SFChronicle May 1 6 1974 Abernathy and Wallace Together

Montgomery, Ala.

Governor George C. Wallace and civil rights leader Ralph Abernathy shared a stage yesterday and shook hands after both were awarded honorary doctor of law degrees from predominantly black Alabama State University.

It was the school's 100th anniversary celebration and coincidentally the second anniversary of the assassination attempt which cost Wallace the use of his legs.

"Thank you for your prayers and thoughts two years ago on this date, Wallace told the mostly black crowd.

The governor was interrupted by applause twice when he pledged financial support for the college.

Abrenathy, a graduate of Alabama State, did not speak during the afternoon ceremony. Wallace's remarks were brief.

Associated Press



AP Wirephoto

GEORGE WALLACE AND RALPH ABERNATHY
They shared the platform at the university