

Bremer's name was not even in the Secret Service file

WASHINGTON — The Secret Service, apparently, has been protecting presidential aspirants from the wrong people.

A fanatic with a handgun had no trouble infiltrating within a few feet of George Wallace at a political rally. But such unlikely

Jack Anderson

assassins as comedians Groucho Marx and Tony Randall would have come under Secret Service scrutiny.

The Alabama governor was gunned down at a Laurel, Md., rally, and Arthur Herman Bremer, a smoking pistol in his hand, was wrestled to the ground. He is being held on \$200,000 bond.

Yet Bremer's name appears nowhere in the Secret Service's computerized file of 130,000 suspicious individuals.

Those who wind up in the file aren't likely to shoot off anything more lethal than their mouths. Most came to the Secret Service's attention because of some intemperate remark. Many are prominent in politics, the arts or the entertainment world.

Of the 180,000 suspects, only about 300 are considered dangerous enough to war-

rant regular surveillance and many of these have already been hustled off to prisons or asylums.

Those who make threatening remarks about office holders blow off steam, relieve the pressure and, therefore, usually don't resort to violence. More likely, a loner, unknown and obsessed, would attempt a political assassination.

This is the view of the National Commission on the Cause and Prevention of Violence after studying 18 assassination attempts against prominent office holders.

The presidential contenders don't have to worry about being shot by the likes of Groucho Marx or Tony Randall. But the Secret Service took their intemperate cracks seriously and considered bringing action against them.

The incorrigible Groucho was quoted by a West Coast underground newspaper as saying that "the only hope this country has is Nixon's assassination."

Groucho immediately disowned the statement. "I deny everything," he said, "because I never tell the truth. I lie about everything I do or say — about men, women or any other sex."

The Secret Service, however, wasn't buying Groucho's denials.

NEW ORLEANS

Bremer Aided?

Wallace Tailed, Evidence Shows

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A Milwaukee ferry manager says Arthur H. Bremer appeared with a swarthy, well dressed companion to arrange the first of three mysterious trips Bremer made across Lake Michigan in the weeks preceding the wounding of Gov. George C. Wallace.

Bremer, 21, is charged with shooting Wallace on May 15. Mounting evidence indicates he followed the Alabama governor for more than two months.

Records of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad in Milwaukee show that Bremer took the C&O ferry from Milwaukee to Ludington, Mich., on April 9 and May 9. Records in Ludington show he made the 97-mile trip in the opposite direction on April 28.

THE C&O ferry-trainmaster, Earl S. Nunnery, told The Associated Press he recalls that Bremer and a man who appeared to be of Greek descent made arrangements for the ferry trips.

A third person was traveling with the men but did not enter the ferry office, Nunnery said.

This was the first report that Bremer had had companions in the weeks preceding the shootings.

FBI agents questioned Nunnery and examined ferry records following the ferry man-

ager's interview with the AP.

BREMER had been seen in Milwaukee at a Wallace celebration just 2½ blocks from his apartment on April 4, the night of the Wisconsin primary. It was in the next day or two, according to Nunnery, that Bremer appeared at the ferry office on the Milwaukee docks with the unidentified man.

Nunnery said Bremer's companion talked excitedly about moving a political campaign from Wisconsin to Michigan, but never named a candidate.

"This is what made the whole thing so impressive on me—the Greek telling me how hard he's working in this field," Nunnery said. "It sounded like he was taking a whole group from Wisconsin to Michigan. Some were going to drive and some fly."

When they left, Nunnery said, he peeked out his office window hoping to see a bumper sticker or some other insignia on their car identifying the candidate they were supporting.

THERE WERE no visible signs, he said, but recalled seeing a third person sitting in the back seat.

Within another day or two, Bremer registered at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City and was there April 7-8, according to hotel records.