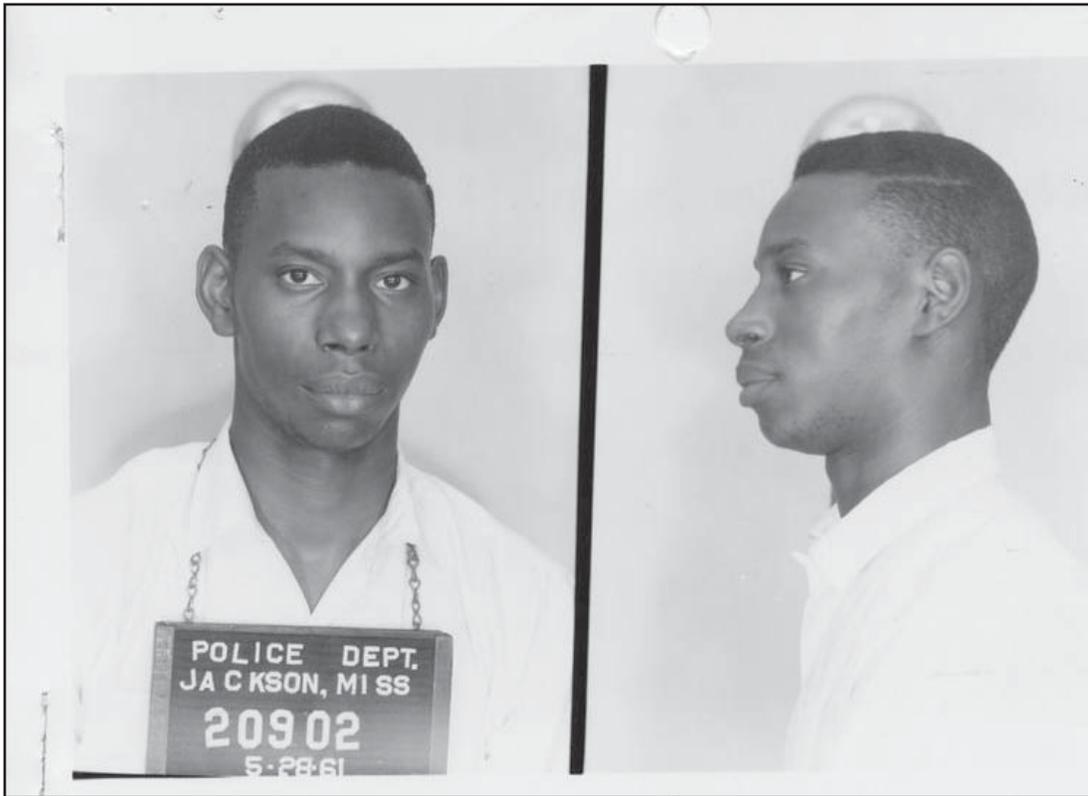
What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#4



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

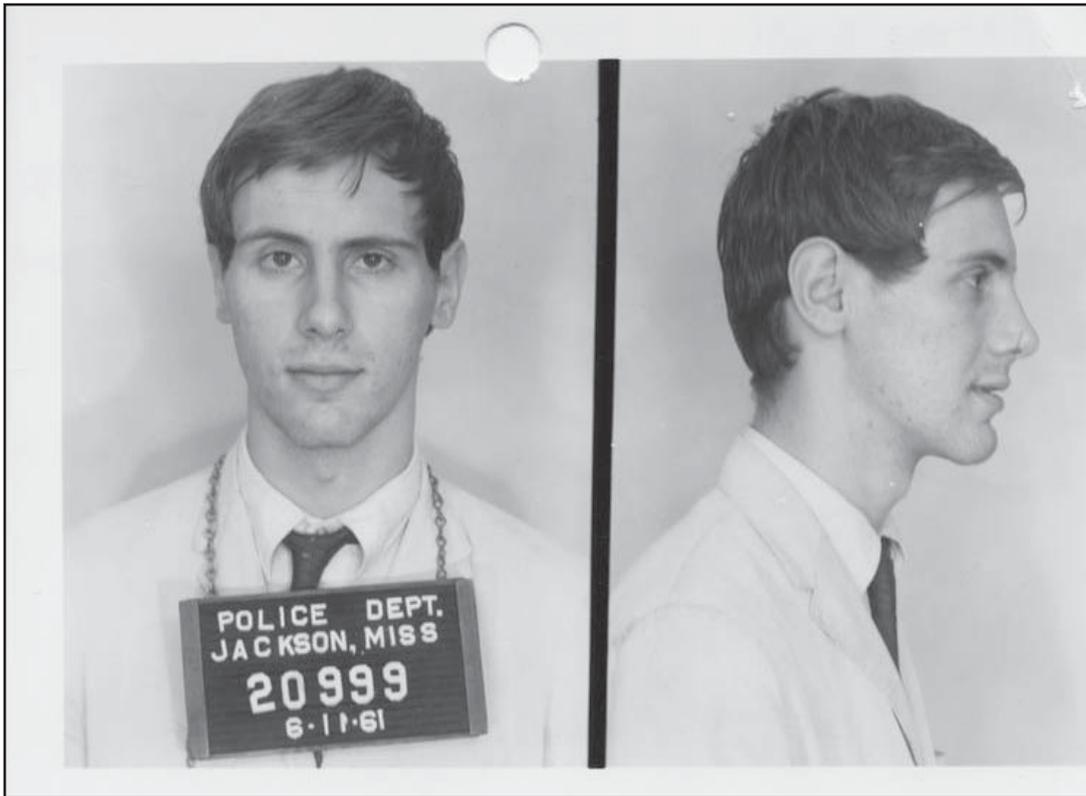
What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#5



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

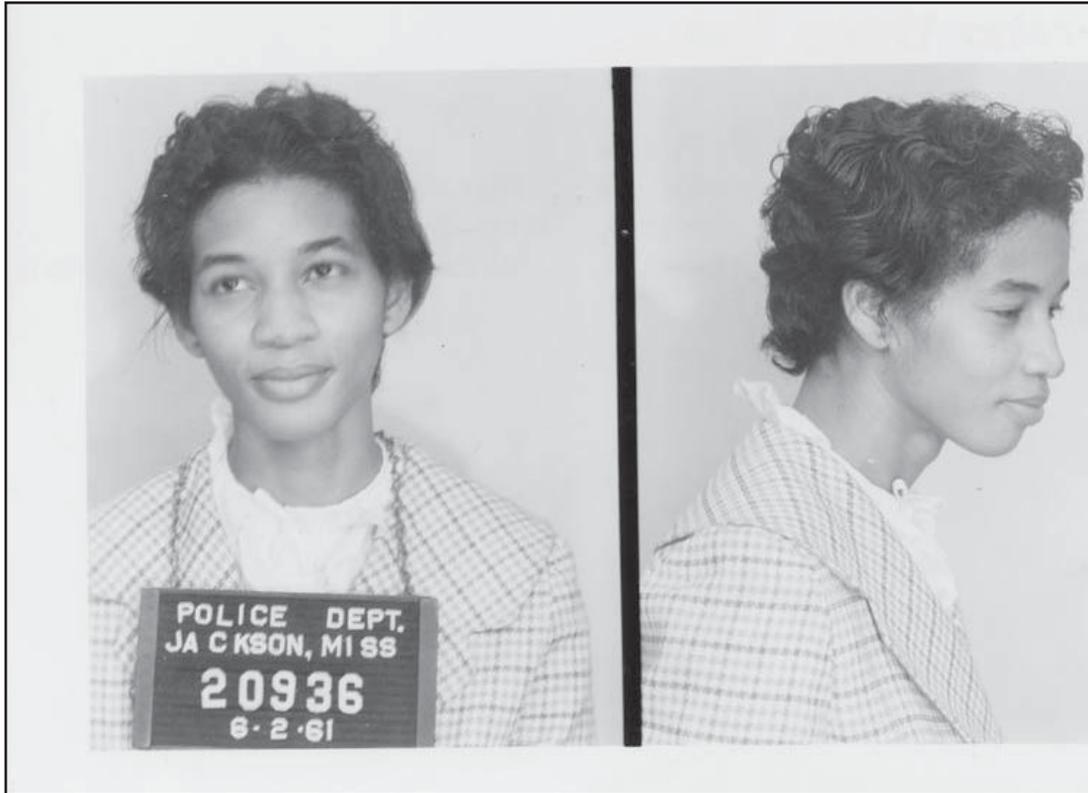
What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#6



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

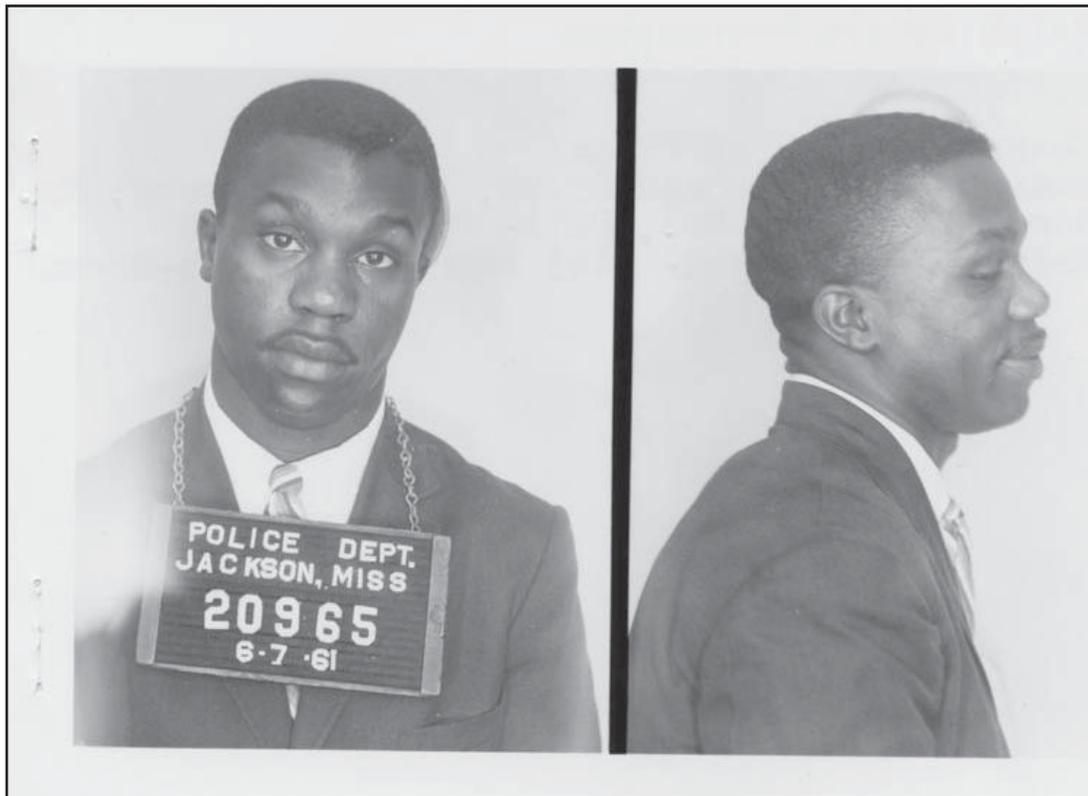
What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#7



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the Riders?

Level 2

#8



Part I.

What do you think this person's story is? _____

Part II.

What is this person's name? _____

What have you found out about this person? _____

Compare your idea with the facts. How do they compare? _____

Who are the riders?

Level 2 KEY

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Fact: Wilson worked as a NAG and CORE activist.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Listen in on History

You are going to listen to two recordings. One is an oral history of a Mississippi citizen, Clarie Collins Harvey. The other is an interview with a Mississippi official, Ross Barnett. After listening to each recording please answer the questions below.

Recording One - Clarie Collins Harvey

What was her role with Freedom Rides in Mississippi? _____

What three things does she say that stand out to you? _____

Do you think you could be brave enough to try and make a difference like she did? Why?

Recording Two – Ross Barnett

What was his role in the Mississippi civil rights movement? _____

What three things does he say that stand out to you? _____

Why do you think he said what he did? (Fear, anger, intimidation)

Listen in on History **Biographies**

Biographies of Listen in on History interviewees and interviewers.

Clarie Collins Harvey (Interview #1) Interview – April 21, 1981

Clarie Collins Harvey was born in Meridian, Mississippi, to Malachi Collins, Rust College professor and Mary Augusta Collins, the first African American librarian in Mississippi. In 1916, Clarie's father started a funeral home and insurance partnership in Hattiesburg, and then Jackson. Clarie attended public and private schools in Jackson and high school at Tougaloo College. She attended and in 1937 graduated from Spelman College in Atlanta. Clarie also attended Indiana College of Mortuary Science at Indianapolis. She went on to receive an M.A. from Columbia University and taught high school and junior college. She co-founded the Farish Street Y.W.C.A. in Jackson and was active member of Central United Methodist Church. After the death of her father, Clarie joined her mother in managing the Collins Funeral Home. After the death of her mother, she acquired ownership of the business. Clarie became known for involvement in providing goods for the Freedom Riders who came to Jackson and were arrested. Also in 1961 she founded and became leader of *Womanpower Unlimited*, an underground inter-faith group that provided assistance to civil rights workers who came to Mississippi in the 1960s. In 1964 she started her ten-year appointment to the Mississippi Advisory Council to the United States Council on Civil Rights.

Governor Ross R. Barnett (Interview #2) Interview – February 11, 1981

(1898-1987) Governor of Mississippi (1960–1964)

Born in Leake County, Mississippi, January 22, 1898. After graduating from Mississippi College in 1922, and earning a law degree at the University of Mississippi in 1926, Ross R. Barnett opened a law practice in Jackson. Barnett was a successful trial lawyer in Mississippi when he became governor in 1960.

Governor Barnett is most remembered for fighting integration in Mississippi, but he also amended the state's workmen's compensation law and the enactment of a "right to work law." He made Mississippi more attractive to outside industries. Governor Barnett's industrial development program created over 40,000 new jobs and included construction of industrial parks throughout the state. Governor Barnett resumed his law practice after leaving office in 1964. Ross Barnett Reservoir in Madison and Rankin counties and Barnett Lake in Smith County are named in honor of Governor Barnett.

John Dittmer (Interviewer)

Is a professor emeritus of history at DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, and Tougaloo College in Mississippi. He is the author of *Black Georgia in the Progressive Era, 1900-1920* and several essays on the civil rights movement. His book *Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi* is the winner of multiple awards including the Bancroft Prize in American History, Lillian Smith Book Award, Southern Regional Council, Mississippi Historical Society's McLemore Prize, and the 1995 Outstanding Book on the subject of human rights in North America given by the Gustavus Myers Center.

John Griffin Jones (Interviewer)

John Griffin Jones is senior partner at the Jackson, Mississippi, law firm of Jones, Funderburg, Sessums, Peterson & Lee, PLLC. This Jackson native attended Jackson public schools, Millsaps College and the University of Mississippi, before returning to Ole Miss where he received the J.D. in 1985. He served a clerkship with United States District Judge Tom S. Lee, Southern District of Mississippi.

He has published articles and papers on both non-legal and legal issues. Mr. Jones serves as a member of the Eudora Welty Foundation, member, 2007 - present. He also was a member of the Mississippi Civil Rights Education Commission from 2006-2009. This commission was established by the Mississippi Legislature in 2005 to plan and prepare public school curriculum on history of Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi.