

NEWS RELEASE  
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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WHITE GIRL GETS 12 MONTHS, \$1,000  
FINE IN SIT-IN CASE

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, February 20 - An 18-year-old white girl, a student at Connecticut College For Women, was sentenced here today to six months in the common jail and from twelve to fourteen months on the public works.

She was fined \$1,000. Her appeal bond was set at \$15,000.

The girl, Mardon Walker, formerly an exchange student at Spelman College here, was arrested during a January 13 sit-in attempt at a segregated restaurant.

She was charged with violation of Georgia's trespass law, passed in 1960 after student anti-segregation demonstrations began.

The judge, Fulton County Superior Court Judge Durwood T. Pye, requires that appeal bonds be posted with unencumbered property.

Georgia's Supreme Court reversed an earlier bail of \$20,000 Judge Pye set for an elderly white man, the Reverend Ashton Jones, 67, jailed during a church integration attempt last summer. The state Supreme Court ordered Pye to set misdemeanor appeal bonds at not higher than \$5,000. Reverend Jones is still behind bars, however, because Judge Pye, who reset his bail at the \$5,000 maximum, refused to accept \$5,000 in cash to free the minister.

Miss Walker, who was indicted by a Grand Jury after her January arrest, complained she was beaten by white female prisoners in the county jail during her last arrest. She has asked Carl Smithwick, the Fulton County jail warden, to place her in solitary confinement for her own protection.

Judge Pye was obviously angered by a petition filed in U. S. District Court here February 17 to remove 17 sit-in cases to Federal jurisdiction. The judge sentenced a character witness for Miss Walker to twenty days in jail for contempt of court after the witness, Melvin V. Brimmer, a Spelman College history professor, was accused by the judge of making remarks insulting to the court.