

9-30-1962

## Annotated article by Cruttenden to San Francisco Examiner, 30 September 1962

Charles Cruttenden

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OXFORD, MISS., SEPT. 30 -- ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I bought  
my way onto the barricaded Ole Miss campus today ~~with~~ <sup>FOR TEN</sup> Yankee <sup>DOLLARS</sup>  
~~dollars~~ ~~ten dollars.~~

That's what it cost to "rent" a student identification  
card and get by the State Police. ~~It was ten dollars.~~

And it was the price of a ticket to a <sup>(FRIGHTENING)</sup> riot.

I dodged tear gas shells with nearly 1,000 students and  
miscellaneous roughnecks. And I retreated before the onslaught with  
my vision ~~blurred~~ blotted out by tears.

I saw <sup>a</sup> joking band of hecklers turn into a ~~ferocious~~ mad-  
dog, rock-throwing mob. And I heard a former United States Army  
General, Edwin A. Walker, incite further ~~the~~ trouble with a shouted  
speech on campus. He got in for free.

The former candidate for governor of Texas told the mob:

"You can continue protesting as you are. There is no  
stepping point."

I heard him say the words. The mob responded with wild  
rebel yells and pleas to "Lead us, general!"

"There are thousands of people on their way to help  
you," Walker promised. <sup>L</sup>The talk, about 100 yards from the cordon  
of marshals standing shoulder to shoulder around the admissions  
building, was broken up by a lobbed tear gas shell. The marshals  
wore gas masks and continued firing the shells about every 20  
seconds to keep the mob back.

(more)



It's not fair to say it <sup>was</sup> a student mob because I heard several ~~say:~~ **OBVIOUS NON-STUDENTS**

"I wouldn't want to go to that school anyway with that nigger there."

But there were students among the stone tossers who smashed windows in the campus YMCA and other nearby buildings, tore apart drinking fountains and smashed pop bottles all over the street.

Many members of the mob carried transistor radios to get information on the crisis. One radio station said there were three students shot by the marshals. The report was unconfirmed but it served to touch off a new rush on the marshals.

The charge was greeted by a new <sup>volley</sup> ~~burst~~ of tear gas that resembled a Fourth of July fireworks display. The marshals also used a machine that flashed lights in a wild, **(TERRIFYING)** pattern and lobbed fake tear gas bombs like skyrockets far back into the mob.

**(THE DEEP SHOTS)**  
~~It~~ contained no gas -- just terror. Scores of students stumbled and fell in the darkness as they retreated. The radio station said the rush was ~~led~~ led by Gen. Walker, but I saw him leave the ~~campus~~ **(BEFORE IT STARTED)**. The station later ~~announced~~ added that Walker had retreated temporarily to regroup before a new charge.

~~Walker~~  
~~Walker~~ Walker left the campus amid some jeers of "Go on back to Texas," and "Hey, General, watch out. There's a Communist here."

Shortly after his departure the State police were ordered off the campus for some reason that was unknown to the mob. But it was a signal for the mob to double in size. It continued to build as the evening progressed.

(more)



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I counted 112 cars of the State Police drive out the University Ave. gate. Their departure ~~was~~ left only the marshals to defend against further violence.

end Cruttenden

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