

Ex-Gen. Walker Still Sounds the Same

DALLAS — (UPI) — He isn't as GI-sharp in appearance as he used to be—gray hair juts from his chin and upper lip and his hair falls to his collar — but the former two-star Army general sounds the same.

"One time every four years we put some skunk in the White House," said ex-Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, chain-smoking.

The man the Warren Commission said was the target of a bullet fired by Lee Harvey Oswald before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, lives in a green, 19th century-style mansion on a fashionable street.

**COMPARISON**

Outside his own political "hermitage" he has erected a large star-spangled sign proclaiming: "Sodom, Gomorrah or Wallace." It is his way of comparing the Democratic and Republican presidential nominees to the Biblical cities of sin and corruption.

"What difference does it make which man we elect president this year? I've already started urging my supporters to sit it out in November," Walker said. "Both the candidates are impossible. There is no choice for the common voter of this country."

Walker's political activities inside his mansion are obscure, and those who get too curious about the general's work have been discouraged from time to time by burly bodyguards at the entrance to the home.

But the onetime fiery voice of right-wing America is by no means a recluse. One of his favorite pastimes is visiting a park near his home which, ironically, is inhabited mainly by the small community of "flower children" of Dallas.

**Biggest Disgrace**

"Do you wonder why the kids are maniacs? Because



**GEN. EDWIN WALKER**  
"Skunk in White House"

my age is the biggest disgrace in the world," he said, flailing his arms.

"This country hasn't got any place to fall it's so low. Nixon is the least president we've ever had and the great majority in the Senate are not going to have Nixon beat."

Just how much support Walker has in his views is guesswork, but the former military leader is convinced he speaks for the mainstream of the American electorate which he believes is being auctioned to America's "enemies."

Walker entered the national political arena in 1961 when he was pressured into resigning his commission in the U. S. Army for alleged political indoctrination of American troops stationed in Germany.

**No Pension**

"I'm the only general in the history of this country to resign with an honorable discharge," Walker said. "There was some admiral way back who resigned his commission but the circumstances were so dissimilar they don't bear repeating. I receive absolutely nothing for a pension and don't owe a cent to anyone."

Walker said his income is based on investments made during and after his Army years.

Following his resignation Walker was in great demand as a speaker at rallies for political groups, especially the John Birch Society.

He entered electoral politics briefly in 1962, campaigning for the Democratic nomination for governor of Texas against five other men including John B. Connally, the eventual winner.

**Arrested**

Walker continued his public appearances following his fifth place finish in the Texas primary, and in 1962 he made headlines again — at Oxford, Miss., where the country's first full-scale riot over racial integration resulted in the call-out of federal troops.

Walker was arrested, and placed in a federal prison in Springfield, Mo., under charges of inciting to riot.

In prison, federal authorities gave him psychiatric testing. He was labeled a "political prisoner" and such diverse groups as the American Civil Liberties Union and the John Birch Society protested the alleged violation of his constitutional rights.

The charges against Walker later were dismissed by a grand jury in Mississippi and Walker filed a landmark libel suit against the Associated Press and several newspapers which carried its report on his involvement at the Oxford riots.

**Public Figure**

Walker won the initial court rounds but the Supreme Court reversed the decision. The court declared Walker a "public figure" and failed to find a showing of malice in the press accounts of Walker's activities.

"The Supreme Court says I'm the cheapest public figure in the United States," Walker said. "I've got more following per dollar than any of the politicians."

Walker became the target of an assassin's bullet. The widow of Lee Harvey Oswald later told the Warren Commission that her hus-

band fired the shot that missed Walker by inches as he sat in his study in October, 1963 — a year after the Oxford riots and a month before the death of John F. Kennedy.

Since 1963 Walker's public appearances have decreased. Today he apparently spends most of his time talking politics among cronies and the curious young people who frequent the park near his Dallas home.

Despite the confrontation of views on such occasions, Walker generally holds youth blameless for the state of the country, which he believes is "at rock bottom."

"What my generation is doing to the young people is an outright disgrace," he said. "The world is getting smaller and smaller and our problems are getting larger and larger. Our country is mortgaged 20 or 30 years ahead. And the responsibility is Nixon's global conquest — isolation is a fake. Our enemies are so close that even the oceans are unfriendly waters."

Conduct of the war in Southeast Asia is equally distasteful to him.

"The war in Vietnam is the greatest victory for the U. S. Senate-U.N. conspiracy this country has ever seen," Walker said.