

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** News Summary Office, White House:  
News Summaries, 1981-1989

**SERIES:** II: WHITE HOUSE NEWS SUMMARY FINALS,  
1981-1989

**Folder Title:** 09/03/1984

**Box:** 375

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER, 3, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

PRESIDENT'S LABOR DAY THEME: JOBS -- With his wife, Nancy, at his side, President Reagan will deliver the kickoff oration of the final phase of the campaign at a Reagan-Bush rally, where he is expected to point out that his Administration has put America "on the move again" with "the fastest rate of job creation in the world."  
(AP, UPI, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

NAVY HONORS GEORGE BUSH FOR WORLD WAR II EXPLOITS -- The Navy rolled out its relics and its modern warships to honor Vice President Bush, who was plucked from the Pacific 40 years ago when his World War II bomber was shot down.  
(AP, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. LABELS 'FALSE' CHERNENKO CHARGE -- The State Department labeled as "wholly familiar and wholly false" charges attributed to Soviet President Chernenko that the United States is bent on a military buildup and is expressing willingness to discuss arms control only as a ruse.  
(New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Sunday Evening)

TRIP NEWS.....A-2

NO NIGHTLY NEWS BROADCASTS  
WERE AIRED  
BY THE TV NETWORKS

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-3

INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....A-7

WEEKEND TALK SHOWS.....B-1

TRIP NEWS

REAGAN SAYS NATION 'IS ON THE MOVE AGAIN'

(AP) -- In a Labor Day message to American workers, President Reagan said today, "America is on the move again." But he acknowledged too many people still are out of work and promised not to rest "until everyone who wants a job has found one."

LAST CAMPAIGN STARTING IN POLITICAL HOMELAND

ANAHEIM (Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1) -- President Reagan returned to his political homeland to launch the fall campaign in a region that has consistently nourished him with votes, financial support and ideological sustenance.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1) -- President Reagan today begins his big push for a second term with a Labor Day speech in Orange County, a stronghold of conservatism in the President's home state.

(William Welch, AP) -- "It's good to be in Orange County, where good Republicans go before they die," Reagan told a crowd as he arrived in California. "But also, I think, a lot of good Democrats, too."

(Michael Putzel, AP) -- Speaking through a public address system in his new armored parade car, Reagan said everyone aboard Air Force One was smiling as the plane headed west.

Reagan Goes to California to Start Race

IRVINE (Helen Thomas, UPI) -- President Reagan, in a buoyant mood as he prepares to launch his re-election campaign today, denies that he is trying to install a "state religion" by mixing religion and politics. Reagan made the remarks in response to questions as he was leaving the White House to embark on a four-day Labor Day holiday campaign swing.

OVERZEALOUS AIDES MISUSE SECRET SERVICE, MEDIA AND THE BOSS

(Lou Cannon, "Reagan & Co.," Washington Post, A2) -- In the process of overprotecting the front-runner, President Reagan's White House managers have co-opted the Secret Service for purposes that have nothing to do with the President's security, reduced reporters to the unwilling role of props and contemptuously treated the President as a communicator in constant need of a keeper.

White House Barring Some Reporters at Campaign Stops

IRVINE (Maureen Santini, AP) -- The White House, implementing a new rule, barred wire service reporters Sunday from the press poll covering President Reagan when he greeted newcomers at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station. Larry Speakes said only five news media representatives are now allowed to accompany the President when he greets citizens at ropelines.

WINS...

NATIONAL NEWS

NOW THE REAL RACE STARTS

(Anne Saker, UPI) -- The candidates running for the White House, one facing long odds and one running as if he did, are using the traditional Labor Day opening to start their campaigns in the sections of the country they believe they will win. But as President Reagan and Walter Mondale prepared to kick off the 64-day general race, an issue popped up that could be a tripwire -- religion and politics.

Strategies Point to Opposite Goals At Kickoff of Presidential Campaigns

(Howell Raines, New York Times, A9) -- On the eve of the traditional Labor Day campaign kickoff, President Reagan's political advisers say he plans to tone down partisan attacks on Walter Mondale and shift to positive, "future-oriented" themes in his stump speeches. Mondale's strategists said the Democrat would step up his criticism of Reagan as part of a broad effort to cut Reagan's lead in the polls and restore Democratic confidence in Mondale's candidacy.

BUSH CELEBRATES WAR EXPLOIT

NORFOLK (Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A5) -- In a nostalgic ceremony laden with election-year overtones, Vice President Bush marked the 40th anniversary of his being shot down by the Japanese as a young bomber pilot during World War II.

(Washington Times, A2) -- Bush told a crowd of about 200 Navy brass and spectators at Atlantic Fleet headquarters, "The surest way to keep the peace is to keep the United States prepared."

(Terence Hunt, AP) -- Bush was flying today to Illinois for a Labor Day parade in the Chicago suburb of Lemont with Gov. Jim Thompson, then heading to New Orleans for a visit at the Louisiana World Expo. They were the first stops in a three-day swing that will also take Bush to Texas and Kentucky.

(Gerald Boyd, New York Times, A9) -- Bush made no direct criticism of Geraldine Ferraro or Walter Mondale.

NOTE: Under the headline "Bush Pilot," The Washington Times printed on page A1 a photo of the Vice President in the cockpit of a World War II bomber.

Bush Hits the Trail

(Ira Allen, UPI) -- Labor Day is giving Vice President Bush an opportunity to crow about the Administration's economic record as he begins campaigning in earnest today. Bush, who last week collected an endorsement of the Republican ticket from the Teamsters union, was expected to make another pitch for blue-collar votes today at a news conference followed by a parade in Lemont, Ill.

# UPI SURVEY: REAGAN HAS 3-1 LEAD AS CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF

(Arnold Sawislak, UPI) -- President Reagan would win re-election with an electoral vote landslide comparable to Richard Nixon's 1972 victory if the 1984 presidential election were held today, a UPI survey shows. At the traditional Labor Day kickoff of full-time campaigning, Reagan led in 39 states with 412 electoral votes, Walter Mondale was favored in three states and the District of Columbia with 26 electoral votes and eight states with 100 electoral votes -- including Mondale's own Minnesota -- were rated toss-ups.

## CANDIDATE ON HIS OWN TO PROVE LEADERSHIP

ST. PAUL (Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A1) -- As he launches his fall campaign with a coast-to-coast blitz, Walter Mondale is on his own. It is up to Mondale to power the Democratic engine for the next nine weeks, party strategists and his advisers say. Mondale alone must answer the overriding question that stands between him and victory: Can he lead?

## Opening Swing Tests Campaign Themes

NEW YORK (Mike Shanahan, AP) -- Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro are beginning the fall presidential campaign with a joint coast-to-coast Labor Day swing full of themes they think will shake President Reagan's popularity with the voters.

## Mondale Charges Republicans Mix Religion and Government

MINNEAPOLIS (Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A1) -- Walter Mondale sharpened his attack on the Republican Party over the issue of the separation of church and state, accusing the GOP of flirting with a mixture of religion and government that would "corrupt our faith and divide our nation."

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1) -- Until now, Mondale has carefully avoided criticizing the President on the religion issue. But in his weekly radio address before leaving for New York to kick off his campaign, the Democratic presidential challenger said the nation's leaders should be careful to maintain the separation of church and state.

(Carol Giacomo, Reuter) -- Mondale said, "No matter what they said in Dallas, government must not be permitted to dictate the religious life of our people. If that force is unleashed, it will corrupt our faith and divide our nation. That future is not the American way."

(Bernard Weintraub, New York Times, A1) -- Mondale's comments marked a stepping up of his attack on President Reagan's remark in Dallas last month when he said: "The truth is, politics and morality are inseparable. And as morality's foundation is religion, religion and politics are necessarily related. We need religion as a guide."

#### MRS. FERRARO USED ZACCARO CO. ADDRESS IN EARLIER CAMPAIGNS

(George Archibald, Washington Times, A3) -- Geraldine Ferraro's congressional election committees used P. Zaccaro Co. Inc., the realty firm owned by the candidate and her husband, as headquarters for fund raising and related campaign activities for five years, according to Federal Election Commission records.

#### Running Mate Tops Appeal of Mondale, Poll Suggests

LOS ANGELES (Washington Times, A3) -- Geraldine Ferraro has failed to boost running mate Walter Mondale's chances for victory in November, according to a newspaper poll released over the weekend. The poll also suggested that Ferraro is more popular than Mondale.

#### BRUISED LABOR WEIGHS ITS FIERCEST FIGHT

(Peter Perl and Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A1) -- Labor Day 1984 finds organized labor fighting an unprecedentedly intense battle to unseat a President and trying to recover from its battering by technological change, foreign competition, regulatory decisions and recession in key industries.

#### Unionists See Labor Day '84 As a Time to Weigh Setbacks

(Bill Keller, New York Times, A1) -- Union members and leaders are approaching Labor Day 1984 with a growing feeling that the balance of power in the workplace has shifted dramatically in favor of employers.

#### Kirkland, Donovan Go Political for Holiday

(UPI) -- Meshing politics with the holiday, AFL-CIO chief Lane Kirkland says in his traditional Labor Day message that President Reagan's "destructive policies" brought injury to American workers. But Secretary Donovan, in his holiday statement, praised his boss for boosting the economy and the nation's industries.

(AP) -- "It's a matter of policies and issues and the consequences of those policies," Kirkland said on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation." "(Reagan's) a man who evidently believes that massive unemployment is an appropriate tool to deal with our national problems."

#### Union Cites Signs of Recession

(Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A2) -- America's economy actually is in poor shape and may get worse, if the fiscal indicators can be believed, said Rex Hardesty, a spokesman for the AFL-CIO.

#### NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES STILL BEING DEBATED

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A3) -- Negotiators for President Reagan and Walter Mondale probably won't meet until Thursday at the earliest to discuss the possibility of more than one debate between the two, a White House official said.

CARTER HELPING RENOVATE NEW YORK SLUM BUILDING

NEW YORK (Washington Post, A10) -- Former president Jimmy Carter traveled by bus from Plains, Ga., to spend a week renovating an abandoned building in Manhattan's run-down and crime-infested Lower East Side.

(New York Times, A1) -- Many of the people who arrived in New York know Jimmy Carter and were pleased to be joining their neighbor as members of Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit, international Christian organization.

POSTAL UNION PRESIDENT TO SEEK 'CRONYISM' PROBE

(Peter Perl, Washington Post, A2) -- Moe Biller, president of the American Postal Workers Union, said that he will request a congressional investigation of "political cronyism" allegedly involved in the U.S. Postal Service's awarding of a \$300,000 contract to a San Francisco law firm whose clients include a top postal official.

TREASURY UNION SUES TO RETAIN PAY HIKE

(Tom Diaz, Washington Times, A4) -- The National Treasury Employees Union has asked a federal judge to overrule President Reagan's decision to cap this year's federal pay raise at 3.5 percent.

B-1'S EMERGENCY CAPSULE MAY HAVE MALFUNCTIONED

LOS ANGELES (Dennis Anderson, UPI) -- A parachute designed to help bring the B-1 bomber's escape capsule gently to earth failed to open when the plane crashed last week, and a device to cushion the landing may also have failed, sources said.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A profile of postal union leader Moe Biller is on page B1 of The Washington Times.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. REJECTS SOVIET ARMS CONTROL CHARGE AS FALSE

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A12) -- The Reagan Administration dismissed Soviet President Chernenko's charges that the United States is obstructing progress on arms control as "wholly familiar and wholly false" and said it will resume nuclear disarmament talks "the moment the Soviet Union declares its willingness to join us."

(Michael Bonafield, Washington Times, A6) -- But the department welcomed Chernenko's stated readiness for "serious" arms control talks and said the United States is ready as well.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1) -- "The United States is correcting the imbalances in the East-West military equation that the Soviet Union has opened up in recent years," the State Department said in a statement, "and is seeking and will continue to seek more stable and constructive relations with the Soviet Union."

U.S. to Study Chernenko Statement on Arms Meeting

IRVINE (Patricia Wilson, Reuter) -- The White House sees nothing new in a statement by Soviet leader Chernenko that an agreement on banning weapons in space would lead to other disarmament discussions but says it will be studied closely.

A Tough Soviet Line

MOSCOW (News analysis by Serge Schmemmann, New York Times, A4) -- Chernenko's interview -- coming as it did on the day schools opened and Soviet officials were finally compelled to abandon their summer dachas and sanatoriums -- seemed intended to provide what one diplomat termed a season opener, a keynote statement that would set the tone and shape of a vital field of policy.

NEW RADAR SPOTS SUBS FOR SOVIETS

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A4) -- The Soviet Union has shown for more than a year that it can detect and track submerged submarines from space, Air Force magazine reports.

SOVIETS DISPLAY THREE AIRCRAFT AT BRITISH SHOW

FARNBOROUGH, England (Washington Post, A12) -- Three Soviet aircraft stood alongside the West's newest aviation jewels at the Farnborough International Air Show. It is the first time the Soviet Union has participated in the air sales jamboree.

SALVADOR ARCHBISHOP PRAISES PROGRESS ON DEATH SQUADS

SAN SALVADOR (Monte Hayes, AP) -- The Roman Catholic archbishop in this war-scarred nation, Arturo Rivera y Damas, praised President Duarte for what the church leader said were significant gains in controlling rightist death squads.

WHS...



## NICARAGUAN ARMY SAYS MAN KILLED IN COPTER MAY BE AMERICAN

MANAGUA (John Lantigua, Washington Post, A18) -- Nicaraguan Army authorities say one of three bodies recovered after a U.S.-made military helicopter was shot down over Nicaraguan territory may be that of an American.

(Stephen Kinzer, New York Times, A3) -- The official Sandinista newspaper, Barricada, described the slain man as tall and blond, and Defense Minister Ortega said the government suspected that the man was a CIA agent who was working with anti-Sandinista rebels based in Honduras.

## 2 in Nicaragua Crash May Be American

(Philip Taubman, New York Times, A3) -- Two men killed when a helicopter was shot down over Nicaragua on Saturday are believed to be Americans, Sen. Moynihan said. Moynihan said he was informed by the CIA that two of the victims were believed to be American mercenaries working for Nicaraguan rebels.

## Qaddafi Admits Nicaraguan Troop Involvement

(Roger Fontaine, Washington Times, A6) -- Col. Muammar Qaddafi's recent claim that his country's "fighters" are waging war with "America on its own ground" in Nicaragua has puzzled some observers, but one U.S. official expressed delight that the Libyan strongman has acknowledged his country's military involvement in Central American affairs.

## U.S. TO TEST VIETNAM'S OFFER TO SEND PRISONERS HERE

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A24) -- The Reagan Administration is preparing to test the Vietnamese government's offer to release thousands of Vietnamese prisoners from "reeducation camps" if the United States gives them asylum, U.S. officials said.

## VATICAN DOCUMENT FLAYS 'THEOLOGY OF LIBERATION'

VATICAN CITY (Washington Times, A5) -- A Vatican document has condemned the theology of liberation, charging its use of "totalitarian" Marxist analysis is "incompatible with the Christian vision of man."

## IRA THREATENS TO CUT OFF IRAN'S OIL EXPORTS

MANAMA (Nabila Megalli, AP) -- Iraq has laid down a contingency plan (sic) to choke off all Iran's crude oil export outlets, an air force commander said in a Baghdad newspaper, while Iraq and other Arab countries make new arrangements for shipping their oil to the world.

## U.S. REVERSES VISA DECISION ON MOZAMBIQUE GUERRILLAS

NAIROBI, Kenya (Jay Mallin, Washington Times, A5) -- Two representatives of the guerrilla movement battling Mozambique's Marxist government were scheduled to arrive in San Diego today after U.S. officials reversed themselves a second time and agreed to let them into the United States.

WHS...

NOTE: NO NIGHTLY NEWS BROADCASTS WERE AIRED BY THE NETWORKS.

ABC's THIS WEEK with DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: Sam Donaldson and Barbara Walters.  
Guest: Former Rep. John B. Anderson.

Walters: Just a month ago, you said the Democrats have allowed organized labor to fill their campaign coffers and dictate the old New Deal policies that bypass America's real need for creative, contemporary solutions. What happened to that criticism?

Anderson: One of the cardinal principles of my new party is to reject out-of-hand political action committees and the contributions they make to elections. For me, the impelling reason to support the Mondale-Ferraro ticket in 1984 is my concern over what could happen under the kind of foreign policy, the kind of national security policy that has been pursued by this Administration; When I read, for example, the Republicans endorsing as they did in their platform a new ballistic missile defense program. When I think of the total collapse of arms negotiations under this Administration for the first time in 6 administrations, that's the overriding concern. I said in my endorsement statement that I very frankly have some basic differences with Mr. Mondale on domestic policy, but I'm not going to debate Mr. Mondale on those differences. I hope Mr. Reagan will choose, early on, to give him those debates.

Donaldson: James Lake said John Anderson is "nobody." That's certainly cruel, but is it fair?

Anderson: It kind of makes me wonder what I'm doing on this very distinguished program if that's the case. I really think everybody is somebody. That's a very important point I think a lot of people in the Reagan Administration seem to have forgotten. I would also call attention to the fact that just 4 months ago, when I announced I would not be a candidate, Charles Mannatt hailed it as the most significant development in 1984. He predicted it could mean 4 million votes for the Democratic ticket.

Brinkley: Let us assume you were elected president Nov. 6. What would you do on the 7th?

Anderson: I'm not suggesting that on the 7th I would be prepared to fly to Moscow, but I think we could do more than simply throw away opportunities that have been given us. Back in June, the Soviets suggested they would like to sit down in Vienna come September and talk about the possibility of negotiating a treaty that would provide against the militarization of outer space. That date has now come and gone. The Reagan Administration complicated the issue by saying we want to talk about other issues. As I read the recent Tass statement by Chernenko, they are still willing to talk about a treaty to prevent the militarization of outer space.

---

Guest: Jesse Jackson

Brinkley: The Joint Center for Political Studies poll shows blacks are for Mondale by 88-5%, but it also shows 72% of the black folks think Ronald Reagan is prejudiced. Do you think so?

-more-

THIS WEEK with DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Jackson: He's insensitive to black concerns. He has steadfastly refused to meet with black leadership, for example. The kind of anti-poor posture he has affects blacks, but not just blacks, which is the point I must keep emphasizing. Under Mr. Reagan, now 15% of our nation is in poverty -- 35M people, 24M are white....I'm concerned when a President will not support an Equal Rights Amendment, when he will not move aggressively toward some kind of arms agreement. The black interests are, in my judgment, center-stage national interest issues.

Donaldson: Why wouldn't Mondale commit to the jobs program you wanted?

Jackson: Because under Reagan, with the almost \$200B deficit, his basic feeling is it would irritate the deficit crisis. I would think if we also cut back on the waste in the military, the rich begin to pay their fair share, we're going to have some money for job training.

---

Guest: Sen. Robert Dole

Brinkley: Were you disturbed at what people saw as the right wing of the Republican Party taking over in Dallas?

Dole: I'm not certain what they took over. They took over the platform committee, but really that doesn't translate into very much. I think they did a good job, they're good Republicans, but they didn't really take over very much. If you add up all the tax cuts they advertise, it would run up about \$200B over the next three years.

Walters: Do you agree religion and politics are necessarily related?

Dole: I think religious convictions are very good; I think you ought to bring those into politics. Jesse Jackson practically initiated his campaign in the Church. I think it's fine to have all these religious groups say "We like Ronald Reagan." I don't think we start adopting their philosophy or their religious tenets or anything of that kind. I think there is a fine line; I think we're near the edge.

Donaldson: The ticket won't discuss Social Security. Isn't it correct that you're going to have to go in again and do some revisions?

Dole: I'm not so certain we'll have to do any revisions on Social Security, but certainly other entitlements -- Medicare, Medicaid, other transfer programs -- we're going to have to address.

Brinkley: What might we expect in the way of new taxes, assuming Mr. Reagan is elected?

Dole: I think the last thing that will happen will be changes in taxes. I think in the real world you try to get together with the leadership of both parties and try to hammer out a bipartisan deficit-reduction package with the emphasis on spending restraint. If everything else fails, then you go to what we call "base-broadening." You take a look at some loopholes.

-more-

THIS WEEK (continued)

Walters: Do you think it should be standard operating procedure that every candidate has to release his or her income tax?

Dole: Yes, generally there ought to be full disclosure, and we haven't had full disclosure with Miss Ferraro.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION -- Jody Powell joins panel.

On debates:

Donaldson: The President's people would rather have no debates, but they know they're going to have to and they'd rather have 1 or 2 debates early on.

Powell: When you're in good shape, politically, you don't want to do anything that might turn out in an unexpected fashion.

Donaldson: The issue discussion is a vehicle for showing people "the man." Perception is what counts. Carter won (in 1980). He had his facts. Mr. Reagan had his jokes and he had his "air," the imposing air of leadership.

Brinkley: Is the country better off than it was 3 or 4 years ago?

Donaldson: Most people think they are, and if they think they are, then they are.

Walter: I think people feel good about themselves this year. I have friends who are putting American flags in front of their houses. Four years ago, if you put an American flag in your button hole it meant you were to the far right. We're not criticizing ourselves anymore.

Powell: I do think you make a point. At the moment, there is very little going on internationally or domestically that would put a damper on that sort of spirit. If we had another oil embargo, whether we would feel quite so good I don't know.

Donaldson: I have no objection to displaying the American flag and having an intense feeling of love of one's country, but I think I do object when a political party seeks to kidnap the symbols of patriotism. (Donaldson shows Reagan-Bush button that plays the national anthem.)

---

Brinkley comments on budget balancing: The only safe answer is not a constitutional convention, but for Congress and the next president to try seriously, as they have not done, to bring the deficit down. Maybe another commission like the one that dealt with Social Security, so both parties could take the political heat equally. They have to bite the bullet themselves and not let an uncontrollable constitutional convention do it for them.

CBS's FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Leslie Stahl.

Guest AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland.

Stahl: Were you galled when the Teamsters endorsed Ronald Reagan?

Kirkland: No, indeed. I think they make a lovely couple. As I go around the country, I find many good, fine, honest Teamster trade unionists who are going to work very closely with us at the local level in this campaign.

Stahl: What is it about Ronald Reagan specifically that the Union leaders are so much opposed to?

Kirkland: It has nothing to do with Ronald Reagan as a person. He's a man who evidently believes that massive unemployment is an appropriate tool to deal with national problems. He has turned over the agencies that were intended to encourage collective bargaining, to look after the most hard pressed of working people and the unemployed, and to enforce the standards of occupational safety and health of the Fair Labor Relations Act.

Stahl: In Dallas, the Steel Workers' Union apparently went to the President's people and said that if he would impose restrictions on imported steel, then they would not campaign for Mondale, and everybody is assuming now there will be some kind of tariff or a move to get voluntary quotas on imported steel. There's an example of a union saying, "If you do something for us, we won't work so hard for Mondale."

Kirkland: The Steel Workers' Union, from the top to the shop steward level, I'm absolutely certain is solidly behind the candidacy of Fritz Mondale.

---

Guests: Robert Thompson, Labor Management Attorney and Board Member, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; author Studs Terkel.

Stahl: Can you have a big middle class without strong unions?

Terkel: I think it's impossible. There's a headline in Chicago's Rupert Murdoch paper, "Labor Leans to Ron." That's about as clownish a headline as "Dewey Defeats Truman." Reagan is the most flagrantly union-busting President.

Thompson: I think that's the most erroneous statement I've ever heard on national television. Ronald Reagan is the best friend the working man in this country ever had. He's done more to get this country straightened out in 4 short years than any president I can recall.

###

NBC's MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Marvin Kalb. Panel: Bill Monroe of NBC, Ronald Taylor of U.S. News and World Report, Bill Keller of The New York Times, Irving R. Levine of NBC.

Guests: American Postal Workers President Moe Biller.

Monroe: Mr. Biller, I'd like to ask why your union voted to authorize a strike when a strike is illegal and Mr. Bolger says he will fire strikers?

Biller: Mr. Bolger is no longer trusted by the workers, and in case he pulls any dirty tricks, that's a preparation.

Taylor: With union labor accounting for 2/3 of postal costs, why shouldn't postal worker salaries be cut, or at least hold down the increases?

Biller: There's no reason to cut them. This is a very profitable industry. The Postmaster General has announced for the first time in history he's got three surpluses continuous.

Keller: Are you prepared to argue for a postage increase to 28¢ so your members can get that raise?

Biller: No. Firstly, we're consumers and we're also taxpayers and we don't like higher prices either.

Levine: You've ruled out a strike. But would there be a possibility of a slowdown by your workers, or sick outs?

Biller: Right now, I'm not discussing any job action.

Levine: Do you feel the Postmaster General's attitude in these negotiations is the result of taking a cue from the Reagan Administration?

Biller: Oh, positively. He's taken on the most anti-labor law firm, notorious in the West.

Monroe: Is this dispute going to wind up being settled in binding arbitration?

Biller: This is the way it begins to appear, at this point.

Kalb: How can the Postal Service remain competitive and continue to make a profit and compete with other forms of message delivery if letter carriers and clerks and the people who drive the trucks get paid more than their counterparts in corporate mail rooms?

Biller: They're not paid more than their counterparts, and I do not compare it with any other service.

Keller: Do you think the Postal Service is headed for a day when it will compete freely with the private sector on first class mail?

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Biller: There's no reason for it. The Founding Fathers, in the Constitution, created the appropriate monopoly. I think we've got the greatest service in the world, the cheapest service, the best workers.

---

Guest: Postmaster General William Bolger.

Keller: Why have you taken such a hard line this year?

Bolger: Basically, it isn't a hard line; it's just a realistic line.

Levine: You heard charges made against you by Mr. Biller, his plan to ask a Congressional investigation of cronyism, if not other illicit, presumably imprudent behavior on your part. What's your reaction?

Bolger: Basically the charges are just not true. And I welcome a congressional investigation if that's the type of thing that has to take place.

Monroe: (Citing Bolger's \$82,900 salary plus benefits) You are telling your employees, "You fellows are not worth what we're paying you; we're going to freeze your wages for 3 years." Isn't that a bit harsh?

Bolger: No, we're not cutting their standard of living. As a matter of fact, the cost of living adjustments will still be there. We're talking about a 23% premium we're paying in total compensation, which includes health benefits, Blue Cross, retirement benefits and things of that nature which the American postal rate payer has to pay for.

Taylor: If your position does not win in arbitration, how will you cut costs, or would another rate increase be needed?

Bolger: Basically I don't know. All I do know is with the package the unions put on the table it would have cost about a 28¢ stamp.

Taylor: The 23¢ stamp request...why is a rate increase needed?

Bolger: Basically the projection shows we were going to have an \$800M deficit. The financial condition of the Postal Service has improved. We had a surplus last year of \$616M. That's a lot of money, but do you know what our payroll is every 2 weeks? \$700M. That wouldn't even last a pay period.

Keller: Is there anything to what Mr. Biller says about the Reagan Administration making it easier for you to be hard-nosed in dealing with your employees?

Bolger: No. We're an independent agency. I do not report to the President of the United States.

## PBS's WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW

Moderator: Paul Duke. Panel: Howard Feinman of Newsweek, Hedrick Smith of The New York Times, Harry Ellis.

Ellis on the slowdown in the economy: Out of the wealth of economic statistics which we had this week from the government, it seems to me two things stand out: One, that the economy still is growing, but at a much slower rate, and there is some possibility of a recession next year. You also had a disturbing trend showing up in interest rates. Last month, sales of new houses were unchanged from June but very sharply down from the beginning of the year and the average fixed mortgage rate now is 15.2%. We also found we had a record trade deficit in July and this year we are likely to double last year's record trade deficit because those high interest rates still will not come down. In my view, interest rates are not going to come down much farther. They are held up there because neither Mr. Mondale nor Mr. Reagan has advanced a program which promises to reduce the huge government deficits.

Smith on the Democratic campaign: This past week has been a pretty good one for the Mondale campaign. Mondale got the endorsement of John Anderson, he sat down with Jesse Jackson and a number of other black leaders and Jackson said he would embrace the campaign actively. Ferraro seemed, at least according to one national poll I saw, to be over the hump on her financial problems.

Smith on Mondale, deficits and the disadvantaged: Mondale has got an argument among his own advisers whether or not to pursue his strategy of getting the disadvantaged really mobilized. Other advisers have said you've got to adopt a policy of greater realism, you've got to tackle the deficits, you've got to be more hard-headed, you've got to appeal to the middle class. He's walking a very careful line.

Feinman on the Teamster endorsement: I don't think it is automatically a blessing, because Presser is under investigation and some of the President's own advisers told him to keep his distance from Presser, but Ronald Reagan knows he needs blue-collar support again this time, so I think it was good news for the Reagan people.

Feinman on the President's nomination acceptance: Richard Wirthlin told us this week he was concerned the President missed, to some extent, an opportunity to lay out more by way of his program and plans for the future. Wirthlin says, we're under no obligation to spell out every last thing that we're going to do, but on the other hand, to take the entire hour-plus for the speech and talk about the Carter-Mondale Administration was not necessarily the best thing to do. You're going to continue to hear George Bush talk about the Carter-Mondale Administration. You're not going to hear Ronald Reagan talk about it. And I think the ratio is now going to shift in Reagan's own rhetoric to much more positive, future-oriented campaigning of the kind he carried out this week.

Feinman on religion in politics: I think what really set off the latest round of talk on all this was President Reagan's appearance at a prayer breakfast in Dallas. In fairness to the President, the mixture of religion and politics this year didn't really begin with him.

###



AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky.

Panel: Elizabeth Drew, Jack Kilpatrick, Carl Rowan, Hugh Sidey.

Agronsky: Do we have a real presidential race here?

Rowan: You've got a race where it's going to take an incredible comeback for Mondale-Ferraro to win, but there are some issues out there. I think the deficit is going to play a lot bigger than a lot of people think and this business of religion in government is going to be powerful before it's over.

Drew: I think it could get more competitive.

Sidey: Theory: the election may be over. We have never been so satiated by politics as we have in the last 2 years. It wouldn't surprise me that the victory went to the man who offended the people the least.

Kilpatrick: I've said all along it's going to be a much closer race than the polls are indicating.

Agronsky: Won't the debate over religion and government, if Mondale can initiate it successfully, have a real impact in people's minds in voting?

Kilpatrick: I don't think so. The issues, in my judgment, are going to be issues of inflation, the deficit, unemployment -- the pocketbook issues.

Drew: The debate began with Reagan's speech at the ecumenical breakfast in Dallas, and there are a number of people -- including people around Reagan -- who think that speech was a mistake because he went further than ever in saying religion must be a foundation of government. He didn't say whose religion. A lot of people were very disturbed by that speech and it was a very divisive speech.

Sidey: I agree with what Elizabeth said; I deplore the fact that Reagan brings it in. But let's broaden it a little. It started before Mr. Reagan gave that speech. It began with Jimmy Carter's born-again Christianity, which he infused into his policy-making operations. Let's look at this strange phenomenon we have now in which you have people like John Anderson, George McGovern, Walter Mondale and his wife, Gary Hart -- all people who come out of this theological background that are going into politics. That side of it disturbs me just as much as the other.

Rowan: I think we're confusing an issue here. I've never said somebody who is deeply religious shouldn't be in politics, but you've got a situation here where they put in the platform a statement that says, "We affirm our support for judges at all levels who support traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life." In other words, no judges who don't oppose abortion. You can then come along and say no judge who doesn't go to church every Sunday.

Kilpatrick: This didn't start with Jimmy Carter. It started in the foundations of the Republic. Read the Declaration of Independence. By whom are we endowed with our rights? By the Creator.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY (continued)

Agronsky: The Constitutional Fathers believed in God; they didn't define what party He belonged to.

Drew: If you look back at the swing groups in this election, among them are young voters. Young voters tend to like Ronald Reagan for his economic views, but they don't like this other stuff. They don't like the social issues and they don't like the idea of imposing religion on government and politics. (The ecumenical speech) held groups he already has and stirred up groups he needs.

Kilpatrick: The people who are so wrought up about Jerry Falwell and the Moral Majority and the injection of religion in politics are the same people, so far as I recall, who never said one peep about the National Council of Churches or its involvement in politics.

On the Soviet Union, Chernenko and the arms talks:

Rowan: I don't think this (arms negotiating) has anything to do with whether Chernenko lives or dies. No matter who is in there, those talks aren't going forward for a variety of reasons.

Sidey: There's another theory that where you don't have a strong leader, like Brezhnev, who had everybody behind him, the Soviets fall back on their old routine of saying "no" to everything.

Agronsky: Ferraro keeps saying the President has never met an arms control agreement he likes. Is that a right judgment? Is she reading what interests people in this country most?

Kilpatrick: I don't think it's going to catch fire. The polls don't indicate the business of arms control talks figures very largely in the American political view right now.

Sidey: I disagree somewhat. My gut poll, from listening to people, says the issue of war and peace, I think, is still very much just lying there.

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin.

Panel: Pat Buchanan, Jack Germond, Morton Kondracke, Robert Novak.

McLaughlin: How much did Mondale gain from the broadening of his coalition this week? (Cites endorsements of blacks, John Anderson and 19 Democratic mayors.)

Buchanan: I don't think he broadened his coalition. He did sort of bring together his base of support. It gives him no reach into middle America.

Novak: The idea of getting together the black vote is just staying even. Of course, John Anderson is a non-factor.

Germond: What Mondale was trying to do is remind the country the sentiment for Ronald Reagan is not unanimous.

McLaughlin: Will the black vote help, hurt or be a wash for Mondale in the South?

Buchanan: It will help him. Novak: I think in the South it is a negative.

Germond: The black vote is a substantial net plus. Kondracke: A plus.

McLaughlin: I think it comes down to a negative in the South.

McLaughlin: (Citing Ferraro's latest problems, including a Philadelphia Inquirer report of congressional campaign contributions from mobsters) Are we watching death by a thousand cuts?

Kondracke: What we are watching is a hatchet job, perpetrated every week on this program, helping out the Reagan-Bush campaign. The latest Harris poll shows 77% of the American people are fed up with this business, believe Ferraro is an honest woman, and the story is going away. When are we going to start talking about the Teamsters Union endorsement of Ronald Reagan?

Germond: The fact is that any political candidate can be victimized by an examination of their contributor lists. Do you think if we look at Ronald Reagan's list, we wouldn't find some unsavory contributions?

Novak: You just gave the Watergate defense: Everybody does it. This has been going on for 4 weeks, this is not going to stop.

Buchanan: I didn't see this solicitude and sympathy when Ed Meese was getting it and when Dick Allen was getting it and when Bill Casey was getting it. The reason it's not going to go away is there are reputable journalistic institutions with teams turning this stuff up.

McLaughlin: Is the warmonger issue cutting into Reagan?

Germond: Reagan is vulnerable on the risk-of-war issue and has been all along, to some extent. I think at this point, though, the Mondale-Ferraro ticket has so many problems that they can't really get a good hearing for their position on the issues yet.

-more-

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

Novak: The people who really think Ronald Reagan is a mad bomber, that he was the one who caused KAL-007 to be shot down, they're going to vote for Mondale.

Buchanan: Mondale and Ferraro -- who incidentally has no credibility on foreign policy -- are playing to their choir. All those people who believe that, he's already got.

Kondracke: The problem with the Democrats is, if they had a Scoop Jackson or a John Kennedy or a Harry Truman kind of defense policy, they would be able to say Ronald Reagan is not a moderate.

McLaughlin: Is the religion issue going to go anywhere?

Novak: Ronald Reagan and Mondale are skating on very thin ice. I think there has always been a danger that, although the evangelicals are very important, they can alienate the rest of the voters. I know Mondale's people are worried about it and feel that messing in this area is very dangerous business for a Democrat.

Germond: But one of the things that interested the Democrats is they have found in the last 10 days or so that what the President said at that prayer breakfast is still rattling around out there, that a lot of people didn't like this total embrace of the fundamentalist Christians.

Kondracke: The Reagan people are worried about losing their opportunity with Jews because he's sounding so Christian that this Thursday he's delivering a speech to B'nai Brith.

McLaughlin: Is Ronald Reagan's tying of religion to politics going to be a plus or minus in November?

Buchanan: Plus. Novak: Plus. Germond: Minus. Kondracke: Minus. McLaughlin: Plus.

PREDICTIONS

Buchanan: Press reports next week are going to tie some mobbed-up unions into Ferraro's campaigns.

Novak: Some of President Reagan's top campaign advisers are saying that even if Ed Meese gets a clean bill of health from the independent counsel, which now seems likely, he must get out of the nomination for attorney general. Meese will resist.

Germond: Mondale wants to use this religion issue to open up his lines of communication with Jewish voters. I expect him to make a big speech this Thursday when he also appears at B'nai Brith.

Kondracke: House Democrats have come upon a hit list prepared by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and distributed to the Reagan Administration to try to get out of office bureaucrats who believe in enforcing pollution and other regulatory laws.

McLaughlin: I predict Chernenko will die before the first of the year, which means he and Ronald Reagan will not convene, nor will there be any anti-satellite talks until 1985.