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Bremer Sgt 400 Two Takes 730

By DAVID GOELLER

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UPPER MERLBORO, Md. AP - Arthur Herman Bremer, a moody young man who claims insanity as his defense, goes on trial Monday on state charges arising from the attempted assassination of Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace.

The 21-year-old defendant from Milwaukee is accused of assault with intent to murder Wallace and three other persons, wounded in a volley of .38-caliber bullets May 15 at a political rally at a Laurel, Md., shopping center.

Other counts accuse the former busboy and school janitor of assault with intent to maim, assault and battery and two violations of Maryland's handgun control law.

Bremer also faces federal charges of shooting Wallace and Secret Service bodyguard Nicholas Zarvos but the trial in U.S. District Court in Baltimore has been indefinitely postponed.

Arthur A. Marshall Jr., the Prince Georges County state's attorney who will prosecute the Maryland case, said conviction on all 17 counts could result in a maximum sentence of 123 years.

The state charges involve the wounding of Wallace, Zarvos, Capt. H. C. Rothard of the Alabama State Police, and Lora Thompson of Hyattsville, Md., who was a volunteer in Wallace's successful campaign to capture the Maryland primary May 16.

Marshall has estimated that the trial in the county Circuit Court will take a week or less, including selection of jurors who will hear the case under the direction of Judge Ralph W. Powers.

The state's attorney has subpoenaed more than 40 prospective witnesses. Many of them were present when gunfire left Wallace partially paralyzed and hampered his quest for the 1972 Democratic presidential nomination.

The Alabama governor will not be among the witnesses.

With the defense expected to concede the shopping center events, the trial will probably focus on psychiatric testimony concerning Bremer's mental condition at the time of the shooting.

Bremer has been housed in the Prince Georges County Jail near the courtroom since his stay at Clifton T. Perkins State Hospital for the routine psychiatric examination ordered after he pleaded innocent by reason of insanity.

Little is known about what the defense has done regarding evidence to support its plea. Benjamin Lipsitz, the court-appointed defense lawyer from Baltimore, has maintained a strict out-of-court silence about the case.

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Security will be tight in and around the brick courthouse in Upper Marlboro, a placid tobacco-auction town that serves as the seat of government for Maryland's largest county.

Wallace, who says he does not plan to accept Marshall's invitation to testify, was an easy winner May 16 in Prince Georges County, many of whose 660,000 residents live in Washington suburbs.

Bremer has not been reported seen in public since he appeared in the county courtroom May 30 for a surprise arraignment.

At the time, he was being held under tight FBI guard in the Baltimore County Jail in Towson, a Baltimore suburb about 50 miles north of Upper Marlboro.

He remained under FBI guard until after his stay at Perkins hospital and his delivery into the custody of Prince Georges Sheriff Don Ansell.

The defendant, housed in a jail annex, was not involved when inmates at the Prince Georges facility staged a disorder and took three guards hostage July 17.

The opposing lawyers in the case are studies in contrast.

Lipsitz, 53, has spent his career out of the public eye, handling criminal and civil cases that have drawn little attention outside of legal circles in Baltimore.

Marshall, a 40-year-old elected official, has spent the better part of 20 years in the spotlight.

His exploits as commander of an infantry company involved in the Korean War battle of Pork Chop Hill were the subject of a book and a movie.

He is serving his third four-year term as county prosecutor and has shown a desire to advance politically, making unsuccessful bids for county executive in 1971 and Congress May 16.

The career of 65-year-old Judge Powers, head of the southern Maryland judicial circuit, blends elements of both extremes.

Powers served in the Maryland General Assembly from 1936 to 1948, then practiced law before being named to the bench and subsequently being elected to a 15-year term in 1962.

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