AWESOME

LITTLE ROCK PROTESTS

0. LITTLE ROCK PROTESTS - Story Preface

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Despite a directive from the U.S. Supreme Court to desegregate schools, Orval Faubus, governor of Arkansas, summoned his state's National Guard to prevent African-American students from attending Central High School in Little Rock. This image, from the Library of Congress, depicts the scene on September 5, 1957. The Library's curators provide this description: "Crowd of students, sightseers, and the press waiting outside Central High School, Little Rock, Arkansas."

It was 1957, the start of another school year at <u>Central High</u> in Little Rock, Arkansas. This academic year was different, though. It began with huge protests. White <u>students</u>, and their parents, did not want to integrate their school.

The governor of Arkansas, <u>Orval Faubus</u>, agreed. He did not believe in integrated schools and called in the National Guard to <u>prevent</u> African-American <u>students</u> from entering Central High.

With clubs in hand, the Guardsmen were doing the job the Governor had asked them to do. It didn't seem to matter that the Supreme Court of the United States had already ordered that schools could no longer be "separate but equal."

Ending the immediate crisis (but not the <u>anger</u> of Little Rock citizens), President <u>Eisenhower</u> nationalized the Arkansas National Guard and assigned 1,000 paratroopers to the city.

No longer in charge of the Guard, Orval Faubus had no choice - he had to allow the <u>nine</u> African-American children - known today as "<u>The Little Rock Nine</u>" - to attend Central High.

The Governor's actions were not the last regarding anti-integration, anti-busing protests.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/LITTLE-ROCK-PROTESTS-School-Busing

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/LITTLE-ROCK-PROTESTS-School-Busing

Media Stream



LITTLE ROCK PROTESTS

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/LITTLE-ROCK-PROTESTS



<u>Little Rock Nine - Integration Pioneers</u>

Clip of the 50th Anniversary of the Little Rock Nine integrating Central High, online courtesy the Clinton Foundation (via YouTube).

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Little-Rock-Nine-Integration-Pioneers