

Ex-Klansman 54 9/18/69 Goes to Court In Evers Case

FAYETTE, Miss. (AP) — Dale Walton, a former Ku Klux Klan leader, faces charges in city court here today in connection with an alleged attempt to murder Negro Mayor Charles Evers.

Walton, 44, identified by the FBI as former head of the Klan's Knights of the Green Forest, yesterday waived formal hearing on a federal firearms violation charge. The Tupelo merchant was placed under \$5,000 bond after appearing before a U.S. commissioner in Vicksburg.

Agents of the federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division escorted Walton from the Jefferson County jail to Vicksburg.

Evers, a state civil rights leader and the first Negro Mayor of a biracial Mississippi town since Reconstruction, said he received anonymous tips that several men were headed for Fayette to kill him. Walton's arrest resulted.

Walton was charged with attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, carrying a concealed weapon and speeding.

The federal gun violation charges came after officers in Natchez found another Tupelo man in Walton's motel room in possession of a submachine gun. In all, three men were charged with firearms violations in the case.