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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Send a Teacher: President -- President Reagan ordered NASA to send an elementary- or secondary-school teacher as the first passenger on the space shuttle.

(AP, Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

I Didn't Do It: Campaign Official -- A Reagan-Bush campaign official said signs were taken from anti-Reagan protestors because of orders from the White House. (UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

We Overdid It: Post -- The Pentagon took an antiaircraft missile that worked and put in so many improvements that the government couldn't afford it anymore. (Washington Post)

Iraq On Top: Senate -- A Senate Foreign Relations Committee report said that the balance of power in the Persian Gulf war was tipping towards Iraq. (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Monday Evening)

PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN/TEACHERS -- The six national teachers' unions have endorsed Walter Mondale, but President Reagan hasn't given up on the teacher votes. At a White House-sponsored education awards ceremony, Reagan pulled out a plum that only an incumbent president can deliver: a ride on the space shuttle.

"JACKASS" -- The White House said President Reagan, in a speech last week, was not suggesting Walter Mondale is a jackass.

MONDALE CAMPAIGN -- Walter Mondale picked Dallas to deliver an attack on the Reagan Administration's failure to help small businesses.

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-2

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NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

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This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff. For complete stories or information, please call ext. 2950

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN TELLS NASA TO CHOOSE SCHOOLTEACHER FOR SHUTTLE FLIGHT

President Reagan directed NASA to carry an elementary- or secondary-school teacher into orbit aboard the space shuttle as the nation's first space passenger. (Thomas O'Toole, Washington Post, A2)

Speaking to teachers and administrators from some of the nation's outstanding public high schools, Reagan settled a question that has long occupied space buffs and dreamers: Who will be the first tourist in space? (John McCaslin, Washington Times, A1)

"I can't think of a better lesson for our children and our country," Reagan said. (Albert Sehlstedt, Baltimore Sun, A1)

NASA was looking for able communicators for the citizens-in-space program so that they could relate their experience to others in ways that astronauts have not been able to do because of their technical orientation. "A good teacher can have an impact on a person, not only in his or her formative years, but throughout life," NASA Administrator James Beggs said in explaining why a teacher would be selected. (Howard Benedict, AP)

"This agency lives and dies by whether we can attract top talent and keep the kids interested in the program," he said at a news conference. (Philip Boffey, New York Times, A1)

President Calls on Schools to Teach the 'Basic Values'

President Reagan steered his reelection campaign into education topics, touring a Washington junior high school, promising that a teacher will be the first passenger on the space shuttle and declaring that children should be instructed in "justice, religion and liberty." (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A3)

President Visits D.C. School Cited for Excellence

It was just an orientation day for Jefferson Junior High School's new students, but a visit from President Reagan packed the auditorium of the Southwest Washington school with students who did not have to be there. (Ronald White, Washington Post, A3)

NEA Blasts Reagan for Education 'Gimmick'

The National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers union and an ardent supporter of Walter Mondale's campaign, blasted President Reagan, questioning publicly whether he had an interest in the quality of public education. (Helen Thomas, UPI)

Teachers Strike in Illinois and Michigan

Summer vacation was extended for some 46,000 students in Illinois as their teachers walked off the job on the first day of school, while in Michigan, where three small districts were struck, threatened walkouts could affect about 113,000 students. (AP)

TAFT SAYS WHITE HOUSE ORDERED CONFISCATIONS

CINCINNATI -- An official of the Hamilton County Reagan-Bush reelection campaign has apologized for the confiscation of pro- and anti-Reagan signs at the President's appearance in Cincinnati last week. "There was absolutely no reason for Reagan-Bush volunteers to manufacture a sterile or plastic environment given the President's popularity and the pervasive support for them in Hamilton County," said Kenneth Blackwell, a Cincinnati city councilman and co-chairman of the county campaign. White House officials said security officials were instructed to confiscate placards held on sticks, which could be used as weapons, and those that were stapled together, which could conceal weapons. Robert Taft II, co-chairman of the state Reagan-Bush campaign, said Monday that White House officials issued orders to confiscate the signs. Similar incidents occurred in Austin, Texas, and Decatur, Ill., when Reagan spoke there. Cincinnati officials said they would investigate the incident, and several people who had signs seized said they intended to press lawsuits. Although Blackwell issued the apology during the weekend, he qualified it by saying the Reagan-Bush organization is not sorry for following strict crowd control procedures. He also said the incident now should be forgotten. "It's time for the Hamilton County Reagan-Bush campaign to get off of the defensive because a few people had their free speech rights abridged ...," he said.

(UPI)

Reagan's Billing of Trip to Taxpayers Is Criticized

Common Cause, the self-styled citizens lobby, charged President Reagan with "improper and unauthorized use of taxpayer funds" by billing a recent trip to the government rather than his campaign.

(Wall Street Journal, A58)

UAW Advertising Campaign Stresses Jobs

DETROIT -- The UAW union launched a \$2 million television advertising campaign aimed at offsetting what it says is "improper" Reagan Administration interference in current UAW contract talks with GM and Ford.

(Warren Brown, Washington Post, A6)**Auto Union Chief Cites Job Threats from Foreign Parts**

DETROIT -- Citing an independent study, UAW President Bieber said plans by U.S. car companies to use more foreign sources for production of vehicles and parts could cost 500,000 jobs by 1994.

(Reuter)

Credibility of Reagan Forecast on Budget Called Into Question

A group of fiscal conservatives, who believe that continued economic growth will reduce federal budget deficits without tax increases, say the Reagan Administration erred in constructing its most optimistic economic outlook. "They destroyed the credibility of a high-growth scenario," one anti-tax official in the Administration said bitterly.

(Ralph Hallow, Washington Times, A1)

Anti-Reagan Group Allowed Protest Rally

SALT LAKE CITY -- The county's all-Republican board of commissioners has given permission to an anti-Reagan group to stage a protest the day before President Reagan is to address the national convention of the American Legion. The group, Rock Against Reagan, plans to sponsor rock music groups, speakers and films critical of the Administration's policies, said attorney Brian Barnard. (AP)

ANDERSON TO ENDORSE MONDALE

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- John Anderson, who received almost 6 million votes as an independent presidential candidate in 1980, will endorse Walter Mondale against President Reagan. (David Broder, Washington Post, A1)

Anderson was expected to announce his support to the Democratic nominee at a midday appearance today at the University of Illinois. Heading back to Minneapolis after a Texas-sized fund-raising trip to Dallas, Mondale arranged to meet Anderson today in Champagne-Urbana, Ill. (Arnold Sawislak, UPI)

Mondale Sees GOP Doubling Deficit

DALLAS -- Walter Mondale, appearing on the scene of the Republican convention for another skirmish in the critical battle for Texas, charged that the GOP platform would nearly double the federal deficit.

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1)

Mondale Emphasizes Separation of Church and State

DALLAS -- Walter Mondale has jumped into a brewing row over church and state, asserting that separation between religion and politics is vital to constitutional government. The candidate told 700 contributors at a fundraising dinner that America's founding fathers wrote the church-state separation provision into the Constitution because "they saw in Europe every time you let the politicians interfere with religious faith, you destroy it." (Carol Giacomo, Reuter)

Speaking at a prayer breakfast in Dallas on Thursday, the President said "religion and politics are necessarily related." Without referring directly to the President's speech, Mondale said that "there is more intense religious belief and practice in America than in any society on earth, I believe. That's because in America our faith is personal and honorable and uncorrupted by political influence."

(Donald Rothberg, AP)

Mondale, Ferraro Plan to Start Race Labor Day

DALLAS -- Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro will officially launch their campaign together on Labor Day with a coast-to-coast swing starting in New York City, pausing in heartland Wisconsin and then plunging into President Reagan's home state, California, campaign officials announced.

(Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A4)

Disputes Among Blacks Threaten Efforts by Democrats in the South

JACKSON, Miss. -- The passions unleashed by the Rev. Jesse Jackson's presidential candidacy are complicating affairs for Walter Mondale, particularly in the South, where supporters of the two men continue to fight each other.
(Ronald Smothers, New York Times, A1)

FIRM UNVEILS EXPERIMENTAL FIGHTER PLANE

CALVERTON, N.Y. -- Grumman Corp. rolled out an experimental fighter plane with a forward-swept wing amid government declarations that it marks a return to the dangerous kind of flying that enabled the United States to break the sound barrier 37 years ago.

(George Wilson, Washington Post, A1)

Editor's Note: A photograph of Vice President Bush in the new X-29 airplane is on page A4 of The Washington Times with an extended caption.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS\$1.3 BILLION MISSILE WAS IMPROVED TO EXCESS

In 1975, after a six-year search for an effective anti-aircraft weapon, the U.S. Army took a European missile that worked reasonably well and began an improvement program that eventually would make it too expensive for the Pentagon to buy. Nine years and \$1.3 billion later, the program has been canceled because of costs but the missile is still in production because of the contracts signed years ago.

(Fred Hiatt, Washington Post, A1)

IRAQ SEEN LEADING IN GULF WAR

The military balance in the long-running Persian Gulf war has shifted in favor of Iraq as the United States and the Soviet Union have "tilted" toward that regime and Iran has suffered from a worldwide arms embargo, a Senate Foreign Relations Committee study reported.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

The report also says there is "greater calm in most (Persian) Gulf countries" and in the international oil market than most observers expected.

(Donald Neff, Washington Times, A1)

The report said that if Iran went ahead with a much-discussed ground assault against Iraq, this would "probably lead to a defeat for Iran." If Iran failed in its attack, it went on, "its munition stocks would be almost depleted and the risk of a counteroffensive would exist."

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Rocket Hits Tanker in Gulf

MANAMA -- A rocket hit a Panamanian tanker amidships and the captain radioed that he was heading to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates for repairs, Persian Gulf shipping sources said.

(Mona Ziade, Washington Post, A10)

The shipping sources also said a nearby U.S. Navy warship, the guided missile destroyer King, offered assistance to the Cleo 1, which Lloyd's said was about four miles off the Shah Allum Shoal when hit. It was unclear if the offer was accepted.

(Washington Times, A6)

SALVADORAN ARMY WIDENS ANTI-GUERRILLA EFFORT

SAN SALVADOR -- Salvadoran troops expanded counterinsurgency operations to half of the nation's 14 provinces, including the showcase province of a U.S.-designed "pacification" program, following a series of rebel attacks.

(Washington Times, A7)

Salvador High Command Orders Probe Into Alleged Army Massacre

SAN SALVADOR -- EL Salvador's army high command has ordered a full investigation into an alleged massacre of 68 peasants last month by a U.S.-trained army unit, military officials said.

(Robert Block, Reuter)

REBEL SUPPLY PLANE SHOT DOWN

MANAGUA -- A U.S.-made plane dropping arms and supplies to anti-Sandinista rebels in northern Nicaragua was shot down by government soldiers, the Ministry of Defense announced. A Pentagon spokesman in Washington, Commander Fred Leeder, said the aircraft was not a U.S. airplane.

(UPI)

The ministry statement said the shooting occurred between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. local time between the towns of El Portillo and Palo Grande in Jinotego province, about 75 miles north of Managua. It described the plane as a C-47 transport, which is a U.S. military transport plane.

(Monte Hayes, AP)

Details on casualties or on how many people were aboard the supply plane, which was reported to have crashed in a mountainous region 40 miles south of the border with Honduras, were not immediately available.

(Oswaldo Bonilla, UPI)

The ministry said in the communique that it was not known whether the crew of the C-47 aircraft had survived. Government troops were trying to reach the area to find the remains of the plane, it added.

(Reuter)

Costa Ricans Stymied in Hunt for Assassin

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica -- The assassin who killed three reporters and a guerrilla in an attempt to blow up Nicaraguan rebel leader Eden Pastora three months ago has vanished, leaving behind rage and mystery but no solid leads. Costa Rican investigators say they have come to a dead end in their effort to establish his identity and whereabouts, and await answers from police in other countries to queries sent out about the prime suspect.

(Edward Cody, Washington Post, A12)

U.S. PRESENCE IN HONDURAS GROWS AS RELATIONS IMPROVE

TEGUCIGALPA -- The U.S. military presence in Honduras has doubled during the past month. The increased military presence coincides with an easing of tensions between the two countries.

(Jay Mallin Sr., Washington Times, A7)Rights Group Charges Abuses Continue Under Democratic Regimes

TEGUCIGALPA -- Democratically elected governments in Honduras and El Salvador have been unable to prevent security forces from continuing to commit human rights abuses, a Latin American human rights group, the Venezuela-based Latin American Federation of Associations of the Detained and Disappeared (FEDFAM), said.

(Reuter)

NEWS AGENCY SAYS SECOND CIVILIAN PLANE INVOLVED IN KAL TRAGEDY

MOSCOW -- A Moscow news agency says a second civilian airplane was involved in the "spying" mission of a South Korean passenger plane that was shot down by a Soviet jet fighter. With the anniversary of the tragedy approaching, the Soviet media renewed its accusations that South Korean Flight 007 was on a U.S. spy mission and that the ultimate responsibility belonged to the White House.

(John Iams, UPI)

Reagan Responds Vigorously to Mondale Arms-Race Charge

The Reagan Administration reacted vigorously to Walter Mondale's charges that President Reagan has escalated the arms race and has opposed all arms control efforts. "The President and his Administration have no higher priority than reducing the risks of war," Larry Speakes said in a statement. "Nuclear war in particular, as the President has said repeatedly, cannot be won and must never be fought. We seek arms control agreements that truly enhance stability and security."

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A4)

The U.S. Response on Cruise Missiles

The Reagan Administration said that the Soviet Union had been developing cruise missiles "long before" the deployment of new American-made medium-range missiles in Europe last December.

(New York Times, A12)

Moscow Asserts Strategic Parity

In a newly revised publication on American military power, the Soviet government reiterates assertions that the Reagan Administration is seeking military superiority and maintains that East and West are in rough strategic balance.

(Wayne Biddle, New York Times, A13)

Solomons Consider Soviets After U.S. Bans Tuna Imports

HONIARA, Solomon Islands -- Responding to a United States ban on tuna imports from the Solomon Islands, the government of the southwest Pacific country said it might allow Soviet ships to fish its waters. (Reuter)

UNITA GUERRILLAS IN ANGOLA APPEAR CAPABLE
OF INCREASING MILITARY CHALLENGE TO REGIME

JAMBA, Angola -- From a secure base in the bushlands of southeastern Angola, South African-supported rebels now appear capable of waging military action nationwide in their nine-year struggle against the Soviet- and Cuban-backed government of Angola.

(Robert Rosenthal, Washington Post, A12)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR MONDAY EVENING, August 27, 1984PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN/TEACHERS

CBS's Lesley Stahl: Schools began to open in some parts of the country, and the Republican running for president took advantage of it. (President "Today, I'm directing NASA to choose as the first citizen-passenger in the history of our space program one of America's finest: a teacher." Applause.) A day of firsts. The first teacher in space, and for the 7th grade at Jefferson Junior High in Washington D.C. a one-day special session a week ahead of schedule with the President of the United States. The President was told of the school's delapidated condition. Mr. Reagan reminisced about his old run-down high school, but told the students, "The facilities aren't nearly as important as the humanity in the facilities.") The White House has become sensitive to Mr. Mondale's charge that President Reagan isn't spelling out what he would do in a second term. But in a speech to a gathering of educators being recognized for excellence, the only specific was that technology be brought into more classrooms. (President: "Now when I was a boy, an apple was something you brought the teacher. Today you learn on an Apple, or a McIntosh or an IBM.") The President has not proposed, however, that government help the schools foot the bill. Money seems to be no problem for defense, however. Vice President Bush went to the unveiling of an experimental fighter plane, the X-29, after charging that Mondale is so hot for an arms control agreement that he'll do almost everything to get it. (Vice President: "Mr. Mondale has a very different view of defense spending than we do. I think he feels that you can deal effectively with the Soviets from what I would say is a relatively weak position.") How to spend the government's money, on defense or on social programs like education, will be a major issue facing the President once he officially starts his campaign next week. (CBS-2)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: The six national teachers' unions have endorsed Mondale, but President Reagan hasn't given up on the teacher votes. At a White House-sponsored education awards ceremony, Mr. Reagan pulled out a plum that only an incumbent President can deliver. (President: "Today, I'm directing NASA to begin a search in all of our elementary and secondary schools and to choose as the first citizen-passenger in the history of our space program one of our finest: a teacher." Applause.) The teacher would fly aboard the space shuttle, perhaps as early as 1986. NASA had recommended that the assignment go to either an educator or a journalist. White House media masters like to reinforce daily presidential campaign themes, so Mr. Reagan also visited a Washington junior high school to further display his concern for education. He watched 12-year-olds solve complicated math problems. (President: "If I confess to you how far I was behind both of you in these examples, you'd know why we've got a budget deficit.") The President never mentioned his opponent or the campaign today, leaving all that to Vice President Bush, who climbed into the cockpit of the X-29 experimental fighter plane in Long Island to back up his theme that the Republicans are strong on defense and the Democrats are not.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR MONDAY EVENING, August 27, 1984

PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN/TEACHERS (continued)

Donaldson continues: There is something of a tug-of-war going on among the President's advisers over how sharp and partisan Mr. Reagan should be toward his opponent. Friday, the President implied that those who embraced their defense policies are jackasses. Today, Mr. Reagan couldn't have been more calm and presidential. Political observers will continue to watch which way the argument goes, particularly as the President opens his campaign on Labor Day in that citidel of conservatism, Orange County, California. (ABC-7)

NBC's Chris Wallace: In a speech billed by aides as laying out his education program for the future, the President offered one new proposal. Citing the need to bring space-age technology into the classroom, Mr. Reagan announced a symbolic step. (President: "Today, I'm directing NASA to begin a search in all of our elementary and secondary schools and to choose as the first citizen-passenger in the history of our space program one of America's finest: a teacher." Applause.) Officials said the teacher will fly on the space shuttle in late 1985 or early 1986. The President said he couldn't think of a better way to show children how important teachers are. But the Reagan plan was barely off the ground before a top teacher, who has endorsed Mondale, attacked it as having more to do with politics than education. (Mary Futrell of NEA: "This is just another staged kind of situation to try to win the vote of the teachers, and sending one teacher to the moon will not win the vote of teachers in this country.") Mr. Reagan also issued education challenges for the end of the decade: improved test scores, lower high school dropout rates and discipline codes in every school. But the President, who has sought to cut federal aid to education, said schools must make improvements on their own. (President Reagan: "The state can't do it for us. This town and the federal government can't do it for us. We have to challenge ourselves to get moving again.") To prove his point, Mr. Reagan visited an inner-city Washington school that is a local success story. Students gave examples of the kind of math they do at the school. The President was impressed, but gave the kind of remark that makes top aides wince. (President: "If I confess to you how far I was behind both of you in these examples, you'd know why we've got a budget deficit.") Education may be a big issue this fall because there are clear differences. Mondale proposes billions of dollars in new federal aid, while Reagan proposes tougher standards, a back-to-basics curriculum and now a teacher in space. (NBC-Lead)

VICE PRESIDENT

NBC's John Palmer: Vice President Bush touted the Administration's arms buildup and criticized Mondale, saying the Democratic nominee is so hot for an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union that he will do almost anything to get it. (NBC-2)

"JACKASS"

Palmer: The White House said President Reagan, in a speech last week, was not suggesting Mondale is a jackass. (NBC-3)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR MONDAY EVENING, August 27, 1984

MONDALE CAMPAIGN

CBS's Peter Van Sant: Walter Mondale picked Dallas to deliver an attack on the Reagan Administration's failure to help small businesses. (Mondale: "Unfortunately, it's hard even in Texas for small businesses to stand tall under the assault of this Administration's economic policy.") Mondale told a subdued crowd he would reduce deficits, which would help small businesses. (CBS-3)

ABC's Brit Hume: After being told by some Democratic governors over the weekend to let his hair down, Mondale took his campaign to the very Dallas hotel where the President stayed. (Mondale: "I can't help but observe that you had a little event here in Dallas a few days ago. And I would never be partisan, but when I stepped out of the plane there's a lot of hot air that's left behind from that convention." Laughter, applause.) But after that, as Mondale spoke to a group drawn heavily from the small business community, his hair just wouldn't stay down. He attacked the Reagan Administration laboriously on the evils of big deficits, but his audience was often no more interested than this. (TV Coverage shows man dozing off.) And his language never got stronger than this. (Mondale: "When they met here in Dallas, although these yawning deficits are there for all to see, we all know it, not a word was said about how they were going to squeeze the budget or restore revenues. Most administrations adopt a small business policy. This is the first with an anti-small business policy. They sought to abolish the Small Business Administration's direct lending program and to cut guaranteed loans to small businesses by nearly 50%.") In fact, Mondale came here only partly to try to identify himself with the little guys of the business world. Tonight there will be a fundraiser, expected to generate up to \$1M for the Democratic Party. (ABC-3)

JOHN ANDERSON

CBS's Bill Kurtis: A spokesman for 1980 Independent candidate for president John Anderson said Anderson will endorse Walter Mondale. Anderson and Mondale will make it formal tomorrow. (ABC-9, CBS-4)

Palmer: Negotiations are said to be underway with Anderson under which a third political party, which he organized, would formally nominate Mondale and provide him with more than \$7M in public campaign money. (ABC-4)

JESSE JACKSON

Palmer: Jesse Jackson said he has high hopes of actively backing the Democratic ticket and he said he hopes to work out various obstacles in a private meeting with Mondale tomorrow. Jackson accused Mr. Reagan of exploiting religion for political gain and said Jesus Christ would not have fared well as a citizen under the Reagan Administration. (ABC-5)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR MONDAY EVENING, August 27, 1984

CHERNENKO

ABC's Ted Koppel: For the third time in as many years, the Soviet Union may be facing a leadership crisis. The signs in Moscow are strikingly similar to those when Brezhnev and Andropov died.

ABC's Mike McCormick reports from Moscow: On July 15, Tass and Russian television announced briefly that Chernenko was going on vacation. He has not been seen since, nor has he conducted any public business except for the signing of two relatively innocuous letters. There have been reports, which ABC had verified, from usually accurate sources that Chernenko was brought back to Moscow last week in a wheelchair and that he is still there undergoing medical treatment. Chernenko was expected to join other members of the Politburo for the opening of the Friendship Games in Moscow 10 days ago. He did not. Government officials here refuse to say if he will attend the closing scheduled for this Thursday. Observers here also point out that Chernenko's two predecessors both used their summer vacations to meet publicly with foreign leaders. It is not known for sure who is running the government in Chernenko's absence. Russian authorities will confirm none of the rumors about Chernenko, but diplomats say that, significantly, they have not denied them either. (ABC-Lead)

SPACE WEAPONS

Koppel: To underscore U.S. commitment to arms control, the White House announced a team of U.S. negotiators will be sent to Vienna next month for talks with the Soviets on space weapons even though Moscow insists that Washington has made such talks impossible. (ABC-2)

KAL-007

Koppel: A commentator for a Soviet news agency claimed a second Korean airliner was used as a decoy for KAL-007 and broadcast false radio messages to cover up the true path of KAL-007. (ABC-3)

SOVIET NUCLEAR TESTING

Koppel: The Soviets have apparently carried out another underground nuclear explosion. The U.S. Energy Department reported seismic signals which were detected Saturday from the north-central area of the Soviet Union where research tests are often carried out. (ABC-4)

NUCLEAR WASTE/CARGO SHIP SINKING

Kurtis: American, French and Belgian officials tried to play down any dangers from the weekend sinking in the North Sea of a cargo ship loaded with nuclear material. But Greenpeace issued a frightening warning which said that if just one drop of water leaks into the sealed containers of uranium hexofouride, there could be an immediate, violent explosion which could cause major environmental damage. (ABC-5, NBC-12, CBS-Lead)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR MONDAY EVENING, August 27, 1984

PER CAPITA INCOME

Kurtis: The Commerce Department reported that Americans' per capita income rose 35.1% from 1979-1983, keeping just ahead of inflation.

(CBS-7)

BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY

Kurtis: The Labor Department said business productivity in the second quarter jumped at an annual rate of 4.7%. The White House called that a snap-shot of national economic efficiency.

(CBS-8)

PRISON CROWDING

Palmer: The Justice Department said the inmate population of federal and state prisons in this country is at an all-time high, with 454,000 behind bars. The prison population grew by almost 4% during the first half of this year.

(NBC-8)

PERSIAN GULF WAR

Palmer: A Panamanian oil tanker was damaged by a rocket in the Persian Gulf. It was on its way to Saudi Arabia to pick up oil. Shipping sources said an Iranian warplane probably carried out that attack.

(ABC-6, NBC-13)

ISRAEL

Palmer: PM Shamir met with Peres on forming a government. NBC's Martin Fletcher reports their power struggle is diverting attention from an ailing economy.

(NBC-14)

MONEY MATTERS

ABC's Dan Cordtz gives government figures for the amount of "junk food" consumed in the U.S. The DOW fell more than 8 points in slowest trading of the year on new fears of higher interest rates.

(ABC-11)

HOTEL WORKERS

Kurtis: A Senate report charges organized crime has what it says is substantial influence over the hotel workers' union and its 400,000 members. The 3-year investigation charges there is little doubt the union local in Atlantic City is now controlled by organized crime. Union leaders deny the report.

(ABC-10, NBC-6, CBS-5)

CHICAGO STING

CBS's Ned Potter reports on the sting operation "Operation Safe Bet" in Chicago, targeting organized crime and credit card prostitution.

(NBC-6, CBS-4)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

A Rhetorical Tour -- "Mr. Reagan and the Republicans: for less government, lower taxes, more individual initiative, a stronger national defense and a more resolute posture in foreign affairs. Mr. Mondale and the Democrats: for higher taxes, for more government programs, for a more modest national defense and for, it seems, a more timid stance in foreign affairs. As Mr. Reagan sees it, the choice in the coming election is clear. The nation can walk further into a sunny springtime with him or retrace a dismal memory lane with Walter Mondale. Last night he made a persuasive case for his point of view." (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 8/24)

Mr. Reagan's Last Crusade -- "...Conventions are supposed to be slam-bang hyperbolic affairs, containing more of a used car salesman's pitch than history. But Mr. Reagan spent too much time kicking the other guy's tires when it's his own model he's asking the people to buy. What he left out will have to be dealt with in the ensuing campaign. Voters should be concerned about the problems of now -- and they are complex and many." (Chicago Tribune, 8/25)

A Convention Without Joy -- "Except for the seemingly boundless enthusiasm for President Reagan, this has been a particularly joyless political convention....mean spirited rhetoric doesn't make this convention a very pleasant spectacle for the television networks and whoever is watching out there, and it is not the foundation on which an ultimately successful campaign and second term is likely to be built."

(Jack Germond and Jules Witcover, Dallas Morning News, 8/24)

Kirkpatrick's Speech Needlessly Bitter -- "...the balanced comparison that Kirkpatrick the scholar, if not Kirkpatrick the orator, would make would concede that Jimmy Carter stopped selling American grain to the invaders of Afghanistan and Ronald Reagan started selling it again. It would also have conceded that many of the world's vexations did not begin with Carter's alleged meekness and have not vanished before Ronald Reagan's huffing and puffing....in the end, Kirkpatrick's oration confirmed that political bitterness and party spirit can simplify serious and complex minds." (Edwin Yoder, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 8/24)

Religious Intrusion -- "...With unprecedented vision, America's Founders guaranteed religious freedom by separating it from the Government. By constantly intruding religion into the Government, Mr. Reagan defies not only the wishes of the Founders and today's diverse American people. He defies the lessons of history as well." (Miami Herald, 8/24)

A new GOP -- "...Republicans are still a minority among registered voters. But a majority of Americans now consider themselves to be more conservative than liberal. The real story in Dallas was that the Republican Party moved closer to capturing the philosophical majority that could make the GOP truly the party of the future for a generation or more." (San Diego Union, 8/24)