

Bremer: The Quiet Loner

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MILWAUKEE — Arthur H. Bremer, the one-time photography student charged with shooting Democratic presidential candidate George Wallace, is described as a quiet but confident loner.

The picture drawn by relatives, friends and acquaintances of the man who is accused of gunning down Wal-

lace and three others at a Maryland shopping center yesterday is that of a youth who kept his opinions to himself, developed few friendships and was something of a puzzle even to his family.

Bremer, 21, is being held in lieu of \$200,000 bond in Maryland, under federal charges of assaulting a candidate for public office and a

federal officer and under state charges of assault with intent to kill.

Although acquaintances, including classmates in his college photography class, said they were not aware of political interests or activity on the part of the blond young man with close-cropped hair, effects found in his Milwaukee apartment

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last night indicated otherwise.

Among the items in the West Side apartment were a Confederate flag and newspaper clippings about Wallace's campaign, some dating to 1968 when Wallace staged a third-party effort.

His father, William, 58, a truck driver who wears his hair long and tied with string, told newsmen his son "was a Humphrey man like myself."

Neighbors said young Bremer had a Wallace bumper sticker on his car and apartment back door. They disappeared shortly after last month's Wisconsin primary, in which Wallace came in second.

Bremer moved into the apartment from his family's South Side home last fall. Neighbors said he dropped from sight about a month ago.

Notebooks found in the apartment included one with the words "Cheer up, Oswald" in large print. Then, in smaller print, were the words "white collar conservative . . . middle class Republican . . . suburbanite robot."

Neighbors say Bremer's writings contained a long poem entitled "Critique of My Life," and dozens of whimsical and occasionally sophomoric one-line poems and sayings. Some of them read:

"Never say colored, say Negro. So here is a Negroed card."

"My country, 'tis of thee,

sweet land of bigotry."

"Happiness is hearing George Wallace singing the National Anthem or having him arrested for a hit-and-run traffic accident."

Members of Bremer's family — who hadn't seen him since he moved to the apartment in October — described him as "shy and timid," and they expressed disbelief that he could have been involved in the shooting.

"We could never talk to him," said a younger brother, Roger, 18. "We never knew much about him."

Roger said his mother, Sylvia, 57, had tried to visit Arthur at the apartment but he "slammed the door in her face."

Gary MacDonald, who attended photography classes with Bremer at Milwaukee Area Technical College last year, said Bremer "seldom talked to anybody," and he called Bremer "the quietest kid there." A photography instructor, James Johannes, termed Bremer "a confident loner."

Dropout

Bremer dropped out last fall to spend his time working at a series of low-paying jobs as busboy and janitor's helper.

Bremer's father said his son "never had a gun to my knowledge. He never went hunting."

But among the items found in the apartment were two boxes of shells — one containing 21 .38 caliber shells, the other 23 9mm cartridges — and seven targets, as well as some gun magazines.

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Protection Ordered for Ted, Others

WASHINGTON — (CDN) — The Secret Service has reacted to the Wallace shooting by extending protection, on President Nixon's orders, to Sen. Edward Kennedy, Rep. Wilbur Mills and Rep. Shirley Chisholm.

But it is resigned to the fact that when a presidential candidate chooses to go into a crowd he risks the same tragic consequence that befell Gov. George Wallace of Alabama — even when attended by Secret Service agents.

Assistant Treasury Secretary Eugene T. Rossides, who has charge of the Secret Service, said after Wallace was shot that even with agents providing protection, "you can not assume that a person will not be subject to the kind of thing that happened this afternoon."

No guidelines are laid down for the candidates, according to Rossides. However, they are fully briefed by the agents assigned to them and "they understand the problem."