

# National

## Handguns can be purchased easily, inexpensively

# Reagan shooting prompts dispute over gun control

United Press International  
Advocates of handgun control hope to win support for their movement as a result of the assassination attempt on President

Reagan, but others say the shooting only magnifies the ineffectiveness of gun laws. Reagan, press secretary James Brady, a Secret Service agent and

a Washington D.C. police officer were gunned down Monday outside a district hotel by an assailant wielding a .22-caliber "Saturday Night Special." It was purchased in a Dallas pawn shop.

But Donald Feder, executive director of the Second Amendment Foundation in Seattle, said gun control would do nothing to control such violent outbursts.

Fraser, Cardinal Humberto Medeiros of Boston and Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill., urged tighter restrictions on handguns to eradicate future tragedies.

"The whole world looks at America and its violence and asks why we can't find a way to control it," said Percy, sponsor of gun control legislation.

for the Citizens Committee for Right to Keep and Bear Arms, the shooting of Reagan was a "sad" indication that gun control do not work.

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The gun, documents showed, was one of two purchased for \$47.

"We are saddened and appalled that, once again, the president of the United States has become a victim of a potentially lethal assault. It is deplorable," Feder said in a statement.

Medeiros, archbishop of Boston, immediately instructed special masses be held in the 411 parishes that make up the Boston archdiocese and urged prayer for a nation unable to control itself.

In California, Sen. David Roberti told fellow legislators the nation cannot survive if its leaders are constantly in danger.

"I hasten to point out that occurred in the jurisdiction (Washington) which has the restrictive handgun control law in the United States," Snyder said in a statement in Washington.

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"This latest attempt on the life of a president of the U.S. is not only shocking, but also evidence that brutal, senseless violence continues to be an aspect of American life and that all sorts of unstable people have easy access to handguns," United Auto Workers union President Douglas A. Fraser said in Detroit.

Feder, representing the foundation's 250,000 anti-gun control members nationwide, said weapons always will be available to desperate people committed to violence.

"This tragedy reminds us that violence and the easy availability of firearms make every citizen of high or low station vulnerable to a murderous gun," he said.

"There are so many (handguns) out there I don't see that passing a law will stop that," Dreyfus said.

"What a horror. When will stop? Thank God he's alive. How many times do we have to go through this?" Koch said quietly.

# Hinckley sedated, isolated in brig

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The college dropout charged with trying to kill President Reagan was under sedation Tuesday in a Marine Corps brig, isolated from other prisoners as authorities worked to establish his mental competence.

The blond, stocky Hinckley — kicked out of a neo-Nazi organization because he was "uncontrollable, unstable" — has a history of psychiatric care.

to Ruby's killing of suspect Lee Harvey Oswald following the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Tuesday, "We have no credible evidence at this point that this act is other than the act of a single person."

DeCair said he did not know the dosage Valium being given to the suspect.

John W. "Jack" Hinckley Jr., 25, was charged Monday with attempting to assassinate a president and assaulting a federal agent with a pistol.

Hinckley was being held for mental examination, FBI Director William Webster said, but safety considerations clouded where the examination would take place.

Although Hinckley's court-appointed lawyers asked a federal magistrate to restrict the Secret Service and FBI from interrogating him until he underwent psychiatric examination, no order had been signed by noon Tuesday.

Justice Department spokesman Tom DeCair said Hinckley arrived at the Quantico Marine Base 40 miles south of Washington at 12:30 a.m. CST.

At a news conference in Chicago Tuesday Michael C. Allen, head of the National Socialist Party of America, said Hinckley was expelled from the Nazi group because, "He kept talking about shooting people and blowing things up."

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It could not be learned whether investigators are continuing to question Hinckley about the motive for the shooting, or the possibility of a conspiracy.

DeCair said Hinckley was being given the tranquilizer Valium at the recommendation of two physicians who examined him.

DeCair said he did not know the dosage Valium being given to the suspect.

# Vice president assumes some of Reagan's duties

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Vice President George Bush took over some of President Reagan's official duties at the White House Tuesday while Reagan was recovering from surgery to remove a would-be assassin's bullet.

leadership to give them the latest information on president's condition and affairs of state.

Allen said, "He had an unstable attitude. We just failed to reinstate his membership on Nov. 9, 1979."

Bush arrived at the White House at 7:30 a.m. CST and began his day with an intelligence briefing. Afterward he arranged to meet with Reagan's top staffers, including counselor Edwin Meese and chief of staff James Baker.

Peter Teeley, Bush's press secretary, said the meetings were a matter of "communications courtesy."

Bush, who rushed back to Washington from Texas after hearing of the assassination attempt Monday, spent the night at the vice presidential home, Observatory Hill.

He was also scheduled to meet with the Cabinet and the Republican and Democratic congressional

Bush learned of the attempt on Reagan's life from a sophisticated White House message hotline but from a television set.

from a sophisticated White House message hotline but from a television set.

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# Eliminate politicians, Hinckley quoted

United Press International  
LUBBOCK — John W. Hinckley Jr., accused of shooting President Reagan and three other men, said during last year's presidential campaign in a conversation about Reagan that all politicians should be eliminated.

Calvin Wynne, an apartment maintenance man, said he had had two conversations with Hinckley. The first was about the man's work, but the second carried ominous overtones of Monday's shooting attack on Reagan in Washington, D.C.

"The second conversation," Wynne said, "was during the campaign and the subject was brought around — I can't remember exactly — but the main gist of the conversation was about political leaders and what he thought should be done was that they all be eliminated," Wynne said.

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