

A155NU (PD, DN)

Misc II - Walker

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NIGHT LEAD TRIAL (200)

FORT WORTH, TEX. JUNE 10 (AP)-FORMER MAJ. GEN. EDWIN A. WALKER TOOK THE WITNESS STAND IN TARRANT COUNTY DISTRICT COURT LATE TODAY IN HIS \$2 MILLION LIBEL SUIT AGAINST THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

THE 54-YEAR-OLD FORMER ARMY OFFICER CLAIMS HE WAS FALSELY REPRESENTED IN AP NEWS STORIES AS LEADING A CHARGE OF STUDENTS AGAINST U.S. MARSHALS DURING A SEGREGATION RIOT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI, SEPT. 30, 1962. TWO MEN WERE KILLED IN A WILD NIGHT OF DISORDER, OCCASIONED BY ADMISSION INTO THE SCHOOL OF NEGRO JAMES MEREDITH.

DISTRICT JUDGE CHARLES MURRAY RECESSED THE TRIAL FOR THE NIGHT BEFORE WALKER REACHED THE POINT IN HIS TESTIMONY CONCERNING HIS ARRIVAL ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SHORTLY AFTER THE RIOT BEGAN.

WALKER DID TESTIFY THAT DURING THE 1957 SEGREGATION CRISIS IN LITTLE ROCK HE HAD MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE USE OF FEDERAL TROOPS UNDER HIS COMMAND TO PREVENT DISORDERS THERE.

"I CERTAINLY DEVELOPED THE CONCEPT AGAINST THE USE OF MILITARY FORCES IN A STRICTLY CIVILIAN DOMAIN AND CONCERNING CIVILIAN PROBLEMS," WALKER SAID.

THEREFORE, WALKER CONTINUED, HE CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF GOING FROM HIS DALLAS HOME TO MISSISSIPPI WHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI CRISIS NEARED A CLIMAX LATE IN SEPTEMBER OF 1962--"BUT ONLY IF FEDERAL TROOPS WERE USED."

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