

# HOUSTON CHRONICLE

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## Audie Murphy 'Stars' In \$70,000 Suit Here

Movie actor Audie Murphy was the star witness Wednesday in a \$70,000 damage suit filed by a Houston actor.

Local actor Rudy Duran is suing Owen F. Jensen, Jr., of 5634 Chevy Chase, vice-president of the Layne Texas Co., driver of a car that struck Duran in the driveway of the Tideland Motor Hotel Jan. 2, 1960.

Duran, a former University of Houston student, claims he lost \$45,000 in film contracts because he was physically unable to honor them after his accident.

Murphy, the most decorated soldier in World War II, was called to testify in Duran's behalf.

Murphy told reporters Duran had been signed as a stand-in for Guy Mitchell in the film "Whispering Smith," in which Murphy costarred.

"This might have been his big break in pictures," Murphy told reporters, "but, he had to cancel."

Duran's suit asks \$23,000 in physical damages, \$2000 for medical expenses, and \$45,000 for lost film contracts.

During the Korean war, Duran was awarded a silver star, two bronze stars, two purple hearts and a presidential citation.

He made his movie debut as a soldier with Gregory Peck in "Pork Chop Hill."