

15 June 1964  
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A157DN

NIGHT LEAD WALKER (200)

FORT WORTH, TEX., JUNE 15 (AP)-FORMER MAJ. GEN. EDWIN A. WALKER'S LAWYERS TODAY CALLED A HALT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY IN HIS \$2 MILLION LIBEL SUIT AGAINST THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. THE DEFENSE IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN ITS CASE TOMORROW.

WALKER'S CHIEF COUNSEL, CLYDE WATTS, RESTED HIS CASE IN LATE AFTERNOON IN THE SIXTH DAY OF A TRIAL WHICH BEGAN JUNE 8.

DIST. JUDGE CHARLES MURRAY DISMISSED THE JURY OF FOUR WOMEN AND EIGHT MEN FOR THE DAY, AND WENT INTO PRIVATE SESSION IN HIS CHAMBERS TO HEAR THE USUAL MID-TRIAL DEFENSE MOTIONS FOR DISMISSAL OF THE CASE. THE JUDGE TURNED THEM DOWN.

WALKER, 54, IS SUING THE AP FOR STORIES FILED FROM OXFORD, MISS., DURING THE SEGREGATION RIOTS THERE IN 1962. HE CLAIMED HE WAS FALSELY DEPICTED AS LEADING STUDENTS IN A CHARGE ON U.S. MARSHALS SEPT. 30. TWO MEN LOST THEIR LIVES THAT NIGHT DURING WILD DISORDERS OVER THE ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI OF NEGRO JAMES MEREDITH.

FINAL TESTIMONY FOR THE PLAINTIFF CAME FROM AL KUETTNER, A UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTER WHO COVERED THE OXFORD RIOT. HE WAS NOT PRESENT IN THE COURT ROOM BUT PORTIONS OF HIS TESTIMONY WERE READ FROM A DEPOSITION HE HAD SWORN TO SOME TIME AGO.

KUETTNER SAID THAT AT NO TIME DURING THE NIGHT OF SEPT. 30 HAD HE SEEN WALKER LEAD ANY KIND OF A CHARGE AGAINST THE FEDERAL MARSHALS.

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