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Photographer Tells the Court His Story

By MAX H. SEIGEL

A freelance photographer, Ronald E. Galella, testified yesterday that Mrs. Aristotle Onassis had told a Secret Service man, John Connelly, to "smash" his camera after he had taken pictures of her and her on, John, in Central Park on Sept. 24, 1969.

Mr. Galella, appearing as the plaintiff in United States District Court in a \$1.3-million suit charging interference with his livelihood, added that Mr. Connelly did not smash the camera. He said that a few minutes later, he saw Mrs. Onassis talking with another Secret Service agent, John Walsh. Mr. Galella said she appeared angry.

Mr. Walsh, he said, was joined by a third agent, James Kalafatis. And Mr. Galella testified that the two started toward him. He fled, but they caught up with him and took him to the 19th Precinct station, where he was served with a summons for resisting arrest.

The case was heard in Criminal Court on Oct. 23 and dismissed.

Mr. Galella then related an incident on the Italian island of Capri.

Mrs. Onassis testified Thursday that she was "terrorized" by the way the photographer had followed her about there.

Mr. Galella told the court yesterday that he and two or three other photographers were taking pictures of Mrs. Onassis and the children of her sister, Princess Lee Radziwell, at an outdoor restaurant. He said Mrs. Onassis called over a waiter and told him, "Get the police, get rid of this photographer," pointing to him.

Mr. Galella also testified about an incident at Kennedy Airport last Feb. 21. He said he knew that Mr. Onassis was leaving for Greece, so, he hid himself in a restaurant that he knew Mr. and Mrs. Onassis would pass. But Mrs. Onassis noticed him, he said; and, suddenly, two employes of Olym-

pic Airlines, which her husband owns, got in his way, preventing him from snapping many pictures.

One of the two, Mr. Galella said, then got him in a corner, and he fell. Mr. Onassis, looking back, started laughing, he said, but Mrs. Onassis merely smiled briefly. "It was one of the worst flops I ever had," Mr. Galella said.

So far, the hearings have been confined to Mr. Galella's suit against Mrs. Onassis. Pending are two counteractions. In one, Mrs. Onassis is seeking to make permanent a temporary injunction barring the photographer from going within 100 yards of her apartment, or within 50 yards of her outside the apartment. In the other, the Government seeks to enjoin Mr. Galella from interfering with the work of the Secret Service.

Mr. Galella is to resume his testimony at 10:30 A.M. Tuesday.