

# Lawyer for Mrs. Onassis Says Galella's Suit Is Publicity Stunt

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Lawyers for Mrs. Aristotle Onassis charged in Federal Court here yesterday that Ronald E. Galella, a freelance photographer, brought suit against their client to gain publicity and the business he knew a lawsuit would spark.

Mr. Galella sued for \$1.3-million, charging that agents for Mrs. Onassis interfered with his livelihood in attempting to prevent his photographing her. His lawyers have presented their case, and Federal Judge Irving Ben Cooper has reserved decision on a motion for dismissal by former Judge Simon H. Rifkind, chief counsel for Mrs. Onassis.

The testimony read into the court record yesterday was in connection with a countersuit seeking to keep the photographer 200 yards from Mrs. Onassis' apartment at 1040 Fifth Avenue and 100 yards from her outside the apartment.

Using Mr. Galella's pretrial deposition to support their charge against him, lawyers for Mrs. Onassis read into the court record statements from Mr. Galella that once the court action was taken he received many orders for photographs — both of Mrs. Onassis and himself.

The photographer declared in his deposition that he sold the photographs as a package to be used with the stories the publications carried of the trial.

He admitted under questioning that he had received requests for photographs from Photoplay, Modern Screen, Life,

National Enquirer, and TV Radio Mirror, as well as from the German magazine Jasmin and the Italian magazine Oggi.

Mr. Galella told the pretrial hearing he received \$1,000 from TV Radio Mirror for a set of photographs of Mrs. Onassis and himself. And he received an equal sum from National Enquirer for a similar set, he said.

Other testimony taken at the pretrial deposition and read into the court record yesterday disclosed some of the tactics employed by Mr. Galella to photograph Mrs. Onassis.

He was quoted as saying that on one occasion when Mrs. Onassis was a member of a party having dinner at the Szechuan Taste Restaurant at 23 Chatham Square, he hid behind a coat rack to get his shots. And he got the manager to raise the volume of the recorded music so Mrs. Onassis would not hear the clicking of his camera.

Mr. Galella also said he had used many disguises to get his pictures, including mustaches, beards, wigs, dark glasses and, sometimes, a pipe.

Judge Cooper is hearing the case without a jury in the Federal Court House on Foley Square. The trial will resume at 10:30 A.M. Monday.