

'My Leg Just Wouldn't Move'

By EDWIN CHEN
Special to The Star

After the governor shook her hand and kissed her on the cheek, Dora Thompson began chatting with Cornelia Wallace. Then the shots rang out.

"I tried to turn toward the sound," Mrs. Thompson's husband, William D., quoted his wife as saying. "But I couldn't. My leg just wouldn't move."

Mrs. Thompson, 34, of Hyattsville, was one of three bystanders injured yesterday at the Laurel Shopping Center when Gov. George C. Wallace was shot. She underwent surgery last night at Holy Cross Hospital for a bullet wound in the right calf, which broke her leg, according to her husband.

The others injured were Secret Service agent Nicholas Zarvos Jr., 37, of Atlanta, Ga., and Alabama highway patrol

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—Media 4 Photographer Joseph Kundrat

Mrs. Dora Thompson of Hyattsville, hit in leg during Wallace shooting.

INJURED

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Capt. E. C. Dothard, 40, of Montgomery, Ala.

Zarvos underwent surgery for several hours for a neck wound last night at Leland Memorial Hospital in Riverdale. He was listed in "serious but stable" condition.

Dothard, one of Wallace's personal bodyguards, was wounded in the stomach. He underwent surgery at Holy Cross Hospital, Prince Georges County police officials said.

Mrs. Thompson, a native of Enterprise, Ala., has been a volunteer worker for Wallace's Maryland campaign about a month, according to Thompson, a Safeway store manager in Landover Hills.

"She is very enthusiastic about the governor," Thompson said. "She worked about four, five, hours a day in his Prince Georges' headquarters, making phone calls and soliciting money.

She got up early yesterday,

sent my son (Billy, 9) off to school and left for the headquarters. She was very excited about the rally," he recalled last night.

Thompson said he also attended the Laurel rally but left immediately after Wallace spoke to return to work. He said, he did not hear of the shooting until a neighbor called him at work an hour later to tell him that his wife was hurt.

"My wife was just trading small talk with Mrs. Wallace," Thompson said. "Then she heard some shots, tried to turn, but couldn't. She said she just couldn't move. Then a policeman came and called for an ambulance."

Thompson described his wife as being "very upset, hurt and saddened" by the Wallace shooting. "She voted for him in '68 and will again because she like what he stands for," he said.

Mrs. Thompson has lived in the Washington area since 1955, her husband said. They

live at 5106 59th Ave., Hyattsville.

At Leland Hospital, where Zarvos was taken, there were two telephoned bomb threats, hospital officials said.

Female Caller

"At 5:45 p.m., we received a call that a bomb would go off in a half hour if he was not dead," said Leonard Coy, hospital administrator. He said the female caller did not specify to whom she was referring.

It was believed, however, that the caller had mistakenly assumed that it was Wallace's assailant who was at Leland.

The 72-patient facility was quickly sealed off and searched, but nothing was discovered. At 6:09 p.m., the female called again, saying that a bomb would go off in 10 minutes, Coy said.

Visiting privileges were canceled at the hospital last night. Visitors were turned away by Maryland state troopers and county policemen.