

Wallace tours Texas

Associated Press
ABILENE — Alabama Gov. George Wallace was to move to West Texas today in search of votes in the state's May 1 primary with speeches planned here, in Lubbock and El Paso.

Wallace came to Texas Tuesday and was in Fort Worth and Dallas where he opened campaign headquarters.

In Dallas late Tuesday, Wallace urged Texans to provide him with enough votes to give him a chance at a Democratic nomination and to make sure the middle and lower income classes are represented in the party's platform.

Wallace will be facing Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter and Texas "favorite son" candidate Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex.

Wallace told a crowd of supporters in Dallas: "If you'll go out and give

George Wallace your vote, and work, and I'll work in other states, we'll go to the convention with enough votes that we will not only have a chance at the nomination, but we will also see that the party platform is one that represents the average middle class, low income citizens of the United States that they (the party) forgot and looked down their cultural noses at in 1972."

In Fort Worth Wallace told supporters he felt, "we are going to do well in Texas. . . I have a better chance of being the nominee of the Democratic party than Mr. (Ronald) Reagan has of being the nominee of the Republican Party."

Reagan will face Ford in the Texas Republican primary.

Wallace declined to comment on reports that some of his supporters were switching to Reagan because they did not think Wallace has a

"realistic" chance of getting the Democratic nomination.

In his appearances in Fort Worth and Dallas, Wallace told his listeners that the major issues were unemployment, inflation, internal security, national defense and crime and government spending.

He said the party should not be afraid, "to attack big government, the bureaucracy in Washington that is overgrown and glutted. The matter of crime in the streets which we have always said was a great domestic issue eating the internal security of the United States and threatening the largest cities of our countries."

Wallace disagreed with Sen. Bentsen's prediction that the Democratic convention will be a "brokered convention." He said: "I don't know what a brokered convention is, but nobody is going to the convention with a majority of delegates."

Ford and Connally meet Still no Connally endorsement for Texas primary candidates

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Ford and former Texas Gov. John B. Connally have held another long session at the White House, but the President says Connally still has not volunteered to support him in the Texas May 1 primary.

Ford and Connally met for 40 minutes Tuesday. There was no official announcement of what was discussed, but President Ford said later that Connally "was not offered a job. I did not ask him to support me. He did not volunteer."

Connally has declined to make any public statements in favor of either Ford or Reagan in the Texas primary although reportedly the two have sought his help.

The former governor has said he intends to work to help strengthen the Republican party's congressional delegation.

Connally drove away from the White House without discussing the meeting with waiting reporters.

Although Connally has said he will make no endorsement in the hotly contested Texas campaign between Ford and challenger Ronald Reagan, the President and his advisers are known to be hopeful that Ford and Connally will make at least one joint public appearance before the May 1 balloting.

Ford is scheduled to return to Texas for another campaign appearance April 28-29.

Ford has classified himself as the underdog in Texas. He has won six of the seven primaries he has entered, with Reagan beating him in North Carolina.

A White House spokesman said that Ford telephoned Connally in

Houston Monday night, not knowing that the prominent Democrat-turned-Republican was en route to Washington. The President left a message and Connally returned his call late Monday night after reaching the capital. They then arranged Tuesday's meeting.

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Political roundup

Ford rejects ethnic term

By HOWARD BENEDICT
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON — President Ford says he rejects the term "ethnic purity," but believes "an ethnic heritage is a great treasure" that should not be destroyed by federal housing laws.

Asked about Democratic candidate Jimmy Carter's reference to "ethnic purity" of neighborhoods, Ford said Tuesday, "I would not use that term to describe any of my policies."

At a White House news conference, he said it is "not the way to describe the practical situation" involving government housing policy.

Carter stirred controversy last week by saying in an interview that the government should not pursue policies that force the alteration of "ethnic purity" of neighborhoods. Some critics claimed there was racial overtones in the statement.

Carter later apologized for the use of the term, but said he remained opposed to the "arbitrary use of federal force" to change a neighborhood's ethnic character. His comments were in regard to legal efforts to force the government to finance construction of low-income housing in affluent suburbs as well as in poor inner-city areas.

Ford seemed to support Carter's stand on allowing neighborhoods to retain ethnic identity, saying, "I don't think that federal action should be used to destroy that ethnic treasure."

In other political developments Tuesday:

✓ Ford met with former Texas Gov. John Connally, their second White House talk in 12 days, but said he neither sought nor received Connally's endorsement in the May 1 Texas primary. Ford nominated Ross N. Sterling, a member of Connally's Houston law firm, to federal judgeship on Monday.

Ford called GOP challenger Ronald Reagan a formidable opponent, but said "We're winning and we're going to keep on winning." He also praised Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and said Kissinger will remain in his job, despite criticism from political opponents.

✓ Carter countered speculation that the "ethnic purity" remark might have cost him support from blacks, appearing in Atlanta early in the day with the Rev. Martin Luther King Sr., father of the slain civil rights leader.

✓ King told several thousand persons at a rally that Carter "has been for equal justice when it wasn't an easy thing to be for in southern Georgia." King said of Carter, "I love him and believe in him."

✓ Former California Gov. Ronald Reagan charged in Texas that Ford is "proceeding to give away the Panama Canal" and said he had a transcript of recent closed-door testimony exposing that plan.

He quoted from what he said was a transcript of testimony by Ambassador At-Large Elsworth Bunker, chief U.S. negotiator in the Panama Canal talks. Reagan said Bunker admitted he had guidelines from Ford to surrender both the canal and the Canal Zone.

✓ Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said again he would not be on the Democratic ticket. At a fund-raiser in Atlanta, he said he thought the flap over Carter's "ethnic purity" remark was "overblown."

✓ A compromise bill to restructure the Federal Election Commission and return its power to disburse federal matching funds to presidential candidates was announced in Congress, but backers of the measure said they feared Ford would veto it.

Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, a late entry in the race for the Democratic nomination, said in Nebraska that Ford has been "saber-rattling" in relations with Cuba.

Rep. Morris K. Udall said in Pennsylvania that his money-tight campaign has been damaged by the failure of Congress to get a Federal Election Commission bill passed.

"It will definitely hurt us here. It's like campaigning with half the money," said Udall. He said he may be forced to scrap a planned advertising blitz if he cannot raise more funds.

Alabama Gov. George Wallace was in Texas, telling a Dallas crowd that with their votes "we'll go to the convention with enough votes that we will not only have a chance at the nomination, but we will also see that the party platform is one that represents the average middle-class, low-income citizens of the United States that the party forgot and looked down their cultural noses at in 1972."

Sen. Henry M. Jackson courted labor support in Pennsylvania, saying, "Jobs and employment are the overriding issues in this campaign. I have great faith in what this nation can do, but it's a tragedy to see that it's so mismanaged."

Absentee voting is now underway

Absentee voting for the May 1 county, state and Presidential primaries is underway and will continue through April 27.

Registered voters who will be out-of-town on election day are urged to vote absentee at the tax assessor-collector's office in the Brazos County Courthouse.

Texas this year, for the first time, will be voting on party presidential preferences in the primary. Also on the ballot will be primaries for county, state and Congressional offices.

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But he said he is sworn to uphold present federal housing laws, which give local governments a great deal of autonomy and responsibility as to where low-income housing should be located.

Ford said Carter will face a test in the April 27 Pennsylvania primary, which will determine "whether that remark will have any impact on the support that he has heretofore gotten in the black communities of the various states."

Carter was campaigning in Philadelphia where he said, "I am happy to have aroused the interest and the opposition of the President."

The former Georgia governor said Ford "has often expressed his preference not to have me as an opponent and I guess he has now joined the 'stop Carter' movement." But what he should know from me is that I am going to stop him in November."

College GOP polls students in MSC today

The Texas A&M chapter of College Republicans are polling voter support today for Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

Students may vote on MSC's first floor from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students must present an A&M student ID card to be eligible to be polled.

College Republicans is sponsoring the poll to increase interest in the May 1 Texas Republican primary.

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Teague opens headquarters

The Teague for Congress county headquarters has opened at 2915 Texas Avenue, Glynn A. Williams, local campaign chairman, announced yesterday.

Rep. Olin E. ("Tiger") Teague, who is seeking his 16th term in the U.S. House of Representatives, faces Ft. Worth television weatherman Ron Godbey in the Democratic primary May 1.


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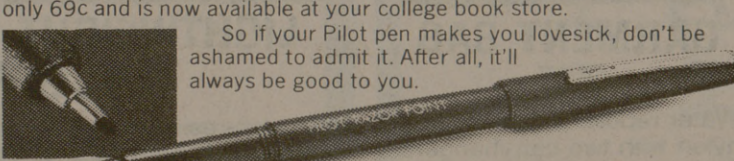
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