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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

President Gives Medals for Bravery to 2 Youths -- The President presented Young American Medals to James Morris, 19, of Eagle Point, Ore., and Brian Gill, 13, of Atkinson, Neb., both judged to have exhibited exceptional courage without regard for their personal safety.
(Washington Post, Washington Times)

Jackson to Support Mondale Campaign -- Jesse Jackson said he would not take "a vow of silence" and said some details remain to be resolved. But he pledged broad-based support for Walter Mondale and "intense involvement" in the campaign after Labor Day.
(UPI, Reuter, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Soviets Still Won't Promise Not to Shoot Down Airliners -- A senior State Department official said he believes the Soviets shot down KAL Flight 007 because they honestly thought it was spying on Soviet defense installations.
(AP, UPI, Washington Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

SPACE SHUTTLE -- NASA is warning the Discovery countdown might not be completed because of a problem in a device called the "master events controller."
(ALL NETS LEAD)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN -- Independent John Anderson endorsed Walter Mondale before an enthusiastic crowd at the University of Illinois.

MEDALS -- In the Rose Garden, President Reagan gave out medals to two teenagers whom he called the bravest of the brave.

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NATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT SAYS TV BECOMES A NEIGHBOR AS FAMILIES CHANGE

President Reagan, in a speech commenting on changes in American society, said that television is becoming "the American neighbor" and providing "continuity and reassurance" in place of the traditional extended family.
(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A2)

Calling America's youth a shining new generation, President Reagan presented the Young American Medals for 1983 to two individuals for showing outstanding bravery.
(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A3)

REAGAN APPROVES OF NEW PLAN FOR SPACE DEVELOPMENT

With his re-election campaign crafted to project a clear vision of the future, President Reagan has approved a "National Space Strategy" to place fresh emphasis on space exploration and development.
(Norman Sandler, UPI)

RNC, DNC SET OUT FOR 'SOFT MONEY'

The Democratic and Republican national committees announced separate \$20 million programs to finance get-out-the-vote drives as the legality of the fund-raising was challenged in a suit filed with the FEC.
(Thomas Edsall, Washington Post, A3)

Democrats Want \$27 Million Fund

The Democratic Party announced an ambitious \$27 million fund-raising and spending drive, optimistically called its "victory fund" and "victory plan," to help finance this year's election activity.
(Don McLeod, Washington Times, A1)

Deputy party chairman Tim Finchem said \$15.2 million of the total goal will go for voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts.
(Arnold Sawislak, UPI)

BUSH DEPUTIZED TO WOO SUPPORT OF TEAMSTERS

Vice President Bush will address a meeting of top Teamster union officials in Columbus, Ohio, on Thursday as part of a White House effort to win the endorsement of the 1.9-million-member union despite new tensions with its president, Jackie Presser, Administration officials said.
(Dale Russakoff and Pete Earley, Washington Post, A3)

WHITE HOUSE DEFENDS SIGN-SNATCH POLICY

The White House acknowledged giving orders to confiscate all signs from persons attending a Reagan-Bush rally in Cincinnati last week but suggested that the policy on demonstrators may be eased in the future.
(Washington Times, A4)

BLACK DEMOCRATS, MONDALE SEEK WAY TO COMBINE DRIVE

ST. PAUL, Minn. -- About three dozen prominent black Democrats met in an effort to end feuding with Walter Mondale and his aides before Monday's official Labor Day campaign kickoff.

(David Broder, Washington Post, A1)

The black officials were planning to ask Mondale to undertake specific gestures and policy actions, a participant in the talks said. But they recessed after six hours without deciding precisely what they should ask Mondale to do.

(Fay Joyce, New York Times, A1)

Jackson to Support Mondale Campaign

SHOREVIEW, Minn. -- Jesse Jackson, saying he wanted "unity without being uniform," coolly agreed to campaign for the Democratic ticket after his first face-to-face meeting with Walter Mondale since the Democratic National Convention. (Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1)

Before going into a meeting with black leaders and Mondale in St. Paul, Minn., Jackson promised "a major appeal to our leadership to embrace the Mondale-Ferraro ticket."

(Wall Street Journal, A48)

The minister-politician, whose oratory Mondale covets as a spur to black voter turnout, later pinned on a Mondale-Ferraro button and joined almost 50 other prominent black leaders in a cheering, chanting pledge to support the ticket.

(David Broder and Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A1)

With chants of "we want Fritz, we want Fritz," the country's black leaders rallied around Mondale and promised to "hit the ground running" in his behalf." The group of almost 50 blacks, including two of Mondale's old adversaries -- Jackson and Chicago Mayor Harold Washington -- said all discord had been swept aside in a two-hour meeting that apparently was a cross between a pep rally and a revival.

(Don Phillips, UPI)

The rollicking display, coming only hours after Mondale was endorsed by John Anderson, suggested Mondale had patched up differences with black supporters of Jackson.

(Carol Giacomo, Reuter)

Mondale Attacks GOP's Rightward Shift

URBANA, Ill. -- Walter Mondale, accepting independent John Anderson's endorsement as "the best hope for our nation in 1984," attacked President Reagan and the Republican Party as right-wing ideologues who had abandoned the mainstream of America.

(Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A7)

Celeste Pitches Mondale to Teamsters

COLUMBUS -- Gov. Richard F. Celeste took the opportunity today to plug Walter Mondale at a meeting of the Ohio Conference of Teamsters, saying the Democratic presidential nominee has more specific plans than President Reagan to help the Midwest's economy. "I don't think Ronald Reagan has a secret plan. I don't think he has a plan at all." The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is to endorse a presidential candidate Thursday.

(UPI)

FERRARO: REAGAN COULD RAISE RISK OF WAR

CAMDEN, N.J. -- Geraldine Ferraro suggested that President Reagan, "unrestrained by the need for reelection" in a second term, could "heighten the risk of war." (Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A5)

Ferraro Gets Taste of Dissent on Campaign Trail

CLEVELAND -- Geraldine Ferraro headed back to the U.S. political war after getting her first real taste of dissent on the campaign trail -- a protest over abortion that will continue until the November 6 election. (John Cotter, Reuter)

Patronage Still King in Queens

NEW YORK -- The Queens Democratic organization is not the all-powerful political entity of the past. But, like its counterparts in other boroughs in the city or old cities like Chicago and Baltimore, it still doles out judgeships, low-level city jobs, spots on the Democratic ticket and money-making assignments at the courthouse to the party faithful. (Margaret Shapiro, Washington Post, A1)

HEALTH CARE COSTS

HARRISBURG, Pa. -- The major presidential contenders have until Sept. 7 to explain how they will deal with rising health care costs, leaders of labor, consumer and senior citizen groups said Monday. The groups' leaders, in a news conference at the Capitol, said that if President Reagan or Democratic challenger Walter Mondale doesn't answer satisfactorily, either or both will be targets of demonstrations. The groups, however, have already ripped the Reagan Administration record on health care, and some of them have endorsed Mondale. Organizations involved include the National Council of Senior Citizens and its affiliated Pennsylvania Association of Older Persons, the state AFL-CIO and the Pennsylvania Public Interest Coalition, known as PennPIC. (UPI)

REPORT TODAY MAY INDICATE SLOWING ECONOMY

Economists, who erroneously have been forecasting a slowdown in growth since last winter, may finally be on the right track. A variety of business barometers have weakened in recent weeks and analysts say they are confirming that the economy is gearing back. If they are right, the slowdown is coming about six months later than first predicted.

(Martin Crutsinger, AP)

ACID RAIN

ALBANY, N.Y. -- A spruce sapling and a gallon of acid rain water are being sent to President Reagan by a New York state assemblyman who charges that Reagan's Administration is not doing anything to combat the acid rain problem. Assemblyman Maurice Hinchey, D-Saugerties, Tuesday sent Reagan the 7-inch sapling from the Catskills and the acid-laden rain water from Whiteface Mountain in the Adirondacks. Hinchey, a co-sponsor of New York's new law requiring a 30 percent reduction in acid rain emissions in the state by 1992, told a news conference that he hoped the gifts would spur the President into taking action to curb acid rain.

(UPI)

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION MAY BE LOWEST-RATED POLITICAL CONCLAVE

LOS ANGELES -- The Republican Party gathering in Dallas apparently will go down as the lowest-rated political convention ever televised, but it escapes the distinction of being the least-watched. That anomaly comes from the fact that although the Nielsen ratings are expected to be the lowest, a rating point today represents more homes than in the past.

(Jerry Buck, AP)

COURT ASSAILS U.S. ON MENTALLY ILL

A federal appeals court in New York has ordered the Social Security Administration to restore benefits denied to 50,000 mentally ill people in the state under what it called a "clandestine policy" of determining eligibility.

(Jesus Rangel, New York Times, A1)

BALANCED BUDGET ISSUE SENT TO HIGH COURT

The U.S. Supreme Court was asked to stay a Monday ruling by the California Supreme Court that struck the balanced budget constitutional amendment from the state's November ballot.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A3)

U.S. TRAINING OF TEACHERS HIT IN REPORT

The training of American teachers has deteriorated significantly over the past decade as an increasing number of colleges scramble for a decreasing number of students, according to a report on teacher education and certification.

(Lawrence Feinberg, Washington Post, A1)

Close Down Teacher Diploma Mills, Researcher Says

A third to half of the nation's 1,287 schools of education are nothing but diploma mills and should be shut down, Emily Feistritz, director of the private National Center for Education Information, said.

(Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

CRICKET KEEPS MRS. REAGAN AWAKE

White House officials have been sweeping the Presidential bedroom for a bug -- the chirping cricket variety that has kept First Lady Nancy Reagan awake at night. President Reagan had no trouble getting back to sleep after he and Mrs. Reagan were awakened early Monday by the cricket's chirping. But the First Lady, a light sleeper in ideal conditions, lay awake in bed listening to the cricket's chirp, said Sheila Tate.

(AP)

Tate said that Mrs. Reagan regaled everybody at a meeting of her East Wing staff when she told how she and the White House usher's office have been waging war on the sequestered cricket.

(Donnie Radcliffe, Washington Post, B1)

CANDIDATES SCHEDULE

(UPI) -- The schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for Wednesday, Aug. 29, and the tentative schedules for Thursday, Aug. 30, and the week ahead. All times are local unless noted.

Walter Mondale:

Wednesday: 9:50 a.m. departs North Oaks for Radisson St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul. 10:15 meets with group of mayors; closed. 11:15 a.m. news comments, Radisson Hotel. 11:45 a.m. Departs for North Oaks.

Monday, Sept. 3: Departs Minnesota for campaign trip with Ms. Ferraro, starting in New York City, going to Merrill, Wis., and on to southern California.

Tuesday, Sept. 4: Southern California, San Jose, Calif., and Portland, Ore.

Geraldine Ferraro:

Wednesday: 8:45 a.m. departs Sheraton Hopkins Hotel, Cleveland, for town meeting, unspecified site in Cleveland; open. 10 a.m. arrives for meetings, unspecified site. 11 a.m. EST-11:50 a.m. CDT charter flight to St. Louis. 11:50 a.m. motorcade to Old Post Office, St. Louis. 12:20 p.m. arrives Old Post Office for rally. 1:05 p.m. departs for Sheraton Hotel, 910 N. 7th st., 1:15 p.m. arrives Sheraton for private time. 2:15 p.m. departs Sheraton for airport. 2:50-3:50 p.m. charter flight to Nashville, Tenn. 4:10 p.m. departs airport for Legislative Plaza, Union and 7th streets, Nashville. 4:45 reception, Legislative Plaza; open. 5:20 p.m. departs for Hyatt Regency Hotel for private time and overnight.

Thursday: Departs Nashville for Hartford, Conn. Overnights Queens.

Friday: Private time, Queens.

Monday, Sept. 3: Appears with Mondale in New York City, Merrill, Wis., and Southern California.

INTERNATIONAL NEWSPACIFIC FLIGHTS WATCHED AFTER KAL DOWNING

Two months after the Soviets shot down a KAL jumbo jet last Sept. 1 and killed all 269 people on board, the FAA with Air Force help began closely monitoring all flights on the North Pacific routes from which the Korean plane had strayed.

(Douglas Feaver and Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

Soviets Still Won't Promise Not to Shoot Down Airlines

A year after it shot down KAL Flight 007, the Soviet Union won't give assurances that it wouldn't do it again, a senior State Department official said.

(Bill Outlaw, Washington Times, A1)

The official, who spoke on the condition he not be identified, said the Soviets have ignored U.S. appeals and remained opposed to taking any preventive measures.

(George Gedda, AP)

U.S. Says Soviets Believed KAL Flight Was Spying

American officials are convinced the Soviet military ordered the Korean airliner shot down in the mistaken belief it was on a spy mission -- but dismiss it as justification for the tragedy. "You shouldn't shoot down a plane, even if it had been on an intelligence mission," an official said.

(Jim Anderson, UPI)

Year After KAL Disaster Mystery Remains on Why Plane Strayed

SEOUL -- One year after Soviet fighters shot down a South Korean jumbo jet with 269 people aboard, the mystery of why Flight 007 strayed into Soviet airspace is as perplexing as ever.

(Granville Watts, Reuter)

U.S. DEFENDS NUCLEAR TREATY

GENEVA -- The United States defended the 1970 nuclear nonproliferation treaty against Third World criticism and said that any attempt to undermine it would erode the security of all countries.

(Washington Post, A3)

SOVIETS REPORTEDLY BOLSTER TROOPS
IN AFGHAN BORDER AREA WITH PAKISTAN

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan -- There are now between 12,000 and 14,000 Soviet troops in the Afghan province of Paktia, which borders Pakistan, and guerrilla activity there may have provoked recent cross-border attacks, according to western diplomats in Islamabad.

(Alex Brodie, Washington Post, A20)

Food Shortages Force Cut in Attacks Against Russians

PESHAWAR, Pakistan -- Food shortages are now so common in parts of Afghanistan that some guerrilla units have had to scale down attacks on Soviet troops for lack of rations, according to key resistance leaders.

(Tom Heneghan, Reuter)

ITALIAN SHIPS JOIN RED SEA MINE HUNT

CAIRO -- An Italian mine-hunting squadron steamed into Port Said to join U.S., French and British naval forces combing the Red Sea for mysterious mines that have damaged at least 18 commercial ships this summer. (Loren Jenkins, Washington Post, A1)

The minehunters Loto, Frassino, and Castagno and the support ship Cavezzale were prepared to enter the Suez Canal at dawn Wednesday on the way to waters where British, American, French, Soviet and Egyptian vessels have been looking for explosive charges since Aug. 17. (AP)

WAR-WEARY IRAN VIEWED AS CAPABLE OF BLOCKING GULF

Despite its weakened condition as a result of two years of a U.S.-sponsored arms embargo, Iran retains the capability to close completely the strategic Persian Gulf, a region where nearly half the non-communist world's oil reserves lie. (Donald Neff, Washington Times, A1)

CONGRESS WEIGHS EMBASSY IN ISRAEL

House backers of a bill to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem have offered to make it nonbinding and to postpone a vote until next year if President Reagan will drop his opposition to it, key sponsors said. But senior White House and State Department officials, concerned about the impact that any such vote would have in the Arab world, said that they were uninterested in such a compromise and would try to persuade Congress not to vote even on a resolution that was nonbinding on the Administration. (Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A5)

COMBAT ON UPSWING, SAY NICARAGUA REBELS

TEGUCIGALPA -- Despite the cutoff of assistance from the United States, the anti-Sandinista rebels in Nicaragua are engaging in increasingly heavy combat according to press reports and intelligence sources. (Jay Mallin Sr., Washington Times, A6)

Nicaragua Says Downed Plane Belonged to CIA

MANAGUA -- An aircraft shot down while carrying supplies for anti-Sandinista guerrillas was operated by the CIA, junta coordinator Daniel Ortega said. He said at a hospital opening ceremony that eight bodies were found in the plane and that 10 "Reagan mercenaries" had been killed in battles near the crash site. (Agustin Fuentes, Reuter)

The official Sandinista newspaper, Barricada, charged that the plane was engaged in work for the CIA. The right-wing rebels have received millions of dollars in covert aid from the United States.

(Stephen Kinzer, New York Times, A10)

SALVADORAN REBELS CRITICIZE DUARTE'S FIRST 90 DAYS

SAN SALVADOR -- Leftist Salvadoran rebels have criticized President Duarte for failing to improve respect for human rights during his first three months in office. The rebel radio stations Farabundo Marti and Venceremos said in a joint broadcast that Duarte had failed to keep his promises to solve the country's social, economic and political problems.

(Reuter)

VISA DENIAL REPORTED

Three State Department officials denied knowledge of a report from Nairobi, Kenya, that visas had been refused to two Mozambiquan guerrilla leaders who were invited to attend a World Anti-Communist League conference in San Diego, Calif.

(Russell Warren Howe, Washington Times, A4)

IRISH LINK U.S. MONEY TO GUN THAT SHOT OFFICER

DUBLIN -- Irish Foreign Minister Barry said he had "little doubt" the gun used to shoot a part-time police officer in Northern Ireland earlier this week was bought with money from the United States. "This is the reality that should be brought home to the Irish-Americans," he said.

(Washington Times, A7)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, August 28, 1984

SPACE SHUTTLE

CBS's Morton Dean reports NASA is warning the Discovery countdown might not be completed because of a problem in a device called the "master events controller." It relays signals from computers to some on-board systems. (ALL NETS LEAD)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN

CBS's Bill Kurtis: Walter Mondale picked up an endorsement in Illinois, and then in Minnesota was asking black leaders to back their promises of support with campaign deeds.

CBS's Peter Van Sant: Mondale's slow-starting campaign gained some much-needed momentum in Illinois. Independent John Anderson endorsed Mondale before an enthusiastic crowd at the University of Illinois. (Anderson: "I've come to the conclusion in my own mind that a vote for the present Administration means the continuation of a policy really of fear and loathing.") There are some, notably members of Reagan's campaign, who say that Anderson's endorsement is insignificant, that Anderson has become a political nobody. (Mondale in speech: "Well, let me quote Rev. Jackson to say, John Anderson is a somebody.") Not everyone in this college crowd approved of the endorsement, or of Mondale. But Mondale responded with perhaps his best speech of the new campaign. (Mondale: "We need a president who says, 'That's enough. No more voodoo economics, no more blue smoke and mirrors.' We need a president who will get those deficits down and get them down fairly.") Mondale is back in Minnesota, meeting with Jesse Jackson. Later, Mondale will confer with about 40 black leaders in hopes of winning their endorsement and their active support in the fall campaign. (CBS-3)

ABC's Brit Hume: Anderson will be chairman of Independents for Mondale and will travel the country at the Mondale campaign's expense to help the Democrats. (Anderson: "To those of you who walked with me in 1980, and many of you did...I'm asking you today with all of the urgency that I can summon that you walk with me now in support of the Mondale-Ferraro ticket.") Anderson specifically praised Mondale's stands on deficit reduction and disarmament, but much of what he said was more anti-Reagan than pro-Mondale. Mondale, though, among the least egotistical of politicians, was not bothered, apparently just delighted to have Anderson, along with Gary Hart, pledged to help him win over independent voters. (Mondale: "I once had John Anderson on the other side of me in a campaign. That's one of the reasons I'm in private life.") The Mondale camp does not expect Anderson's support to bring any more than what they call "some benefit" but they note that in 1980, Anderson ran best in New England and the far west, where Mondale has yet to win a single contest this year and where a similar showing this year could doom Mondale's chances of overtaking President Reagan.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, August 28, 1984

MONDALE CAMPAIGN (continued)

ABC's James Wooten: Jesse Jackson has been no help at all to Mondale, and even Andrew Young, a Mondale man all year, has been sniping at the Mondale campaign. (Young: "They won't listen to me. They're smart-assed white boys that think they know it all.") And that little barb, more than anything else, brought a cadre of black leaders to Mondale's Minnesota home, a gathering that could well determine the strength of the Democratic campaign this year. (ABC-2)

NBC's Kenley Jones: At the University of Illinois, Mondale got what he hopes will be a shot in the arm for what is perceived to be his rather listless campaign so far. Anderson endorsed Mondale. (Anderson: "I have not agreed on every issue with Mr. Mondale, but today I salute his honesty in telling the American people that he is going to pursue a policy of pay-as-you-go government.") (Mondale: "...This time we're together, and this November Mr. Reagan is in for a big, fat surprise. We're going to win this election." Cheering.) Even more important for Mondale will be the outcome of his meeting in Minnesota with black leaders from around the country. If all goes well, Mondale is expected to announce that he will pay closer attention to suggestions and advice from black leaders about his campaign and Jackson is expected to announce that he will lead voter registration and voter turnout drives on behalf of the Mondale-Ferraro ticket between now and November.

NBC's Lee McCarthy reports the drive for black and other new Democratic voters is up against Republican money and organization: The NAACP campaign to bury voter apathy by registering new voters has moved up the east coast hoping for the same success Jesse Jackson had during his primary campaign. The DNC announced today the start of a drive to raise the millions of dollars needed to register those new voters. The Republicans claim they are only 300,000 short of their goal of 2M new voters with about 6 weeks left before registration ends. Fundamentalist preachers have formed a group to register conservatives, one of several groups working to sign up new Republicans. But the party is counting only on the names that show up in its computer. (NBC-3)

MONTANA FIRES

Kurtis: Scores of out-of-control fires swept across Montana's prairies and forests. Hundreds are homeless in what the governor called the worst such disaster in 10 years. (ABC-8, NBC-2, CBS-2)

MEDALS

ABC's Ted Koppel: In the Rose Garden, Mr. Reagan gave out medals to two teenagers whom he called the bravest of the brave, Brian Gill and James Morris. The President said we can only wonder how, at such a tender age, they managed to develop such great strength of character. (ABC-3)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, August 28, 1984

SOVIETS/GRAIN

Kurtis: Faced with a 6th straight poor harvest, the Soviet Union may be forced to import a near-record amount of grain.

CBS's Meredith Vierra: U.S. farmers haven't seen sales like this since before the grain embargo. Analysts say the Russian buying should support farm prices through the beginning of next year. As one of them put it, the Soviet Union has saved a lot of midwestern farmers, and the timing couldn't be better for President Reagan, whose farm policy has been criticized in this distressed part of the country. Instead of talking about high interest rates and the strong dollar, which have hurt farm exports, Candidate Reagan focuses on Soviet purchases and promises more. (TV Coverage of President visiting Missouri farm. President: "Over 20M metric tons they've bought since last October, and if they want to buy more, we'll sell more.") (Secretary Block: "It has to be one of the big achievements of turning a very bleak situation around. When this Administration, came to town, there was a grain embargo in place.") And this Administration doesn't want the farmers to forget it was Carter and Mondale who were in power then. (CBS-4)

AUTO WORKERS

CBS's Frank Courrier: Negotiators at Ford and GM unveiled initial contract offers to nearly 500,000 union auto workers. Disappointed UAW leaders say the offers ignore the union's chief goal: job security. (ABC-11, NBC-4, CBS-5)

HOME SALES

Kurtis: The National Association of Realtors reported that sales of existing homes were down 6.1% in July. The realtors blamed "the continued heavy weight of high mortgage interest rates" for the third straight monthly decline in re-sales. (CBS-7)

POSTAL RATES

Kurtis: Postmaster General Bolger said the cost of mailing a letter is likely to go up 3¢, probably in early 1985. Bolger said the decision will be made within days. (CBS-8)

LEBANON

Kurtis: Israeli warplanes bombed Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, hitting a suspected Palestinian guerrilla base. About 100 were reported killed or wounded in that attack. It was a day of heavy fighting in West Beirut. Two were killed and 60 wounded during 5 hours of gun battles. In Tripoli, 6 were killed and 12 wounded in fighting between rival Moslem militias. (NBC-5, CBS-10)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, August 28, 1984

NICARAGUA

Kurtis: The Sandinistas and contras agreed a rebel supply plane crashed in northwestern Nicaragua. The Sandinistas claim they shot it down and the rebels say the American-built C-47 developed mechanical trouble and crashed into a mountain. The plane went down trying to drop arms, food and other supplies to the rebels.

CBS's Mike O'Connor reports on the contra effort: As the rebels push farther into Nicaragua, they need the help of the local population, especially since the cutoff of U.S. aid. The rebel army commander said his troops are getting the help that once went to the Sandinistas. Though some say they are forced to supply the rebels, others help willingly, blaming the Sandinistas for taking away their freedom and ruining the rural economy. Farmers say that every week they see more refugees from Sandinista-controlled areas. (TV Coverage shows farmer saying that when he was forced to join a government cooperative, he collected his family and his 8 cows and ran to rebel territory.) Even without U.S. aid, the contras say the war will continue until the Sandinistas are gone. They say if the war is to be a matter of months, instead of years, they will have to have help from the outside. The rebel commander won't say where it comes from, but he says he still gets a little outside help.

(CBS-12)

SOUTH AFRICA

Kurtis: There were more parliamentary elections in South Africa, these for the country's Asian population, but they were overshadowed by violent clashes between police and protesters who claimed the elections only further the power of South Africa's white minority government.

(NBC-8, CBS-13)

THE HAJ

NBC's Henry Champ: The Haj: Crowds circling Islam's holiest shrine. Ever since the Iranian Revolution, Khomeini's supporters have used the Haj as a stage for political demonstrations, often calling for the overthrow of any government that does not support Khomeini's teachings -- and that includes the Saudi monarchy. Saudi problems do not end with the Iranians. On August 18, customs officials turned back a Libyan charter flight after they discovered many of the pilgrims had hidden weapons. Two days later, a Libyan freighter was escorted from Saudi waters when weapons were found. The Saudis fear the enormous crowds could easily hide terrorists.

(NBC-7)

GEORGIA/FOREIGN TEACHERS

ABC's Jay Shadler: Eight German nationals are in Georgia, bridging a teacher shortage. In the last 5 years, roughly 25,000 Georgia teachers have abandoned the classroom for the higher wages and greater prestige of private industry. So to ease the shortage, Georgia educators interviewed dozens of teachers in Germany, where the problem is over-abundance.

(ABC-10)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

POLITICS AND RELIGION

Let God Be God -- "God is a Reaganite. Anyone who has any doubt on this score had only to hear the invocations and benedictions prayerfully offered at the Republican National Convention. The most outrageous, predictably enough, came from the Rev. Jerry L. Falwell, founder of the Moral Majority, who described President Reagan and Vice President Bush as "God's instruments in rebuilding America." It was an accolade well earned. Earlier in the day, at a prayer breakfast attended by evangelical Christians, Mr. Reagan did his bit to rebuild America by trying to tear down Thomas Jefferson's wall separating church and state... It is time to rally to the defense of Thomas Jefferson's wall. God is not a Reagan Republican. He is not a Mondale Democrat. He is not even an American. God, thank God, is God." (Baltimore Sun, 8/28)

TEAMSTERS

Mr. Presser's Political Debt -- "Teamsters President Jackie Presser apparently got a little greedy last week in setting the price for his union's endorsement in the presidential campaign... But whatever comes to pass, the Reagan Administration has good reason to feel the Teamsters owe the President an endorsement. That's because, although the President most emphatically does not wish to be seen buying support, his aides apparently don't mind buying it in private. Goodness knows someone in the Reagan Administration appears to have been making payments on Mr. Presser's endorsement for more than a year now in a way that has attracted far less attention than the public sacking of a single official -- but in a way that may have far longer-lasting effects. Trucking deregulation is the issue... More than a year ago, the White House prepared a bill that would complete the job of deregulation, that would finish what President Jimmy Carter's Administration started. The bill was expected to be reviewed by the Cabinet in July 1983, and then sent to Capitol Hill for action. The full-decontrol bill never made it to the Hill. It vanished quietly -- very quietly. It vanished so quietly, in fact, that no one at the White House seemed to notice its passing -- or remember its existence. And about that time observers began noticing that Mr. Reagan and Mr. Presser were spending time together. Since then, Mr. Presser has been ever more vocal about how well Mr.. Reagan is running the country -- so much so that any official Teamsters endorsement might be anticlimactic." (Journal of Commerce, 8/28)

DEFENSE

Getting Less Bank for a Defense Buck -- There are any number of reasons why the money in the defense budget never seems to go as far as it's supposed to. One of the most objectionable is the stretchout of procurement programs for years beyond their original schedules... The problem feeds on itself. When the cost of a weapons goes up, the Pentagon can't buy as many of them; and when fewer weapons are produced, the unit cost normally goes up. The solution is simple in concept but difficult in bureaucratic practice. The Pentagon must crack down on lowball estimates on weapons costs or mortgage the nation's military readiness for years to come. (Newsday, 8/27)