

A140WX  
uivozzo

120

WASHINGTON Kennedy Reaction A109 add: handguns.  
House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan also said the "ghastly, shocking and unbelievable" crime would speed congressional approval of crime legislation, including some form of gun control. Ford refused to discuss political effects of the shooting, saying "I certainly join millions of others in wishing Senator Kennedy the best for full and complete recovery."  
Rep. Melvin R. Laird of Wisconsin, chairman of the House Republican Conference, also emphasized the effect on pending crime legislation and refused to discuss political implications.  
"We can do better about law enforcement and we should," Laird said. Secretary of State Dean Rusk said he was "deeply shocked and distressed by this senseless act of violence against Senator Kennedy and the others in Los Angeles. I love and pray for his prompt recovery."

JA1026aed June 5

A141WX

uiv

Mrs. King-Kennedy 70

WASHINGTON AP - Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr., whose own husband was shot to death by an assassin April 4, sent this telegram today to Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy:

"I am praying for your husband, whom I so much respect, and I am praying for our country in this period of great national tragedy and peril.

"You, your husband, and your entire family have been most comforting to my family in our times of grief and difficulty, and I am prepared to do anything which may be of some service or consolation to you now."

PD1028aed June 5

A142WX

uiv.7

A142LE

uivbyllE

BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES AP - Sen. Robert F. Kennedy emerged from three hours of surgery today in "extremely critical condition," Frank Mankiewicz, his press secretary, announced.

Mankiewicz said all but one fragment of a bullet in Kennedy's head was removed by the team of surgeons.

DH730aed June 5

A143LE

uivzyyle

URGENT

LOS ANGELES Kennedy-Surgery A142LE add: surgeons.

Another bullet remains "somewhere in the back of the neck," he added.

Kennedy lost a "considerable amount of blood as a result of the bullet which passed through the mastoid bone on the right side of his head," he added.

Mankiewicz said Kennedy was breathing without the use of special oxygen equipment following the operation but he was in a resuscitator.

Kennedy was taken to an intensive care unit at Good Samaritan Hospital following the operation.

The medical bulletin said the next 12 to 36 hours would be the "very critical period."

"He's living and he's breathing on his own," Mankiewicz said.

With the senator at the hospital were his wife, Ethel, and his brother, Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts.

Doctors reported some of the bullet fragments and bone penetrated the midsection of the brain. Doctors said this area governs certain functions but is not the thinking process.

Briefing newsmen some seven hours after the attempted assassination, Mankiewicz said there "may have been some impairment of the blood supply to the center of the brain," which controls such vital signs as pulse, blood pressure, and the tracking of the eye-but "not the thinking processes."

The next 24 to 36 hours, he said, will be critical and will allow a determination whether such damage has occurred.

DH730aed June 5