Campaign Into Disarray

Shock, Sorrow Expressed by Foe, Friend

By Stephen Green
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Shock and sorrow from Democratic and Republican leaders as well as ordinary citizens followed the shooting in Laurel yesterday of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

"Oh my God," said Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), Wallace's chief opponent in today's Maryland primary as he received news of the shooting from two Secret Service men who whispered in his ear while he spoke at a day-care center in Baltimore.

"All I can say is that it is a sad business. It's getting so you don't know what's going to happen in our country any more in politics," Humphrey said as he suspended campaigning and went to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring where Wallace was hospitalized.

At the hospital, Humphrey, spent an hour with Mrs. Wallace. "What I've heard is encouraging. The governor has a lot of fight in him and he's showing it now. Thank God, it's not fatal," Humphrey told reporters.

Sen. George S. McGovern (D-S.D.), who has been trying for an upset victory in the Maryland contest, learned of the shooting, while campaigning in Kalamazoo, Mich., and expressed shock.

McGovern announced he would suspend his campaigning until further notice.

Humphrey said he planned to stick to his schedule to make a television broadcast in Baltimore last night. The broadcast was to be beamed to Maryland and Michigan.

At the White House, President Nixon sent one of his personal physicians, Dr. William Lukash, an internist and a U.S. Navy captain, to Holy Cross Hospital.

"I ask all Americans to join me in praying for his (Wallace's) safety and full recovery and also for all the others who were wounded in this senseless and tragic incident," Mr. Nixon said.

"Our nation has suffered more than enough already from the intrusion of violence into its political processes. We must all stand together to eliminate this vicious threat to our public life. We must not permit the shadow of violence to fall over our country again," the President added.

As the President issued his statement the White House announced that Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) had accepted an offer of protection by the Secret Service.

Kennedy, who has lost two brothers to assassins bullets, has continually insisted that he is not a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

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Kennedy said "my heart and prayers go out to Gov. Wallace and to the members of his grief-stricken family. Once again, democracy in America has been scarred by senseless and unforgivable violence."

"I am saddened beyond measure that tragedy has again stained and darkened the process we use to select our political leaders," Kennedy added.

Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy, whose husband was fatally shot four years ago, called Mrs. Wallace at the hospital after learning of the shooting, according to a family spokesman.

Mr. Nixon learned of the shooting from his assistant, R. H. Haldeman, Ronald Ziegler, the President's press secretary said the White House "received word shortly before the bulletin (at 4:10 p.m.) through the Secret Service. When informed, he (the President) immediately expressed concern and asked for a full report."

The President personally called Mrs. Wallace at her husband's bedside and offered his hope and prayers for the governor's recovery, the White House said.

Ziegler said that Mrs. Wallace said that her husband was conscious at the time the President phoned and said she was optimistic about his condition.

Washington area residents also expressed shock at the shooting.

"It just makes you wonder, what's what. They shoot the liberals, they shoot the radicals. It makes you wonder what's going on," said James Lampkin, 33, a District of Columbia drug addiction counselor and part-time cab driver, interviewed at 15th and M Streets NW.

At Montgomery Mall, Jess Schwartz, 28, an attorney with the Environmental Protection Agency, said: "I thought first about all the other assassinations and how sick and sad the whole thing is. I'm not a Wallace supporter... but I can't help think that the Wallace people, like the Kennedy people and the supporters of Martin Luther King, deserve to have their voice heard and that the country is really in great danger when those voices can't be heard."

Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.), who has withdrawn as an active candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination issued a state-
ment from his Bethesda home.

"It is a tragedy for all of us that the peaceful operation of the democratic process has again been interrupted by an act of violence," he said.

Rep. Lawrence J. Hogan (R-Md.), whose congressional district includes Laurel, said he now knows how the people of Dallas and Los Angeles and Memphis must have felt.

"On behalf of all the people of Prince George's in my district, I want to say how terribly disappointed and shocked we are that this terrible thing happened in our home county," Hogan said.

Maryland Gov. Marvin Mandel, a Democrat, who also went to the hospital, said "it is time that we put a stop to this kind of senseless tragedy." -

Sen. Philip A. Hart, a civil rights leader, whose views on race relations place him at the opposite political spectrum from Wallace, said "every decent American will be horrified by this and join all of them in hoping fervently for the governor's recovery." -

"We have no use for Gov. Wallace or his views but we are unalterably opposed to violence," said John Morsell, assistant executive director of the NAACP.

"Black Americans have suffered from this kind of violence too many times to react with anything but horror and sorrow," Morsell said.

Roy Innis, head of the Congress of Racial Equality, said that "political assassination is becoming as American as apple pie. One might be tempted to say this in this case: the chicken came home to roost. But that would be unkind."

"It would be a tragedy if Wallace died," Innis added. However, he said, "if he lives, it also would be a tragedy for him to become a national hero elected to the presidency on sympathy votes."

Gus Hall, chairman of the United States Communist Party, also deplored the shooting. "...the politics of terror can never serve to advance the interests of progress," he said.

Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.) said "the attempted assassination was a cruel and dastardly act ...." Allen said it is "tragic that the leading advocate of law and order in the presidential race should be the victim of such a criminal stroke."

"America must be made safe from law violators and criminals who place themselves above the law and who would seek to strike down a man who entertains and expresses views different from their own," he said.

Sen. Charles Mathias (R-Md.) said he bitterly condemns and regrets "this violation of Maryland's tradition of toleration. The bullets that hit George Wallace were propelled by madness and cowardice and not only wounded the governor but shattered a heritage of three centuries."

Sen. J. Glenn Ball (R-Md.) said "it is a cruel form of intolerance that denies a man the right to express his views while participating in a free and open election."