

JFK, King, RFK Recalled

SFXaminer

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Political Leaders Tell Outrage

By The Associated Press

Leaders across the political spectrum have reacted with shock, outrage and dismay at the shooting of Alabama Gov. George Wallace and deplored the trend of political violence in the nation.

Many officials recalled the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr. and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy on learning of the shooting at a Laurel, Md., shopping center yesterday.

Sens. George McGovern and Hubert H. Humphrey, the leading contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination that Wallace was seeking, canceled their scheduled campaign appearances.

President Nixon called Mrs. Wallace at her husband's bedside to offer his hope and prayers for the wounded candidate's recovery.

He called the shooting a "senseless and tragic incident" and said the nation has suffered "more than enough already from the in-

trusion of violence into its political processes."

McGovern said:

"We can only hope and pray for the speedy recovery of Gov. Wallace and we can only say a prayer for our country."

"If we've gotten to the point in this country where a public figure can't speak out on the issues of the day and seek the presidency without being shot, then I tremble for the future of our nation," he said.

Humphrey, who was campaigning in Maryland when he learned of the shooting, rushed to the hospital and spent more than an hour with Wallace's wife while the governor was in surgery.

"Any act of violence adds to the tension in this country; what we need more than anything is a spirit of reconciliation," said Humphrey, who called the shooting a "sad and tragic act."

Sen. Edward Kennedy, brother of John and Robert, said:

"My heart and prayers go out to Gov. Wallace and to members of his grief-stricken family. Once again,

democracy in America has been scarred by senseless and unforgiveable violence. I am saddened beyond measure that tragedy has again stained and darkened the process we use to select our political leaders."

On the steps of the Alabama Capitol in Montgomery, a crowd estimated at 500 gathered last night for a prayer vigil for Wallace. Some cried openly through the service.

In Georgia, the Rev. Andrew Young, a prominent black civil rights leader and

a former aide to the late Martin Luther King Jr., said, "It's terrible that the politics of assassination is not over.

"Perpetrators of violence never win and they always end up helping the cause they attack."

Democrat from San Francisco: No one could be more diametrically opposed to the political candidacy of George Wallace than I am but the vehicle for expressing that difference is not the bullet. A free people, a free society, a free nation cannot tolerate such a senseless and brutal act . . ."

Mayor Alioto: "It is disgraceful that political differences cannot be aired in America without resort to violence."

Sen. Mervyn M. Dymally, Los Angeles Democrat and the State senate's first and only black member: "The sickness in American politics which caused these shots to be fired at Governor Wallace is the same sickness which struck down Dr. Martin Luther King and John and Robert Kennedy."

Like 1968

Former Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh, who was there when Sen. Robert Kennedy was shot four years ago, said the Wallace shooting "took me right back to '68. This is no way to resolve anything."

Speaker Bob Moretti (D-Van Nuys) said: "We must not ask people to risk their lives to serve in public office."

M. H. Kemp, chairman of the Wallace inspired American Independent Party in California, merely commented: "What can you say?"

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Outrage, Shock in California

Leading California political figures today universally condemned the assassination attempt on Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

Conservatives, moderates and leftists alike expressed shock and outrage at this latest sordid shotgun episode in recent American history.

"Why do we have to hate each other so much that people are driven to deeds of this kind?" Governor Reagan asked, adding Wallace's shooting is "an outgrowth of the hatred that has been injected" into politics.

Lt. Gov. Ed Reinecke: "I am convinced that these acts of violence . . . have their roots in the growing militance in this country and the tendency by extremists to protest and demonstrate whenever established policy differs from their own."

'Brutal Act'

Rep. Philip Burton, the