

# FBI rules out Bremer cabal

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The FBI has reached the tentative conclusion that Arthur H. Bremer, who allegedly gunned down Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace, acted alone and was neither part of a conspiracy nor a hired assassin.

Altho an exhaustive investigation into Mr. Bremer's background and recent movements is still under way, a Justice Department spokesman said, "Pat Gray (L. Patrick Gray III, acting director of the FBI) is convinced as of now that Bremer was in this thing by himself."

But — if the history of political assassination in this country holds true — the Wallace shooting will leave a trail of loose ends, inconsistencies and rumors that will never be wholly dispelled, and that will be grist for proponents of conspiracy or hired-gun theories for years to come.

In the frantic hours that followed the shooting, a host of rumors flowered. Two proved particularly durable:

A girl who witnessed the shooting and became hysterical, was taken away and questioned for several hours by Prince Georges police. This led to the persistent report that

Mr. Bremer had a female accomplice. Altho the girl was released and absolved of involvement, the rumor has refused to die.

A second persistent rumor flourished when someone reported seeing a blue Cadillac leaving the scene of the shooting. The same car was found abandoned on the Capital Beltway several hours later. It proved to have been stolen, and it is possible its license plates had been switched. Police insist, however, that the car has no connection with the attack on Gov. Wallace.

(Mr. Bremer drove a blue 1968 Rambler, which FBI agents found parked at the shopping center where the shooting took place. It is being subjected to a thoro examination by FBI laboratory technicians.)

Like the ham-fisted Dallas cops who sowed a great deal of confusion in the wake of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Prince Georges police — a force not celebrated among the nation's smoothest-working suburban law enforcement agencies — may have contributed to the doubt and rumor.

The Prince Georges police, perhaps aggrieved at past reporting of brutality charges, were not notably cooperative with reporters. Neither were they with FBI and Secret Service officers who quickly jumped into the investigation.

But possibly the element that most lent credence to rumors and speculation was the unlikely character of the purported gunman.

## SIMILARITIES OF GUNMEN

Mr. Bremer is a loner whose life-style places him firmly in the same moody, introverted company as Lee Harvey Oswald, Sirhan Sirhan and James Earl Ray. These assassins respectively of John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. all shared a common characteristic with Mr. Bremer: They were inadequate men whose very meagerness of personality made it difficult to believe they had acted alone.

Finally, it is seldom possible for the most thoro investigation to prove that a conspiracy does not exist.

Altho it has been widely misquoted on this point, the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy never concluded that Oswald acted alone. What it did say was that it had been able to find no evidence that he acted in concert with any other individual or conspiracy.

The difficulty of proving a negative finding such as this has plagued the Warren Commission ever since its 800-odd page report was filed, as it will continue to plague historians.

There is no reason to believe the historical fallout from the Wallace shooting will be any different. Even if they end their investigation believing as they believe now — that Mr. Bremer acted alone and irrationally — the authorities will have a difficult-to-impossible task proving it.

And there will always be doubters who will hark back to the story of the mysterious Cadillac or the girl who was hustled away for questioning, and insist the whole truth has never been told.

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—UPI Photo  
**William Allen Bremer, 32, brother of the suspect in the shooting of Gov. Wallace, is free on \$2,500 bond in Greenwood, Ark., pending a hearing on extradition to Miami on charges of bilking 600 stout housewives at \$38 each in a reducing-plan racket and then leaving town.**



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