

## **U.S. Charges Dropped in Bremer Case**

By Gail Robinson

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The Justice Department dropped all federal charges yesterday against Arthur H. Bremer, who was convicted by a Prince George's County court in 1972 of shooting Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace in a Laurel shopping center.

United States Attorney George Beall said Justice Department policy is not to press federal charges in cases where the defendant already has been convicted of similar state charges.

Beall said such prosecutions would "really be in the spirit of double jeopardy although it's not actually double jeopardy." He added there are also "practical reasons," including the time and expense of an additional trial.

Bremer is serving a 53-year prison sentence, one-fourth of which must be served before he is eligible for parole. Beall noted that any sentence resulting from a federal conviction probably would have been served concurrently with the 53-year term.

The Supreme Court refused last February to review Bremer's state court conviction and he has now exhausted all direct appeal routes, the Justice Department said.