

## Interview with Leona Tate, Gail Etienne, Tessie Prevost: Part 1

### *November 14, 1960: Getting ready for school*

1. Let's start with November 14, 1960. I'd like you all just to take a moment and go back in your mind to that day...starting in the morning when you got dressed and ready for school. Tell me what each of you wore that day.
  - a. Do you remember what color your dresses were?
  - b. What about your shoes? What kind of shoes did you wear?
  - c. You all wore bows in your hair, right?
  - d. Ms. Leona, you had a purse—do you remember what was in it?
2. Ms. Tessie, I spoke to your mother, and she told me that, at the beginning of every week, she would lay out your clothes and choose your outfits for each day of the week. Do you remember doing that with your mother?
  - a. When you think of those days now, what do you see in your mind's eye?

### *Getting to school*

3. At some point that morning, federal marshals showed up at your homes... Do you remember what you thought when you saw them?
  - a. Did you understand why they were there?
  - b. Did they seem nice? Scary?
4. Ms. Tessie, I know one of the marshals made a promise to your mother. Tell me about that.
5. Ms. Leona and Ms. Gail, you drove with the marshals to school. Did your parents give you any instructions about what to do—or NOT to do—in the car on the way to school?
  - a. Did you follow their instructions?
6. There was a big crowd outside McDonogh 19 that day, and all of you drove right into it. Did you see what was coming first, or did you hear it first?
  - a. What did it sound like?
7. Ms. Leona, you said you thought the crowd was a Mardi Gras parade. Tell me about that.
  - a. When did you realize that it wasn't a parade?
  - b. When did you realize that all those people out there were looking at *you*?
8. Ms. Gail, there's a famous picture of you in the car that morning. You're looking out the window and your eyes are just huge. What was happening outside that car at that moment?
  - a. What did you see?
  - b. Could you see people's faces?
  - c. What did they look like?
  - d. Could you make out what they were saying?
  - e. Were you scared?