



Mrs. Cornelia Wallace, wife of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace, reports on his condition during a telecast Monday night from Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Springs, Md.

Shooting hit in resolution by Congress

Daily News Wire Services

Congress unanimously adopted a resolution Tuesday deploring the attempted assassination of Gov. George C. Wallace.

"This violence is deeply deplored and condemned by all Americans," the resolution said. It also extended "best wishes and prayers of all citizens" to Wallace and his family.

The resolution, adopted by voice vote in the Senate, was passed without debate in the House and sent to President Nixon for his signature.

SEN. JAMES B. Allen, (D-Ala.), who co-sponsored the resolution with Sen. John Sparkman (D-Ala.) said the "senseless shooting" indicates "there is something wrong with the democratic process."

The resolution was part of a nationwide wave of shock, outrage and dismay expressed by leaders across the political spectrum.

Senators George McGovern and Hubert H. Humphrey, the leading contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination that Wallace is seeking, canceled scheduled campaign appearances.

President Nixon called Mrs. Wallace at her husband's bedside to offer his hope and prayers for the wounded candidate's recovery.

MR. NIXON called the shooting, "Senseless and tragic."

McGovern said, "We can only hope and pray for the speedy recovery of Gov. Wallace and we can only say a prayer for our country."

"If we've gotten to the point in this country where a public figure can't speak out on the

issues of the day and seek the Presidency without being shot, then I tremble for the future of our nation," he said.

Humphrey, who was campaigning in Maryland when he learned of the shooting, rushed to the hospital and spent more than an hour with Wallace's wife while the governor was in surgery.

"Any act of violence adds to the tension in this country. What we need more than anything is a spirit of reconciliation," said Humphrey, who called the shooting a "sad and tragic act."

SEN. EDWARD M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), brother of John and Robert, said: "My heart and prayers go out to Gov. Wallace and to members of his grief-stricken family. Once again, democracy in America has been scarred by senseless and unforgivable violence."

Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-

N.Y.), a political rival to Wallace as a candidate for the presidential nomination and, as a black, a bitter opponent of his segregationist views, expressed the general reaction from all political and racial poles.

"We're becoming very animalistic when our differences have to be settled by a gun and not by reason," she said. "No matter if we do have differing political viewpoints, this is not the answer."

Treasury Sec. John B. Connally, who was wounded when President John F. Kennedy was killed in 1963, said: "It's just so tragic that things like this happen in this country. It makes you want to weep."

MAJORITY Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) told the Senate he was horror-struck

by what he called the dastardly attack on Wallace.

He said "it indicates a sickness of some kind in our democracy. I don't know what the answer is."

SEN. ROBERT P. Griffin (R-Mich.) the minority whip said it was not proper to "jump to the conclusion that society is sick "because of the act "of a few mentally deranged people."

But Griffin said the shooting "tends to demean our political process and degrade our society."

THE REV. RALPH David Abernathy, chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, described the shooting as a "tragic experience."

"My heart is heavy," Mr. Abernathy said at an appearance in Seattle.

"All of us as citizens of this country are sick with the cancerous disease of racism that has led us to madness."

Mr. Abernathy blamed the attempt on Wallace's life on the "militarism and violence our nation is involved in" in Vietnam and at home.

"Unless you and I stop that violence," Mr. Abernathy said, "your bullet is not far away and mine is near at hand."

IMPERIAL Wizard Robert M. Shelton of the Ku Klux Klan said that anti-Wallace politicians must share the blame for the assassination attempt.

"I can truthfully say the anti-Wallace forces in Alabama can be accredited with as much of the psychological blame as anybody else," Shelton said.

"I just hope that some of these mealy-mouthed politicians in Alabama will get off their hind ends and their do-nothing attitudes and join with true Alabamians in the true fight," he said.

Wallace case unlike

By Arthur J. Snider
Daily News Science Editor

Gov. George Wallace will live but his chances of walking again appear slimmer by the hour.

That is the opinion of a top neurosurgeon interviewed here by The Daily News.

Dr. Eric Oldberg, chairman-emeritus of the University of Illinois neurosurgery department, said there is not much room for optimism on the basis of medical reports from Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Springs, Md.

"The question of bowel and bladder control are in the picture as well," Dr. Oldberg said.

THE SURGEON said it will require great courage for a man to campaign in a wheelchair under those circumstances.

"A reference has been made to the fact that Franklin Delano Roosevelt campaigned in a wheelchair," said Dr. Oldberg. "The cases are not comparable. Roosevelt had polio and polio produces wasted muscles with no difficulty of bladder and bowel control."

Wallace was struck by four or five bullets. But the bullet that did the most damage tore through the lower end of the right rib cage, perforated the diaphragm, ripped through the stomach, and tore some of the ligaments of the small intestines.

The bullet finally lodged in the spinal column to cause the loss of sensation and movement in the legs.

"He is paralyzed from the

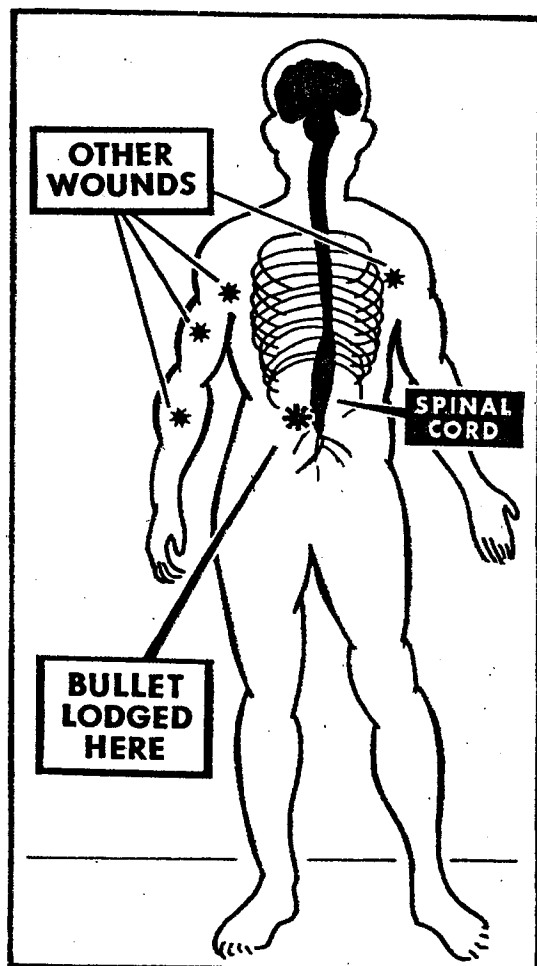


Diagram locates wounds suffered by Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace. Doctors have not yet decided whether to remove the bullet that passed through his abdomen and lodged in the spinal column. Wallace also suffered two wounds on the right arm, a superficial wound under the right shoulder and a grazing superficial wound on the back of the left shoulder blade. (UPI)

hip down, said Dr. Joseph Schanno, a vascular surgeon.

The hope is that with the reduction of inflammation and swelling, the cable-like spinal cord again will begin to carry impulses. The outcome should be known in the next 48 hours.

"If the spinal cord is stunned, there is hope for some recovery," said Dr. Oldberg. "But if it is bruised, there would be little hope."

AN IMPORTANT decision to be made by the surgical team is whether to subject Wallace to another operation to remove the embedded bullet.

The operation was halted at the 3-hour mark Monday night so surgeons could explain the condition to Mrs. Wallace.

Later doctors announced

Turn to Page 8, Column 8 they would wait a few days to study X-rays and decide whether the bullet should be removed.

"**THE PURPOSE** of removing the bullet is to take the 1 per cent chance that relieving pressure on the cord might improve the paraplegic condition," said Dr. Oldberg. "It will all depend on where the bullet is located on X-ray."

On the other hand, doctors may decide no useful purpose would be served by another surgical ordeal. The bullet would then be left in place.

"The picture is grim and you just have to pray and thank God for any improvement you get," said Dr. Oldberg.

EXCEPT for the spinal cord complication, Wallace was on

FDR's

the road to recovery. His vital signs were good and his heart was strong.

Had the bullet not lodged near the spinal cord, he could have been back on the campaign trail by mid-July.

Chances of recovery from an uncomplicated penetrating abdominal wound, on a statistical basis, are 97 in 100.

Assuming complete freedom from hemorrhage or infection, an abdominal wound is handled today as expeditiously as a gallbladder operation.

AND THE RECOVERY time is about the same — two weeks in the hospital and another two or three weeks at home — says Dr. Frederick W. Preston, who accumulated more than 100 gunshot abdominal wound cases at Henrotin Hospital over a five-year period.

In none of these cases was there spinal cord involvement, said Dr. Preston.

IF THERE is any bright spot in Wallace's ill fortune, it is that he occurred in an era when surgery has achieved almost complete mastery over penetrating abdominal wounds.