

Nixon offers Wallace his hospital suite

By Peter Lisagor
Our Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON — President Nixon Tuesday offered George C. Wallace the presidential suite at Walter Reed Army Hospital for recuperating from his gunshot wounds, if the Alabama governor wants it.

But the President said Wallace had told Mr. Nixon's personal physician, Dr. Walter Tkach, that he might want to recuperate in Alabama.

In that case, Mr. Nixon said, he would provide an Air Force hospital plane, to fly Wallace to his home state.

The President made his remarks at a new conference called to announce the resignation of Treasury Sec. John B. Connally.

Mr. Nixon said he had been in touch with Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md., both Monday night and Tuesday morning, through Dr. William Lukash, deputy White House physician.

He said he had nothing to add to medical bulletins already made public, but commented:

"All of us wish in this difficult time that the governor have the very best medical care and that he will recover from his wounds."

Mr. Nixon said Nicholas Zarvos, the Secret Service agent

injured in the Wallace shooting, has substantially improved. He said there was a better than even chance that Zarvos, who was shot in the throat, would suffer no permanent damage to his voice box.

I'll hit trail for Wallace -- Maddox

ATLANTA (UPI) — Declaring that "his cause is my cause," Georgia Lt. Gov. Lester Maddox offered Tuesday to put aside personal and public affairs and hit the campaign trail for Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

Wallace was seriously wounded in Maryland Monday while campaigning for the Presidency.

Maddox said he felt he could speak for Wallace, and would gladly take over his campaign schedule. Both are conservatives, and both battled the spread of integration into the South.

MADDOX SAID he talked by phone Tuesday with Mrs. Wallace at the Maryland hospital where Wallace is confined, and again offered his support.