

WALKER LOSES PLEA ON NEW LIBEL TRIAL

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 13 (UPI) —The Texas Supreme Court rejected today former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker's attempt to win a new trial on his unsuccessful libel suit against The Associated Press, and ordered him to reimburse the A.P. for court costs.

Mr. Walker, of Dallas, won a \$500,000 judgment against the wire service, but last June 12 the United States Supreme Court reversed it. The suit grew out of the wire service's descriptions of Mr. Walker's activities on the University of Mississippi campus when James H. Meredith, a Negro, enrolled there as a student.

The United States Supreme Court ruled that Mr. Walker was a "public figure" and had to prove malice to collect damages. The Court sent the case back to Texas "for further proceedings not inconsistent with the opinions filed herein."

The State Court of Civil Appeals in Fort Worth interpreted this to mean that Mr. Walker's suit should be thrown out and ruled "that Gen. Walker recover nothing from The Associated Press."

Appealing this, Mr. Walker's lawyers contended he "should have had an opportunity for a new trial under the new rules" laid down by the Supreme Court. The state Supreme Court rejected the appeal without written opinion.

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