

# Candidates Halt Drives; Voice Shock and Sympathy

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WASHINGTON, June 5—The major Presidential candidates of both parties canceled their campaign activity today after the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Thus, for the second time in two months, the United States' efforts to select a new President were interrupted by an assassin. In the days after April 4, the candidates paused to mourn the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was shot in Memphis.

Today, Senator Eugene J. McCarthy, who lost to Senator Kennedy in the California Democratic primary yesterday, suspended political activity and announced that he would return to Washington to begin a "vigil" for his fallen rival. "All of us must keep vigil with the nation in prayer and hope that Senator Kennedy will recover," Mr. McCarthy said in Beverly Hills.

He said he intended to talk with Senator Kennedy's spokesmen and with President Johnson and Vice President Humphrey before resuming any political activity.

Vice President Humphrey was in Colorado Springs when Senator Kennedy was shot. He had been in bed 10 minutes when an aide woke him with the news.

He spent most of the remainder of the night watching television and talking with members of his own and Senator Kennedy's staff.

Mr. Humphrey helped to place two Air Force planes at the disposal of the Kennedy

family, one to carry a neurosurgeon from Boston to Los Angeles and a second to return six of the 10 Kennedy children to Washington from California.

Then he canceled an address here at the Air Force Academy commencement and returned to Washington.

He canceled a series of political meetings scheduled for today and tomorrow in Albuquerque, N. M., Cincinnati, Buffalo and Rochester.

Richard M. Nixon and Governor Rockefeller, the Republican candidates, canceled all campaign activity until further notice.

Mr. Nixon remained in his New York apartment and ordered his New York and Washington campaign offices to close.

The former Vice President called off a background briefing session with newsmen that had been scheduled for 11 A.M. today at his apartment. He also canceled a speech to the Michigan Republican delegation Friday.

## Rockefeller Informed

Mr. Rockefeller arrived here from Portland, Ore., last night. He was spending the night in his home on Foxhall Road when Leslie Slote, his press secretary, woke him as 3:30 A.M. and told him of the shooting.

The New York Governor immediately canceled plans for a breakfast with Republican Congressional leaders, a speech before the National Press Club and all campaigning "until further notice."

He had been tentatively scheduled to stump in Penn-

sylvania and California next week.

Mr. Rockefeller spoke this morning with President Johnson, with Theodore C. Sorensen, a Kennedy adviser, and others. At 10:30 A.M. he flew to Albany, where he spent the afternoon signing bills and handling other state matters.

Mr. McCarthy, in his first public appearance after the shooting, said in Los Angeles: "We've got to give more rational attention, rational control to the problems of America. We proceed as though we were still a pioneer country. We're not. We've become a rather complicated, sophisticated civilization."

## Visits Hospital

He went to Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles shortly before noon. He was met in the lobby by Pierre Salinger, one of Mr. Kennedy's press aides. He stayed about 20 minutes and did not talk to newsmen on entering or leaving.

In Washington, after the Vice President's return, a Humphrey aide said that "all" campaign activity, including the behind-the-scenes work of rounding up delegates to the Democratic National Convention, had come to a standstill.

A sign was posted in the window of the United Democrats for Humphrey headquarters here saying, "Because of the tragedy that has befallen our country, we are suspending operations until further notice."

The office was closed and only a uniformed policeman could be seen inside.

Mr. Humphrey appeared to

be badly shaken by the Kennedy shooting. He had recently spoken a number of times in private of his personally cordial relationship with the Kennedy family.

He issued a statement about an hour after the shooting calling it "a shocking and terrible thing."

## Message to Graduates

When he decided against speaking at the commencement, he drafted a message to the graduates to be read by Air Force Secretary Harold Brown. It said, in part:

"Our sorrow is for the man and for his family, which has already known too much tragedy. Our grief is that this dreadful act should follow on other dreadful acts of violence which have taken place in the recent history of this country."

"We cannot explain. We can only determine as a free people that such madness shall not re-occur."

Mr. Nixon said he was "shocked and appalled" by the shooting.

"My deepest sympathies go to the Senator's family, which already has known more than its share of tragedy," he said.

"Mrs. Nixon and I join with Americans everywhere in offering our very best wishes for a swift and complete recovery."

## Wallace Calls Off Trip

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 5 (AP)—Former Gov. George C. Wallace called off a Presidential campaign trip into New England and Maryland today because of the shooting of Senator Kennedy.