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N Y O N L Y

CHICAGO, NOV. 16 (AP)-THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE YESTERDAY INTERVENED AS A FRIEND OF THE COURT IN SUPPORT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN A LIBEL CASE NOW PENDING IN THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

THE AP IS APPEALING A \$500,000 VERDICT AWARDED BY A JURY IN FORT WORTH, TEX., TO FORMER GEN. EDWIN A. WALKER, WHO SAID HE WAS LIBELED BY REPORTS OF HIS ACTIVITIES IN RIOTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI IN 1962.

AN APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF THE TRIBUNE COMPANY WAS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT IN WASHINGTON BY ITS ATTORNEYS.

W.D. MAXWELL, EDITOR OF THE TRIBUNE, SAID THE TRIBUNE IS APPEARING IN SUPPORT OF THE AP BECAUSE IT REGARDS THE ATTEMPT BY WALKER TO COLLECT DAMAGES FOR THE ON-TH-SPOT NEWS REPORTING OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIOTS AS A GRAVE THREAT TO FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

"THE PRESS OF THIS COUNTRY," MAXWELL SAID, "SHOULD BE ABLE, WITHOUT FEAR OF SUIT, TO PRINT THE BEST AVAILABLE ON-THE-SCENE REPORTS OF SUCH AN EVENT AS THE MISSISSIPPI RIOTS."

MAXWELL NOTED THAT THE TRIBUNE'S INTERVENTION IN THE WALKER CASE IS IN KEEPING WITH ITS TRADITIONAL POLICY OF APPEARING IN IMPORTANT CASES DEALING WITH THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

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