OBITUARY

Walker, 83, general forced to leave Army

The New York Times

Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, whose right-wing political activities led to an official rebuke and his resignation from the Army in 1961, died Sunday at his home in Dallas. He was 83 years old.

The cause was lung disease, the Dallas County medical examiner's office said in a report Monday.

Walker, a lanky, much-decorated Texan who led combat units in World War II and the Korean War, ended his 30-year Army career because, he said, he "could no longer serve in uniform and be a collaborator with the release of United States sovereignty to the United Nations."

On April 10, 1963, a sniper fired at him as he sat at his desk in his home. The bullet missed his head by about an inch.

In 1964, a commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, identified the assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, as the same man who had fired at Walker.

The issue that led to Walker's resignation began in April 1961 when Overseas Weekly, a privately owned newspaper circulated among members of the armed forces overseas, accused the general of using an Army information program to subject his troops to "a propaganda barrage" that extolled the John Birch Society. Walker then was commanding the 24th Infantry Division, based in West Germany.

The newspaper also reported that the general had publicly asserted that former President Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt and former Secretary of State Dean Acheson were

"definitely pink."

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MONDAYS



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