

Americans Mourn Mrs. King's Death; Nixon Is 'Saddened'

By United Press International

There was sadness and anger among Americans yesterday over the fatal shooting of Mrs. Alberta King, 69-year-old mother of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

President Nixon was told of the shooting after a boating trip in Yalta with Leonid I. Brezhnev, Communist party leader.

"The President was saddened by the tragic and senseless act," Gerald L. Warren, a White House spokesman said.

Mayor Abraham D. Beame extended sympathy on behalf of all New Yorkers to the family of Mrs. King and the families of other victims of the shooting.

"Once again a family that has contributed so much and sacrificed so much for this country has been struck suddenly into grief," Mayor Beame said.

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, said during a Democratic national telethon: "Mrs. King's tragic death is a very sorrowful thing for us [Senator Humphrey and his wife, Muriel]. The reasons behind it hard to fathom. The person who committed the act of violence was obviously disturbed and mentally deranged, but that does not ease the pain, suffering and sorrow."

Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson said, "Atlanta is in a time of great sorrow because of the loss of a woman who truly must be one of the great women of history."

Senator Robert Taft Jr., Republican of Ohio, said he was "deeply shocked by the shooting and other completely senseless activities which apparently occurred in Atlanta."