

Chronic

Gen. Walker Judgment Reduced

Shreveport, La.

A \$250,000 judgment against the Associated Press and the Times-Picayune Publishing Corp. on behalf of former Major General Edwin A. Walker was reduced to \$75,000 yesterday by the Louisiana Court of Appeal second circuit.

The suit was based on Associated Press accounts of activities of Walker on the campus of the University of Mississippi in September, 1962, during disorders accompanying the admission to the University of a Negro student, James Meredith. The reports were published in the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

The court sustained the jury's verdict rendered on Oct. 29, 1965, that the Associated Press accounts of Walker's actions were made with malice.

In a similar action now before the Supreme Court of the United States, Texas State courts have ruled that the Associated Press acted without malice. Walker was awarded \$500,000 damages in the Texas case.

Associated Press

NYTimes

Walker Libel Judgment Cut To \$75,000 in Louisiana Case

SHREVEPORT, La., Oct. 31 (AP)—A \$2,250,000 judgment against The Associated Press and the Times-Picayune Publishing Corporation on behalf of former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker was reduced to \$75,000 today by the Louisiana Court of Appeals, Second Circuit.

The suit was based on Associated Press accounts of activities of Mr. Walker on the campus of the University of Mississippi in September, 1962, during disorders accompanying the admission to the university of the Negro student James H. Meredith, and published in The New Orleans Times-Picayune.

In reviewing a state court jury verdict given on Oct. 29, 1965, the court held that the damages were excessive, noting that punitive damages could not be recovered in civil actions in Louisiana.

The court sustained the jury's conclusion that The Associated Press accounts of Mr. Walker's actions were made with malice. In New York, The Associated Press said it would appeal the Louisiana court ruling.