

# Wallace: 'I used to move, move, move'

Newhouse News Service

MONTGOMERY (Ala.) — He rubbed away the pain and shifted in his wheelchair, and on the second anniversary of the assassination attempt that left him paralyzed for life, Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama made Martha Mitchell cry.

The estranged wife of former Attorney General John Mitchell was visiting the executive mansion here, and was telling George Wallace her troubles.

"Honey, you may have your troubles," the governor said with a half smile, "but so long as you can kick off your shoes and wiggle your toes, you aren't too bad off.

"Fellow came in the other day and told me he needed a job to keep his son in college. I told I'd exchange places with him if I could. I'd be a tenant farmer if only I could get up from this chair and walk out of the room."

And Martha Mitchell wept.

The governor also shed a tear on this day. He posed

for a photographer — pointing to a bullet wound in his arm — and his wife, Cornelia, leaned over his wheelchair to whisper to him.

George Corley Wallace, the tough politician, pulled out his handkerchief and wiped his eyes.

It was two years ago on May 15 at a shopping center in Laurel, Md., that the governor was struck down by a would-be assassin's bullets.

One of the slugs lodged near his spine, and it wasn't too long before the man who was sending a message to America got a message of his own — that he'd never walk again.

He was asked whether he heard from Arthur Bremer, the would-be assassin now serving 50 years in prison for the shooting in Laurel.

"No, I haven't, but I wouldn't mind if he wanted to talk to me," Wallace said. "I don't hate him. I hope the Lord helps him. I hope that young man repents. But I can't forget him. Even the simple act of getting out of a car — I used to jump out and move, move, move — now is a major production."