

Bremer, in Red, White and Blue, Was Conspicuous at Many Rallies

By MARTIN WALDRON

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LAUREL, Md., May 28—Arthur Herman Bremer, the Milwaukee resident accused of shooting Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama, made no effort to be inconspicuous during the 10 weeks in which he frequented political rallies last winter and this spring.

Most times, he was colorfully dressed. "He looked like a flag," said a man who watched him at a Michigan Wallace rally.

Usually, the 21-year-old former bus boy wore a red, white and blue shirt and red, white and blue socks, a dark blue suit with vest, and silvered sunglasses, and his red, white and blue tie was knotted around his neck, inside the open collar of his shirt.

In his more than two months of traveling from political rally to political rally, Mr. Bremer used his correct name when staying at hotels or motels.

At the rallies at which he has definitely been placed, he invariably was at the front of the crowd.

Noticed by Policemen

He drew so much attention to himself that on at least three occasions he was noticed by policemen.

In trying to assess Mr. Bremer's motives, Federal investigators have assumed the following:

That after some personal rebuffs in Milwaukee last winter, he decided on a political assassination as a means of drawing attention to himself.

Or, that he was part of a conspiracy to assassinate one of the major Presidential candidates for some reason as yet unknown.

Thus far, newsmen have been unable to find any evidence of a conspiracy. Mr. Bremer does not appear to have traveled with a companion, although at several places he was seen with someone else. He appears to have spent no more than \$700 to \$800 from Feb. 15, when he quit his job, until he was arrested on May 15. He had only \$2 when taken into custody in Laurel where Governor Wallace was shot.

The first report of a companion traveling with Mr. Bremer came from Milwaukee. On April 9, a curly-haired man with a bushy moustache was reported to be with Mr. Bremer when he inquired at Milwaukee about taking his blue 1967 Rambler automobile across Lake Michigan by ferry. The man was talking about politics.

The manager of the ferry operation, Earl S. Nunnery, positively recalled the April 9 scene about 10 days ago.

After it became known that Mr. Bremer had apparently been registered at the Waldorf-As-

toria Hotel in New York City on the nights of April 7 and April 8, a second check was made with Mr. Nunnery, but he refused to answer questions, slamming the door in a reporter's face.

Manager Declines Comment

If Mr. Bremer did cross Lake Michigan on April 9 or April 10, he may have been headed for Ottawa, the Canadian capital, where President Nixon was to visit from April 13 to April 15. It is about 250 miles from Milwaukee to Ottawa, including the six-hour ferry trip across Lake Michigan.

The shortest and easiest highway route from Milwaukee to Ottawa is through Detroit, entering Canada at Windsor, Ontario.

Canadian officials said late last week that Mr. Bremer spent the nights of April 13 and 14

at the Lord Elgin Hotel in Ottawa, which sits in faded elegance about a quarter of a mile from the Canadian Parliament building. A single room at the hotel costs \$15 to \$18 a night.

Donald Blakslee, the hotel manager, said the hotel policy barred comment on any guest and thus he could not say if the suspect had stayed at the hotel. However, two bellhops said that Mr. Bremer did stay there, as did 44 members of President Nixon's staff, apparently Secret Service agents and communications personnel.

On Friday, April 14, the day after President Nixon's arrival, the President addressed the Canadian Parliament and a crowd of spectators, which included Mr. Bremer, pushed onto the Parliament grounds. Photographs taken at the front of the crowd show Mr. Bremer with his sunglasses on. He was wearing a light-colored raincoat. A member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was standing near him.

A police sergeant was reported to have noticed Mr. Bremer. He was among a group that had got to the front of the crowd waiting to see President Nixon, and the police had to push the crowd back.

Security on President Nixon's Canadian visit was very tight, by Canadian standards, because of the attack on Soviet Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin on Oct. 18, 1971, on his visit to Ottawa.

After Mr. Bremer left Ottawa in the early afternoon of April 15, he drove down through New York and was arrested for speeding at 6:40 P.M. near the Pennsylvania border on Interstate Route 81, which leads to Swanton and Harrisburg, Pa., and Hagerstown, Md.

Senator Humphrey was scheduled to spend the week

beginning April 16 in Pennsylvania. In that week, he made 26 appearances in the state.

Federal sources reported that after Mr. Bremer was given a speeding ticket near Binghamton, N. Y., on April 15, he drove across Pennsylvania to New Carrollton, Md., near Washington, where he stayed until April 18.

Auto Returned on Ferry

Governor Wallace was campaigning in Indiana on April 18 and 19 and was in Washington on April 20.

The Governor was scheduled to be at rallies in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Williamsport and Altoona, Pa. on April 22, but the weather was so bad that his plane was grounded and the rallies were canceled.

The ferry records in Milwaukee disclosed that Mr. Bremer's automobile was returned to that city on April 23, coming back across Lake Michigan from Ludington, Mich.

On the night of May 8, his car was reported to have traveled across Lake Michigan back to Ludington.

Mr. Bremer was seen at the Big D Restaurant three miles east of Ludington on U.S. Highways 10 and 31 about 5:45 o'clock the next morning. A waitress at the restaurant said that Mr. Bremer had been alone. She also said that she could not remember the date that she had seen him.

She was so upset about being asked about Mr. Bremer that she summoned the police.

The three sheriff's deputies who responded said that no one else had apparently noticed Mr. Bremer on that day. Workers at the ferry slip in Ludington said they had not seen him.

Mr. Bremer was wearing his red, white and blue shirt when he ate at the Big D.

He was also wearing the same outfit the next day when he ate dinner at a Dairy Queen restaurant in Cadillac, Mich., where Governor Wallace held a rally at 8 P.M. at the Cadillac High School gymnasium. At the rally, Mr. Bremer sat with a neatly dressed man of about 40.

Newsmen familiar with Cadillac said that they did not recognize the man.

Mr. Bremer next popped up in Kalamazoo two days after the Cadillac rally. In those two days, Governor Wallace was in New York City and Maryland, returning to Michigan on the morning of May 13. On that day, Governor Wallace attended rallies at Lansing, Warren and Kalamazoo.

Refuses to Identify Woman

At the Kalamazoo rally, Mr. Bremer, still wearing his red,

white and blue outfit, held a conversation with a young blond woman who was handing out anti-Wallace literature.

The anti-Wallace leaflets were produced by the Young Workers Liberation League, a Communist-oriented organization founded in Chicago in 1970.

The head of the league, Jarvis Tyner, is the Communist party's Vice-Presidential candidate this year.

Alan L. Maki of Grand Rapids, Mich., the head of the league chapter there that produced the leaflets handed out at the Kalamazoo rally, refused to identify the young woman to whom Mr. Bremer had talked in Kalamazoo.

Officials of the league at its national headquarters in New York City said that if one of its members had had a conversation with Mr. Bremer, it was a coincidence.

"We certainly had nothing to do with any plot to shoot Governor Wallace," a spokesman said. "We do not have a policy of individual terrorism."

After the Kalamazoo rally ended about 10 P.M. Saturday, May 13, Mr. Bremer apparently drove straight through to Maryland where Governor Wallace was shot the following Monday.

While in Kalamazoo, Mr. Bremer was questioned by a city policeman after a merchant complained that a man had been sitting in a car all day in a nearby parking lot.

Mr. Bremer told the policeman he was waiting for the Wallace rally and had arrived early to make sure that he got a good seat.

He was alone.

The wearing of the eye-catching clothes plus Mr. Bremer's habit of pushing his way to the front of crowds at political rallies could have escaped notice of Secret Service agents guarding the candidates because of the festive air at most rallies, especially those of Governor Wallace. Red, white and blue coats and dresses were in evidence at most Wallace rallies, along with balloons and streamers and gaudy campaign paraphernalia.



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Scene of part of crowd at rally for Gov. George C. Wallace in Kalamazoo, Mich., on Friday before Governor was shot. Mr. Bremer is believed to be at center. He was reported to be at rally in his red, white and blue outfit and to have talked with young woman handing out anti-Wallace literature.