

Wallace Sounds Like Campaigner

SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP) — George C. Wallace has given his supporters a thank-you message with a political flavor, and his press secretary says that means the wounded candidate is continuing his presidential campaign.

"I want to thank the people of Alabama for staying with us," Wallace said in a message relayed to newsmen Friday by his press secretary, Billy Joe Camp.

"They are responsible for the new direction in this country because most of the politicians are now sounding like us," the Alabama governor said.

Responding to questions, Camp said the statement could be interpreted as Wallace's first step toward resuming his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

As his third and strongest presidential bid gained momentum, Wallace was struck down by a would-be assassin at a shopping center rally near here Monday. He has yet to learn whether the bullet still lodged in his spinal canal will leave him a permanent cripple.

Although Camp was interpreting Wallace's statement as a return to the campaign

rhetoric, he said there have been no staff strategy sessions with the governor since the shooting. He said Wallace and his wife Cornelia undoubtedly have discussed the campaign in general terms.

The medical bulletins Friday had little to add. Doctors said Wallace's legs remain paralyzed and that he is continuing physical therapy to maintain muscle tone and blood circulation.

He was taken off intravenous feeding and given a meal of chicken broth.

Camp said that Wallace expressed appreciation for President Nixon's visit Friday morning. The President called Wallace's morale "quite remarkable."

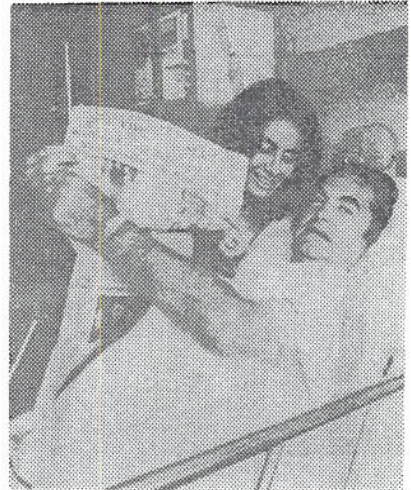
Meanwhile, authorities continued to probe the circumstances of the attack and the background of Arthur H. Bremer who is charged with the shooting.

Prince George's County police searched Bremer's car and said they found a gun apparently overlooked in earlier FBI searches.

State's Atty. Arthur A. Marshall Jr. said a .9-millimeter Browning semiautomatic pistol and one clip were found. The gun allegedly used in the shooting was a .38-caliber pistol.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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



—Sen. Edward M. Kennedy on the shooting of Gov. George Wallace.