

A163DN (NX FW)

NIGHT LEAD WALKER (200)

FORT WORTH, TEX. JUNE 9 (AP)-A STUDENT RIOTER DURING THE 1962 INTEGRATION CRISIS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI TOLD A LIBEL TRIAL JURY TODAY THAT FORMER MAJ. GEN. EDWIN A. WALKER DECLINED TO LEAD THE DISORDER.

"I THOUGHT, HERE WE'VE GOT A LEADER, BUT I FOUND OUT GENERAL WALKER WOULDN'T LEAD US," SAID RICHARD H. SWEAT, 20, OF CORINTH, MISS., A PRE-LAW STUDENT AT OLE MISS.

HOWEVER, SWEAT TESTIFIED UNDER CROSS EXAMINATION THAT HE HEARD THE 54-YEAR-OLD WALKER SAY IN AN ADDRESS TO A SEGMENT OF THE BRICK-HURLING STUDENT CROWD, "KEEP UP THE PROTEST."

WALKER CLAIMED IN A \$2 MILLION SUIT AGAINST THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT HE WAS LIBELED IN DISPATCHES FROM OXFORD, MISS., THAT DEPICTED HIM AS LEADING A STUDENT CHARGE AGAINST U.S. MARSHALS. TWO PERSONS LOST THEIR LIVES ON SEPT. 30, 1962, IN A CAMPUS RIOT OVER THE ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEGRO JAMES MEREDITH.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS CONTENDS ITS STORIES WERE TRUE AND THAT THEY CONTAINED NO MALICE. THE TRIAL IN DIST. JUDGE CHARLES MURRAY'S TARRANT COUNTY COURTROOM BEGAN YESTERDAY WITH THE SELECTION OF A JURY OF FOUR WOMEN AND EIGHT MEN.

SWEAT WAS THE TRIAL'S FIRST WITNESS FOR THE PLAINTIFF. WALKER RESIGNED FROM THE ARMY IN 1961 AFTER AN OFFICIAL ADMONISHMENT IN WHICH HE WAS ACCUSED BY THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OF ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE VOTES OF MEN IN HIS COMMAND IN EUROPE DURING THE 1960 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

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