

His Legs Are Paralyzed But He Is 'Doing Nicely'

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SILVER SPRING, Md., May 16—Doctors caring for Gov. George C. Wallace said today that he would need further surgery to remove the bullet that is lodged in his back.

They said that the surgery would be performed after Mr. Wallace's condition stabilized further. There was no indication when this would be or whether the operation would be done at the Holy Cross Hospital here, where he has been under treatment since the assassination attempt against him yesterday.

The doctors did not say so specifically, but the report that there would be further surgery suggested that improvement in his condition could be hoped for after the bullet was removed.

Governor Wallace is described as paralyzed from the hips down. This condition has remained unchanged since he underwent surgery last night here.

Otherwise, his conditions appears to be improving. Today his attending physician removed the Governor from the critical list.

"The Governor's condition is stable. He is doing very nicely. We do not feel his life is in danger," said Thomas Burke, Holy Cross Hospital's public information officer, who was quoting the attending physician.

There was no indication, however, of any lessening in the paralysis that has affected Mr. Wallace's legs. Earlier Dr. Joseph Schanno, the attending physician, said there was some paralysis from the hips down and a lack of sensation in the legs. Whether or not the paralysis will be permanent was not known. Permanent disability was considered possible.

One Bullet Removed

Mr. Burke described Governor Wallace as suffering the "normal amount of post-operative discomfort" today after surgery that took several hours last night to counteract bleeding, explore the wounds and remove one of the two bullets that had remained in Mr. Wallace's body.

The other bullet is still lodged against the spine just below the ribs.

Mr. Wallace has received no solid food, but is being fed intravenously. This is expected to continue for several more days.

The 52-year-old Alabama Governor was described as awake today and capable of speaking in a normal voice.

Earlier, doctors at the hospital had said that the Governor was struck by four and possibly five bullets from the assailant's .38-caliber, snub-nosed revolver. They could not tell the exact number of bullets that hit the Governor.

There were two through-and-through wounds of the right arm, one in the forearm and the other in the upper arm. There was also a superficial wound of the right shoulder and a glancing superficial wound of the left shoulder blade.

Dangerous Chest Wounds

The most dangerous wounds were two in the chest, one on the right side and the other in the right hand region of the chest. It was considered possible, although not certain, that these wounds were caused by the same bullets that passed through the Governor's right arm.

One of the bullets hit ligaments of the intestine and brushed the large intestine on the left side, according to earlier reports from the doc-

tors. One bullet penetrated Mr. Wallace's stomach. Hospital spokesmen said today that they did not know which of these bullets was the one that is still lodged in the patient's back, which is the apparent cause of his paralysis.

The Governor evidently was bleeding quite seriously on the way to the hospital yesterday. He was given eight pints of blood before and during the operation last night.

Bleeding Stopped

Today, the doctors said that the bleeding had been controlled and there was no further hemorrhaging. Dr. Schanno said that there would be no need for further surgery to treat the abdominal wounds.

Early today Mr. Wallace was removed from the surgical suite's recovery room, where he spent several hours immediately after his operation last night, and was put in the hospital's eight-bed intensive care unit.

There he will receive continuous care and his condition will be monitored around the clock. There are five other patients in the unit, but each bed space is separate from the rest.

Mr. Burke said today that it would not be unusual for a patient with injuries as serious as those that Governor Wallace suffered to spend four or five days in the intensive care unit. Yesterday, when

asked how long the patient might be in the hospital, Dr. Schanno said four to ten days depending on Mr. Wallace's rate of recovery and provided there were no complications.

The announcement today that Governor Wallace would face surgery at some future time to remove the remaining bullet was made by two doctors called in here as consultants. They are Dr. Hamilton Hutchinson of Montgomery, Ala., a specialist in internal medicine who is the Governor's personal physician, and Dr. J. G. Galbraith, professor of neurosurgery at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham. They returned home this afternoon after consultation with the medical-surgery team at Holy Cross Hospital here.

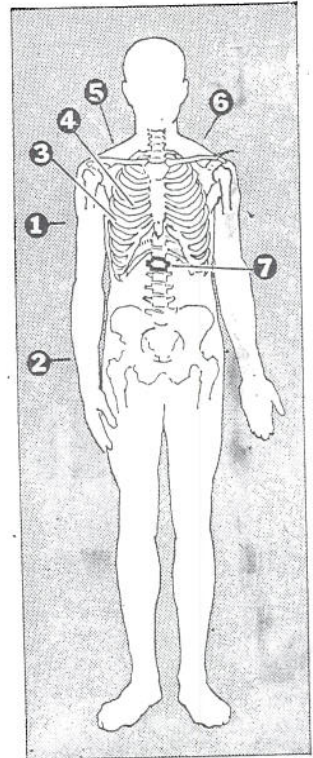
In a statement issued at 6 P.M. today, Dr. Schanno said that Governor Wallace's respiratory function, electrocardiogram and urinary output were all stable and essentially within normal limits. He said that no decision had been made to transfer the patient to another hospital.

Sites of Penetrations by Bullets

Doctors treating Gov. George C. Wallace said he was struck by four and possibly five bullets. The areas shown in the accompanying diagram indicate the approximate locations of the bullet penetrations.

One bullet, the doctors said, passed through the upper right arm (1) and another through the right forearm (2). One or both of two wounds in the chest (3 and 4) are thought to have been possibly caused by bullets that passed through the arm first.

Wounds in the right shoulder (5) and left shoulder blade (6) were superficial and evidently the bullets causing them did not lodge in the body. A bullet is lodged against the first lumbar vertebra (7), just below the ribs, and is presumed to be the cause of the present paralysis in Governor Wallace's legs.



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