

# Court Slates Mental Tests For Bremer

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BALTIMORE, June 12—A federal judge yesterday ordered an immediate psychiatric examination of Arthur H. Bremer, accused in the shooting of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace, as the government prosecutor pressed for a speedy trial.

Federal authorities at high levels are known to want a speedy trial to demonstrate that they can act rapidly against suspected assassins.

U.S. District Judge Edward S. Northrop granted the government request that he order an examination after George Beall, U.S. Attorney for Maryland, said there is a "substantial basis to conclude that there will be a defense of insanity in this case."

Beall said he drew this conclusion from a secret meeting may 23 between himself, Northrop and Bremer's court-appointed attorney, Benjamin Lipsitz.

Lipsitz declined comment. He rushed off after today's hearing to confer with Bremer at the Baltimore County jail in suburban Towson. The extent of the psychiatric examination will be determined after Lipsitz confers with the sus-

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pect, who was not in court today.

Lipsitz told the judge he would query Bremer on how complete a psychiatric examination he would want to submit. Then Lipsitz said he would telephone Beall tonight so that arrangements could be made for two psychiatrists to examine Bremer Tuesday morning.

Northrop had granted a government motion for a psychiatric examination last week, but withdrew his first order at Beall's request. The prosecutor then resubmitted the motion along with more evidence to substantiate his argument that there is cause to question

Bremer's sanity.

At today's hearing, Beall told Northrop that an unnamed psychiatrist who examined Bremer shortly after Wallace was gunned down May 15 found the suspect's demeanor "inappropriate" to the situation he was in and recommended that Bremer undergo a complete psychiatric examination.

The diagnosis came from a psychiatrist at Prince George's General Hospital, where Bremer was taken after the shooting, Beall said.

The prosecutor said the psychiatrist concluded that while Bremer "was not confused, was coherent, was not frightened and was aware that he was in a hospital, his demeanor was 'inappropriate.'"

Beall also cited "similarly inappropriate conduct (by Bremer) at the time of his appearance for arraignment" but did not elaborate.

A reporter who saw that arraignment at midnight May 15 noticed that Bremer smiled through much of it, but appeared to act normally in other respects. Most suspects, when being arraigned before a

At a public court hearing a federal judge, do not smile. week later Bremer also smiled frequently. He appeared alert, confident and relaxed.

Under federal law, a jury must ultimately determine the question of sanity if Bremer uses an insanity defense.

No date for trial here has been set, although prosecutors in Prince George's County have set a trial date there for July 12. It is not known whether the federal or state trial will be held first.

Bremer is charged with the federal crimes of violating Wallace's civil rights, assaulting a federal officer and illegally using and carrying a hand gun in interstate commerce. In addition, he is charged with 24 crimes under Maryland law, including attempted murder.

Beall today asked for an exam that would determine whether Bremer is mentally capable of standing trial now, was sane at the time he is alleged to have shot Wallace and three others at a political rally in Laurel, or would be a danger to himself and the community if released on bond.

Lipsitz argued that the prosecution may be moving so

rapidly as to endanger Bremer's constitutional right to due process of law. He argued that the scope of the examination should be limited to determining whether his client is competent to stand trial. But he agreed to discuss the matter with Bremer.

The two psychiatrists who may examine Bremer Tuesday are Doctors Jonas Rapoport and William N. Fitzpatrick.

Rapoport has been the chief medical officer of Baltimore's supreme bench since 1987.

Fitzpatrick is a private psychiatrist here.

Rapoport said today his exam of Bremer would take "one half hour to ten hours or so." He said he would conduct "several interviews" with Bremer and that "most of it (the exam) could be done anywhere."

He said Bremer would have to be moved from the jail only if special tests requiring special equipment were used, but that he did not know if such equipment would be needed.

He said a written report of his findings would be filed with the court.

Beall said today the two doctors were to have examined Bremer this past weekend but the exam was called off pending today's hearing on the legal issues.