

Bremer, in a Heavily Guarded Courtroom,
Pleads Not Guilty to U.S. Charges on Shooting of Wallace.

By TERENCE SMITH
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BALTIMORE, May 24 — With a nervous smile flickering across his face, Arthur Herman Bremer stood before a Federal judge here today and pleaded not guilty to charges arising from the shooting of Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama.

His arraignment in a heavily guarded, wood-paneled Federal courtroom took only 17 minutes.

The judge denied a defense appeal for a reduction in Mr. Bremer's \$200,000 bail and then gave his attorney 30 days to file pre-trial motions. A trial date will be set after a preliminary hearing on these motions.

The blond, 21-year-old suspect was composed throughout the session. He yawned occasionally during the legal arguments over the size of his bail and laughed quietly to himself when the prosecutor described him as "an itinerant and transient who has been living in his car."

Mr. Bremer was dressed for his first court appearance in a modish gray knit sports jacket with wide lapels, a high-collared black shirt worn open at the throat, khaki pants and suede shoes.

His plea was spoken for him by his court-appointed attorney, Benjamin Lipsitz of Baltimore.

Understands Charges

Standing before Chief Judge Edward S. Northrop, the suspect was asked by Earl Graham, the court clerk, "Are you Arthur Herman Bremer?"

"Yes," Mr. Bremer replied in a firm, steady voice.

"Have you read a copy of the charges placed against you?"

"Yes, I have," Mr. Bremer said.

"Do you understand them?"

"Yes, I do," he said.

Judge Northrop then asked him about his schooling, to which the defendant answered: "I have some college."

"How much?" the judge asked. "One year, two years?"

Mr. Bremer paused at this and then raised his voice slightly: "One year, plus," he said.

The arraignment was preceded by a brief bail reduction hearing in which Mr. Lipsitz argued that by setting the figure at \$200,000, the Government was effectively denying his client his constitutional right to bail.

"Obviously that is more than he can hope to raise," Mr. Lipsitz argued. "I submit that this case should be treated like any other assault by shooting. It should be no different just because the victim happens to be a politician from Alabama."

The Government, Mr. Lipsitz

contended, "is saying, in effect, that it doesn't want this man on the streets." He urged that the bail be reduced to \$5,000, \$10,000 or even \$50,000.

"This brought a sharp objection from the prosecutor, United States Attorney George Beall. "This is not just another shooting case," he said, arguing that Mr. Lipsitz's description of the act had been "contrived and inaccurate."

"This involves an attempt on a candidate for the Presidency of the United States," he said.

Earlier Denial Upheld

Judge Northrop then sustained an earlier denial of the defense motion handed down by United States Commissioner Clarence E. Goetz. Mr. Goetz had ruled that the \$200,000 bail was appropriate "in light of the nature and circumstances

of the crime and the fact that he has no ties to the community and few to his family in Milwaukee."

On the Federal level, Mr. Bremer is charged with violating the civil rights of a Presidential candidate, assaulting a Federal officer and violating two gun provisions. He also faces 24 other charges, including attempted murder, lodged by the state of Maryland. Arraignment on the state charges is expected in about a week.

The suspect was seized and arrested on May 15, moments after Governor Wallace was shot by four .38-caliber bullets during a rally at a shopping center in Laurel, Md.

Throughout his hearing today, Mr. Bremer was closely guarded by four Federal marshals and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

To avoid the morning rush hour crowds, the suspect was taken from the Baltimore county jail in suburban Towson, Md., shortly after 5 A.M. and driven the 10 miles to the Federal Courthouse here in a police van.

Agents were posted at all entrances to the courthouse in downtown Baltimore by 9 A.M., and reporters who entered the courtroom were screened by electronic metal detectors.

Smiles at The Crowd

When the brief hearing was concluded, Mr. Bremer stood up briskly, shook hands with Miss Eleanor J. Lipsitz, his attorney's blonde daughter and law partner, and strode towards the door.

At one point he got slightly ahead of his guard and was

restrained by a hand on his arm. The suspect smiled broadly when he spotted the crowd of reporters in the courtroom.

The agents then ushered him to a waiting elevator and out the rear garage entrance to the courthouse where a police van and motorcycle escort were waiting to whisk him back to jail.

Mr. Bremer's behavior in his cell has been alternately subdued and angry, according to reliable prison sources. He has been silent at times, refusing to respond to questions; and has struck out angrily at others, occasionally spitting on the clothes of his guards.

Sources close to the investigation said today that either the defense or the prosecution would probably seek a psychiatric examination of the defendant in the next few weeks.

Mr. Beall disclosed today that he had subpoenaed the film of the Wallace shooting taken by cameramen of the three major networks and two

Washington television stations. He indicated that some of the film would be shown as prosecution evidence at Mr. Bremer's trial.