

# 'Will it be government by gun?'

## *Sadness, fright*

By Diane Monk

The words were different but the feelings were very much alike as Chicagoans reacted to the news of another political shooting in America. "Sorrowful" . . . "terrible" . . . "disappointing" . . . "just a lousy trick."

These were the phrases that kept recurring in the streets as word spread that Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace had been shot down while cam-



Erlich



DeMarco



Gawlinski



Lowe



Kirksey



Kaiz

paingning for the Democratic presidential nomination in a Maryland shopping center.

"If we're going to have government by guns, we're in trouble," said T. D. Erlich, 65, a retired Near North Side resident.

CARMIE DeMarco, a clerk at Saks Fifth Avenue, said she couldn't understand "why something isn't done about these terrible shootings."

"All candidates should be protected, regardless of their political beliefs," she said. "Wallace just did what he be-

lieved was right."

A teletype adjuster who described himself as a "Wallace man" commented, "You're not safe walking down the street anymore."

"I think Wallace is just too honest," added Leo Gawlinski, a Northwest Sider. "I don't think people like honest politicians."

"I'M VERY SORRY it happened, believe it or not," said John Lowe, 32, a black resident of Markham who works as an account executive for WBBM-TV. "But I'm not shocked,

because we live in the kind of society where things like this happen."

Pat Kirksey, 26, a black South Sider, said she was both sorry and surprised. "I'm very disappointed that this is happening in my country," she said.

"It's just a lousy trick," said Cele Kaiz, a middle-aged office clerk who lives in West Rogers Park. "Even if you don't agree with the man, he has a right to live."

Allen S. Leonard, an off-duty Chicago fireman, said, "I'm

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Lustig



Nied

sorry this could happen to anyone. I wasn't going to vote for him, but I'm sorry."

Dennis O'Boyle, 22, a laborer, and a Southwest Side neighbor of Leonard's, found the shooting "unbelievable." "I think I would have voted for Wallace," O'Boyle said. "They should have better security for all candidates, because this is ridiculous . . . unbelievable."

"**THE PERSON** who did it may have thought he was right, but I think it's a sorrowful thing," said Mark Lustig, 26, a bank auditor who lives on the

North Side. "Wallace had a right to speak, to campaign, to stand up in public."

Several persons, including Margaret Summers of Des Plaines, a registered nurse, mentioned previous assassinations. "Before President Kennedy was assassinated, I didn't think these things could happen in this country," she said. "Since Kennedy, . . . but the shock is different now."

Tom Nied, 19, of Lincolnwood, a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, said he found the shooting "hard to imagine or believe." "I thought he had protection," Nied said. "I hope very much for his sake that he's not badly hurt."

"You can't express an opinion in this country anymore without getting shot," said a construction worker on the Northwest Side who wouldn't give his name to a reporter. "It just doesn't pay to get into politics."