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Court Rejects New Trial Plea By Gen. Walker

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court rejected today a petition by former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker seeking a new trial in Texas of libel allegations against The Associated Press.

The court last June threw out a \$500,000 judgment Walker had won against AP in a Texas state court. The suit was based on descriptions of Walker's activities at the University of Mississippi campus at Oxford in 1962 during disorders accompanying the admission of a Negro, James Meredith.

The court said public figures, like public officials, cannot recover libel damages without a showing of actual malice. Also, the court said AP's conduct was not improper.

Walker's attorneys then tried to get a new trial in Texas and were turned down. The appeal to the Supreme Court, saying another trial was in order because "the substantive rules of liability" had been changed, was rejected without comment.

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