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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Beseeches, Mondale Preaches -- President Reagan and Walter Mondale appeared only hours apart before the B'nai B'rith convention, but there was a difference of light years in their rhetoric.
(AP, UPI, Reuter, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Inquiry Said to Clear Meese -- Sources, who asked not to be identified, said independent counsel Jacob Stein has found no evidence that Edwin Meese arranged federal jobs for several friends in return for money loaned by the friends to Meese or his wife.
(Washington Post)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. Officer Aided Group's Shipments to Salvador -- Army Maj. C.A. McNarney, a logistics officer at the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador, confirmed that he forwarded shipments to the Salvadoran government after receiving them from a U.S. civilian group dedicated to fighting communism in Central America.
(New York Times, Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Thursday Evening)

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN/RELIGION -- In separate appearances before the B'nai B'rith organization, each presidential candidate talked of his own beliefs about the constitutional separation of church and state.

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-2

OGARKOV -- Soviet Marshal Ogarkov, the first deputy defense minister and chief of the Soviet armed forces general staff, has been replaced by one of his senior deputies.

INTERNATIONAL NFWS.....A-7

STAR WARS DEFENSE -- NBC has learned the Pentagon has drastically accelerated the Star Wars timetable, with some of the new weapons readied for development by the end of the decade.

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

EDITORIALS.....B-7

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 SAYS U.S., ISRAEL 'FOREVER UNITED'

President Reagan told a Jewish service organization that "the United States and Israel stand forever united" in the task of providing "permanent security" for Israel, and he claimed that the U.S. military buildup during his Administration has made Israel more secure.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A4)

Reagan Beseeches, Mondale Preaches

While President Reagan focused on a new American-Israeli alliance, the Democratic presidential nominee lashed out anew on the church-state issue. (John McCaslin and Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1)

President Reagan, on the defensive since he raised the issue of politics and religion last month, is reaffirming his support for the principle of separation of church and state, saying the United States must "remain a nation of openness."

(Helen Thomas, UPI)

REAGAN HIT ON RELIGION BY MONDALE

Walter Mondale accused President Reagan of tampering with the wall separating church and state and said his Administration had "opened its arms" to a "determined band" of religious groups that "are reaching for government power to impose their own beliefs on others."

(Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A1)

While the two contenders were hammering away at each other, their lieutenants huddled in a Washington office building and made "some progress" toward arranging presidential and vice presidential debates. They meet again today for the third day in a row.

(Laurence McQuillan, UPI)

Mondale Charges Reagan Supports Imposing of Faith

Delegates to the convention of B'nai B'rith International interrupted both presidential candidates with frequent applause and gave each a standing ovation at the end of his remarks.

(John Herbers, New York Times, A1)

MONDALE PRESSES ATTACK ON REAGAN AFTER RELIGION SUCCESS

A new, hard-hitting Walter Mondale went on the stump in the South after scoring points on President Reagan with his handling of the sensitive issue of politics and religion.

(Rodney Pinder, Reuter)

President Reagan is taking the day off from campaigning while Mondale, after accusing the President of opening his arms to those who would "impose their own beliefs on other people," charges the Administration is trying to emasculate Social Security.

(William Welch, AP)

OVERBLOWN ATTACK ON GOD IN POLITICS PERILOUS IN SOUTH

Walter Mondale, taking a high risk for a high gain in pursuit of his strategy of desperation politics, set the demons of religious piety loose in the 1984 presidential campaign. He's likely to find some of them waiting for him on the rocky road past Atlanta, Orlando, Birmingham, Nashville, Dallas and other points south, where he must find electoral votes or resign himself to going back to his Washington law-and-lobbying practice.

(News analysis by Wesley Pruden, Washington Times, A1)

RELIGIOUS ISSUE UNSETTLES CAMPAIGN STRATEGISTS FOR BOTH SIDES

The issue of religion-and-government has emerged in this year's presidential campaign in a way that neither President Reagan nor Walter Mondale had intended, and its prominence has unsettled strategists for each campaign, if for different reasons.

(News analysis by Milton Coleman and Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A4)

BLACK LEADER UNSWAYED BY REAGAN CALL

An early morning phone call from President Reagan to the head of the country's largest black denomination failed to soften Dr. T.J. Jemison's judgment that the Republican Party "does not have the best interests of all the citizens of America at heart."

(Marjorie Hyer, Washington Post, A4)

MONDALE ASSURES HILL DEMOCRATS THAT 'FIGHTING FRITZ' LIVES ON

Walter Mondale visited Capitol Hill on an apparently successful mission to convince concerned fellow Democrats in the House and Senate that the "Fighting Fritz" of the primaries still exists.

(Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A4)

HILL DEMOCRATS FORM COMMITTEE TO AID MONDALE

Top Democrats sniped at each other over the fire in Walter Mondale's belly, and by day's end had put together a committee to help him get his sputtering campaign better organized.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A1)

MONDALE ACCUSED OF FEC VIOLATIONS

A conservative political group said it is asking the Justice Department to take Walter Mondale to court for what it claimed were criminal violations of federal election law.

(Edmond Jacoby, Washington Times, A2)

FERRARO, RECALLING TRUMAN IN 1948,
PREDICTS AN UPSET BY THE DEMOCRATS

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- In her second visit to the Show Me State in eight days, Geraldine Ferraro invoked the ghost of Harry Truman by predicting that the dark-horse Democrats will score an upset on Nov. 6 like the one registered by the onetime Missouri haberdasher in 1948.

(Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A8)

INQUIRY SAID TO CLEAR MEESE

Court-appointed independent counsel Jacob Stein is expected to report next week that his five-month investigation into the financial affairs of Attorney General-designate Edwin Meese has found no evidence of criminal conduct by Meese, sources familiar with the inquiry said.

(Robert Jackson, Washington Post, A1)

COMPLAINT AGAINST FERRARO WILL BE AIRED BY COMMITTEE

Leaders of the House Ethics Committee have agreed to take up the complaint against Rep. Ferraro next Wednesday, but Republican sources said some members will argue that ordering a probe is futile because there would be no results until after the November elections.

(Washington Times, A2)

PROGRESS SEEN ON DEBATES

Negotiators reported making "some progress" in arranging televised campaign debates, and a top White House official said President Reagan is considering more than one encounter with Walter Mondale.

("Political Notes," Washington Post, A9)

CHAMBER ADMITS LISTING FOES

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce acknowledged that it provided the Reagan White House in 1981 with a list of "unsympathetic" Carter Administration holdovers in the EPA and three federal departments -- Labor, Energy and Justice.

(David Hoffman and Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A1)

Dingell: Hit List Raises 'Serious Questions'

A Reagan aide, upon delivering to Presidential confidante Lyn Nofzinger a list of 18 government employees the U.S. Chamber of Commerce wanted fired, scrawled in a 1981 note to the chamber's president, "We try to please." Responding to a demand from Rep. Dingell, the chamber released the note and the "hit list" of employees it considered "unsympathetic to the objectives of this Administration's economic recovery programs."

(Gregory Gordon, UPI)

EPA CLEANUP SAID LAGGING

An environmentalist group, the National Campaign Against Toxic Hazards, has charged that the EPA has taken no action to clean up 96 hazardous waste dumps in 19 states despite four years of effort financed by a \$1.6 billion "Superfund."

(Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A5)

THERE ISN'T ANY 'OIL GLUT,' CLARK TELLS PRESS AUDIENCE

Secretary Clark urged the media to stop misleading the public by continually referring to an "oil glut" that does not exist. Speaking at a National Press Club luncheon, Clark asked, "When will your profession stop calling it an oil glut, 'cause it ain't."

(Ron Cordray, Washington Times, A2)

Invective Not Clark's Specialty

Secretary Clark, thriving under a cloak of non-controversy, apologized to a National Press Club audience for not matching the "color and excitement of my predecessor." (Washington Times, A2)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STILL IMPROVING, BUT SLOWER

The politically sensitive unemployment statistics for August, September and October should show gradual improvement in spite of the worsening in July, private analysts say. (Denis Gulino, UPI)

America's unemployment rate will show a gradual decline, but new jobs will be less plentiful as the pace of economic recovery continues to slow down, private analysts say. (Merrill Hartson, AP)

AMERICANS SHOW ATTITUDE SHIFT ON NUCLEAR ARMS

In the four decades since the dawn of the nuclear age, Americans have shifted dramatically from a belief that nuclear arms serve the cause of peace to an overwhelmingly opposite view -- one that is fraught with misinformation and confusion but which shows solid consensus on certain questions. (Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A9)

JUDGE DISMISSES SUIT DISPUTING HUD REPORT

A federal judge has dismissed a suit by the Community for Creative Non-Violence over a study by the Reagan Administration that showed there are 250,000 to 300,000 homeless people in the United States -- a fraction of the group's estimates. (Philip Smith, Washington Post, A12)

JUDGE'S ORDER FOR REAGAN ACTION CHALLENGED IN SCHOOL BOARD CASE

Assistant Attorney General William Bradford Reynolds urged a federal appeals court to throw out a district court judge's ruling that President Reagan must pressure Congress, if necessary, to help pay the cost desegregating Chicago schools. (Washington Times, A5)

ORIONS SCHEDULED TO AID DRUG WAR, REPORTS TREASURY

A new-found unity in the Administration's war against drug smugglers was revealed by the Treasury Department's chief enforcement officer, John Walker, in testimony to a House Government Operations subcommittee. (Washington Times, A5)

U.S. REJECTS QUOTAS ON COPPER

The Reagan Administration rejected a petition from U.S. copper producers to impose either quotas or higher tariffs on copper imports. (Warren Brown, Washington Post, E1)

U.S. Trade Representative William Brock told reporters the copper decision does not indicate what will be decided on steel. "These decisions," he said, "have to be taken on their own merits." (Donald May, UPI)

Reagan Denies Import Protection to Domestic Producers of Copper

Mr. Reagan, at a meeting with Cabinet-rank advisers, went along with an overwhelming majority of them in denying higher tariffs, quotas or other forms of protection for the 11 copper mining companies operating chiefly in the Rocky Mountain states.

(Clyde Farnsworth, New York Times, A1)

"This is a disaster for the copper industry, and I personally feel betrayed," Sen. DeConcini said in a statement issued from his Washington office. (AP)

TV DOCUMENTARY SLATED ON STAR WARS CONCEPT

NBC Television will air an hour-long documentary on President Reagan's Star Wars research program tomorrow night that could focus national attention on the controversial space defense against nuclear missiles. (Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A3)

HINCKLEY SEEKS ABSENTEE BALLOT FROM COLORADO

Presidential assailant John Hinckley Jr. has requested an absentee ballot from Colorado, telling elections officials in that state that he would "very much like to vote" in the November election in which Ronald Reagan is a candidate. (Philip Smith and T.R. Reid, Washington Post, A12)

Hinckley sent the Denver election commission a two-paragraph letter this week asking to be allowed to vote. (UPI)

"Although I am physically living in Washington , D.C., I have been told by the local elections board that I am not considered a resident here since I did not come here voluntarily," he said. "Therefore, I must vote in the state in which I last lived." (AP)

Editor's Note: A photograph of Mrs. Reagan in Oregon is printed over an extended caption on page A3 of The Washington Times.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. OFFICER AIDED GROUP'S SHIPMENTS TO SALVADOR

A military officer assigned to the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador served as a conduit for a group of American civilians to provide military-related supplies, including ammunition clips and camouflage uniforms, to the Salvadoran army, U.S. officials acknowledged. Army Maj. C.A. McAnarney, a logistics officer at the embassy, confirmed that he forwarded nearly a dozen shipments to the Salvadoran government after receiving them by mail from Tom Posey, a former Marine in Alabama who heads a group dedicated to fighting communism in Central America.

(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. Army Officers Helped Private Group in Salvador

The involvement of a number of U.S. military officers, more extensive than previously reported, included introducing the leader of the private group to the general staff of the Salvadoran Army, encouraging the Americans to send equipment, delivering the materiel to the Salvadoran Army and acting, in general, as a channel between the Americans and the Salvadorans.

(Philip Taubman, New York Times, A3)

SALVADORAN OFFICIAL, REBEL LEADER TO DEBATE

SAN SALVADOR -- The top political leader of El Salvador's rebel movement and a high ranking Salvadoran government official have agreed to a public debate next month in Los Angeles on ways to end the country's civil war.

(Ed Cody, Washington Post, A25)

SANDINISTAS SAY NEW AIRPORT NEEDED TO COUNTER U.S. THREAT

MANAGUA -- Sandinista authorities say the "menacing" language used by leading U.S. officials to denounce the construction of a military airport only proves the need to continue building their military might against the threat of U.S. aggression.

(John Lantigua, Washington Post, A24)

CUSTOMS PROBES VOLUNTEERS TO NICARAGUA

The U.S. Customs Service launched an investigation to determine whether a private group assisting Nicaraguan rebels, Civilian Military Assistance, violated U.S. laws against the export of arms.

(Washington Times, A3)

SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS ON NICARAGUAN COMPLAINT

MANAGUA -- Nicaragua has lodged an urgent protest with the U.N. Security Council over the involvement of two American mercenaries in a recent rebel air strike, a charge the council promised to take up today.

(Nancy Nusser, UPI)

NICARAGUA SAYS U.S. APPROVES OF MERCENARY GROUP'S ACTIONS

MANAGUA -- Nicaragua has sent the United States a second note of protest over its alleged failure to take action against an anti-communist group helping Nicaraguan rebels stage attacks on the country.

(Agustin Fuentes, Reuter)

DE LA MADRID: REBELS FORCING NICARAGUA TO RADICALIZE

MEXICO CITY -- President de la Madrid says U.S.-backed rebels have created "a climate of violence and aggression" in Nicaragua that is forcing the leftist government in Managua to become more radical.

(Jack Payton, UPI)

NINE FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSS CENTRAL AMERICA PEACE PLAN

PANAMA CITY -- Nine Latin American foreign ministers were meeting today to try to settle differences on a peace plan for Central America as the United States and Nicaragua wound up peace-seeking talks in Mexico.

(Reuter)

SHULTZ, GROMYKO TO MEET SEPT. 26

Secretary Shultz will meet Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko in New York on Sept. 26 to discuss arms control and other issues, the State Department announced.

(Washington Post, A24)

Shultz and Gromyko Set Talks, U.S. Hopes Tensions Will Be Eased

Announcement of the Shultz-Gromyko meeting, to be held during the United Nations General Assembly, raised the possibility that President Reagan might meet with the Soviet foreign minister in New York -- but only after Mr. Gromyko and Mr. Shultz have had their talk.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A4)

Reagan Weighs Meeting with Gromyko

With the onset of the election season, Reagan has expressed an eagerness for high-level contacts with the Soviets, asserting at one point he would be willing to meet with President Chernenko "anytime."

(George Gedda, AP)

CHANCES OF PRE-ELECTION TALKS WITH SOVIETS VIEWED SLIM AT BEST

Barring the unexpected, President Reagan will complete his current term in the White House with negotiations with the Soviet Union -- nuclear and otherwise -- at a virtual standstill.

(Barry Schweid, AP)

SOVIETS REPLACE CHIEF OF STAFF WITH DEPUTY

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union removed its well-known chief of staff, Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, without explanation and replaced him with his deputy, Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev.

(Robert Kaiser, Washington Post, A1)

In an announcement, the Soviet news agency Tass said Ogarkov was out as armed forces chief of staff, a position in the military hierarchy second only to Defense Minister Dimitri Ustinov.

(John Iams, UPI)

Soviets Oust Marshal in No. 2 Military Job

A U.S. defense official, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, suggested that the Red Army's inability to win a decisive victory over the nearly five-year-old Afghanistan resistance may be a primary reason for Marshal Ogarkov's removal.

(Michael Bonafield, Washington Times, A1)

The country's top career officer, Ogarkov has made a formidable reputation in the seven years since his appointment under the late President Brezhnev and he has been widely favored as a successor to Defense Minister Ustinov. Diplomats said they still did not rule this out, though the bald wording of the Tass statement appeared to indicate disfavor.

(Charles Bremner, Reuter)

Moscow Relieves Its Chief of Staff: Move Is Surprise

Soviet specialists in the United States government said they were surprised by the removal of Marshal Ogarkov and that the wording of the Tass statement suggested he had been demoted.

(Seth Mydans, New York Times, A1)

KOHL VOWS TO CONTINUE INTER-GERMAN DIALOGUE

OSLO -- Chancellor Kohl has vowed to continued efforts for dialogue between the two Germanys despite the postponement of East German leader Honecker's visit to West Germany later this month.

(Reuter)

U.S. VETO KILLS RESOLUTION ON LEBANON

UNITED NATIONS -- The United States has vetoed a U.N. Security Council call on Israel to end restrictions it imposed in southern Lebanon since its troops occupied the volatile region more than two years ago.

(John Usher, UPI)

The resolution also would have called on Israel to comply with the 1949 Geneva Convention on the Treatment of Civilians in Time of War. The draft was supported by 14 of the council's 15 members. But the United States said it was unreasonable and unrealistic to deal with only the question of foreign forces and humanitarian problems in southern Lebanon and ignore the same problems in other parts of the war-torn country.

(Anthony Goodman, Reuter)

U.S. Vetoes U.N. Resolution on Israelis in Lebanon

Lebanon's representative, Rachid Fakhoury, said his country "deeply regrets the opposition of a superpower, a friendly superpower -- the United States of America -- to a draft resolution limited purely to humanitarian aspects."

(New York Times, A3)

IRANIAN JUDGE THREATENS SWEDISH COLLEAGUE

THE HAGUE -- An Iranian judge's threat to kill a Swedish colleague has prompted an indefinite suspension in the work of a tribunal handling claims arising from the 1979 takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

(Roman Rollnick, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, September 6, 1984

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN/RELIGION

CBS's Dan Rather: The differences between President Reagan and Walter Mondale over the proper place of religion in politics and in American society came to a boil. In separate appearances before the B'nai B'rith organization, each man talked of his own beliefs about the constitutional separation of Church and State.

CBS's Bill Plante: (Mondale: "Most Americans would be surprised that God is a Republican.") (President: "The United States of America must remain a nation of openness to people of all beliefs.") An impassioned Mondale tried to engage the President on the role of religion in politics. Mondale is upset and angry over Mr. Reagan's earlier assertion that religion and politics are necessarily related. Today Mondale accused Mr. Reagan of trying to wrap the flag in Christian scripture. (Mondale: "No president should attempt to transform policy debates into theological disputes." Applause. "We must not let it be thought that political dissent from him is un-Christian.") Since his Dallas speech, President Reagan has stressed tolerance when he talks of religion, and today he did not repeat his usual appeal for prayer in the schools. (President: "The ideals of our country leave no room whatsoever for intolerance, anti-Semitism, or bigotry of any kind, none. The unique thing about America is a wall in our Constitution separating Church and State.") Mondale maintained the President had insulted the motives of those who disagree with him and he looked with alarm at Mr. Reagan's right-wing Christian supporters. (Mondale: "A determined band is raising doubts about people's faith. They're reaching for government power to impose their own beliefs on other people, and the Reagan Administration has opened its arms to them.") Speaker O'Neill called the President's motives "purely political." (Speaker: "Any time you bring religion into a campaign, you bring bigotry and you bring bitterness, and it's the wrong thing to do. The President of the United States, in my opinion, by trying to be more Catholic than a Catholic has been wrong.") Sources close to Mondale say he intends to keep hammering away at the religion issue as he did again today before a convention of black Baptists, hoping to needle Mr. Reagan into some reaction. (TV Coverage: Mondale and Jesse Jackson wave to congregation.) But the President's campaign managers don't think he'll take the bait. He'll just continue to advocate his school prayer amendment, to speak approvingly of religious values and attempts to hold the moral high ground of this campaign.

CBS's Bob Schieffer: Even some in the Reagan White House worry that the President's comments lately are edging too close to the line separating Church and State as spelled out in the Constitution, but not the pastor of Dallas's huge First Baptist Church. (Rev. Criswell: "Well I think this thing of separation of Church and State is a figment of some infidel's imagination." "Now those Democrats, they can organize every ghetto and every Hispanic and every black and every down-and-outer and every welfare recipient...to get them all to vote and nothing's said about it at all, but here comes a man trying to get Christian people to vote and man alive, that must be terrible. There's not anything wrong in trying to get God's people to vote.")

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY, September 6, 1984

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN/RELIGION (continued)

Schieffer continues: Jimmy Carter made no secret of his fundamentalist faith, but some political scientists say the Reagan approach to the fundamentalists is different. (William Schneider, American Enterprise Institute: "Reagan endorses their social positions. Reagan says that he agrees with them on prayer and censorship and women's rights and gay rights and abortion. He's very different from Carter. Reagan appeals to them on political grounds, not on religious grounds.") Although the President seldom attends church, his political strategists believe his appeal to the fundamentalists could cut into the blue-collar vote that might otherwise go Democratic, especially in some Southern states. But some presidential supporters warn Mr. Reagan's rhetoric could leave the impression that he wants a Christian Republican Party. And various religious groups took issue with the President this week, including speakers at the B'nai B'rith convention, who were lambasting the Reagan view long before he and Mondale spoke today. A campaign that contrasted two candidates with clearly different philosophies was expected. What's surprising that is the sharpest differences to emerge thus far are over their views on the relationship between Church and State. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Brit Hume: Outside his house this morning, Mondale brushed aside another question about Speaker O'Neill's criticism that he is being too gentle with President Reagan. Just listen to my speech today, he said. That speech contained none of the obligatory praise of Israel Jewish audiences usually hear. Instead it was a strongly worded attack on the President and his allies on the Christian right for practicing moral McCarthyism. Mondale cited a letter from Sen. Laxalt to 45,000 ministers. (Mondale: "And before it ended, it had defined Mr. Reagan's supporters as 'leaders under God's authority.' Most Americans would be surprised that God is a Republican.") Mondale noted he is a minister's son and said he had been taught to keep religion and politics separate and to respect others' religions. (Mondale: "All intolerance is ugly, whether it wears the sheets of the Klan or spreads the slurs of the Christian Voice. All hatred is poison, whether it comes from the mouth of Rabbi Kahani or the radio program of Louis Farrakhan." Applause. He was interrupted frequently for applause, most of all when he criticized the President for his remarks for his remarks in Dallas linking religion in politics. (Mondale: "The Queen of England, where a State religion is established, is called defender of the faith. But the President of the United States is the defender of the Constitution, which defends all faiths in the United States." Applause.) Then it was on to Capitol Hill, source of recent Democratic criticism of him, for closed meetings with Democratic members of both Houses. Afterward, Tip O'Neill's opinion seemed to have undergone a remarkable change. (O'Neill: "We've never had a better candidate than this candidate that we have.") Mondale will have to do more than win over Tip O'Neill to make a race of this election. For one thing, he needs to get the President to come out and fight, as he was trying to do today.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, September 6, 1984PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN/RELIGION (continued)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: 2 1/2 hours after Mondale left the hall, President Reagan stepped to the same podium, behind which White House aides had carefully moved in the American and Israeli flags so that, unlike Mondale, Mr. Reagan would be seen on television flanked by those patriotic symbols. And indeed the President tried hard to keep the focus away from the Mondale attack over religion to his support for Israel. (President: "And that means Israel can depend on us." Applause.) But Mr. Reagan could not escape completely discussing a subject he had raised at a prayer breakfast in Dallas two weeks ago. (President in Dallas: "The truth is politics and morality are inseparable. Today, there are those who are fighting to make sure voluntary prayer is not returned to the classrooms. Isn't the real truth that they are intolerant of religion?" Applause.) Today, Mr. Reagan repeated none of that. B'nai B'rith is, after all, among those fighting the school prayer amendment. Instead, the President emphasized his support for the constitutional separation of Church and State. (President: "It guarantees there will never be a state religion in this land, but at the same time it makes sure that every single American is free to choose and practice his or her religious beliefs, or to choose no religion at all. Their rights shall not be questioned or violated by the State.") The President did not respond directly to any of Mondale's charges. And both he and his audience seemed more comfortable when he quickly moved on to such mutually compatible subjects as denunciation of PLO terrorism. The President's aides are watching the religious issue carefully, but without much concern at this stage. Mr. Reagan's long-time association with the Christian right is so well known, they can't believe his views will blow up in his face now, particularly if the President continues to ignore Mondale's attacks on the subject, which is precisely his intention.

Koppel: There was a second meeting in Washington on the subject of debates between Mondale and President Reagan. Afterward, James Baker said it's safe to say there will be at least one presidential debate. He added, "We are giving serious consideration to the possibility of other debates." (TV Coverage of James Baker talking to reporters.) (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Speaking in a subdued tone, but using tough language, Mondale said most Americans would be surprised to learn that God is a Republican. He called attempts to impose religious beliefs on campaigns "moral McCarthyism."

NBC's Lisa Myers: He chose a politically powerful Jewish organization to defend separation of Church and State. (Mondale: "A determined band is raising doubts about people's faith. They are reaching for government power to impose their own beliefs on other people and the Reagan Administration has opened its arms to them.") He spoke of an extreme fringe with fire in the eyes poised to capture the Republican Party.

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, September 6, 1984

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN/RELIGION

Myers continues: (Mondale: "It is disquieting that a presidential aide, unsatisfied with the religious purity of the White House staff, has urged her colleagues to 'get saved or get out.' It is ominous when Rev. Falwell brags that if Mr. Reagan is reelected 'We, we will get at least two more appointments to the Supreme Court.'") On Reagan's claim that religion needs to be defended from the state: (Mondale: "The Queen of England, where a State religion is established, is called defender of the faith. But the President of the United States is the defender of the Constitution, which defends all faiths.") On the suggestion that opposition to school prayer is un-Christian: (Mondale: "Instead of construing dissent from him in good faith, Mr. Reagan has insulted the motives of those of us who disagree with him, including me.") Mondale said he shared the concerns of those yearning for traditional values. (Mondale: "The truth is that the answer to a weaker family is not a stronger State. It is stronger values.") Mondale's advisers insist this speech was made more out of personal conviction than for political gain, but they believe Reagan has hurt himself among young, independent and Jewish voters and that Mondale has a much-needed opportunity to score points.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The President ignored Mondale's speech, but not the issue, trying to ease what aides admit is a deep Jewish concern about his recent statements. Mr. Reagan did not mention his support for school prayer or other religious measures B'nai B'rith opposes, emphasizing instead that he rejects any state religion. (President: "The unique thing about America is a wall in our Constitution separating Church and State.") The President said his support for a religious revival is not limited to Christian fundamentalism, that all religions are included, and Jews have nothing to fear. (President: "The ideals of our country leave no room whatsoever for intolerance, anti-Semitism or bigotry of any kind. None.") But Mr. Reagan shifted quickly from religion to areas where he's on firmer ground with this audience. He said he will back a U.N. treaty against genocide that's been stalled in the Senate for 35 years, and he restated U.S. support for Israel. (President in mid-sentence: "Permanent security for the people of that brave state. In this great enterprise, the United States and Israel stand forever united.") But the head of B'nai B'rith was concerned about Church and State and disappointed the President did not back away from government support of religion. (Gerald Kraft: "Nothing he said today addressed that concern.") The Reagan camp says the religious debate has helped so far, firing up the President's conservative base. Now, aides say Mr. Reagan will disarm his critics, moving away from religion and, as in past campaigns, toward the center.

(NBC-Lead)

AIR TRAFFIC

Rather: The FAA confirmed plans to hire 1,400 air traffic controllers starting in October. The FAA says it will not rehire any of the experienced controllers who were fired for striking in 1981.

(CBS-4)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, September 6, 1984

SOVIET RELATIONS

Rather: Using an old American expression, "It takes two to tango," a government spokesman in Moscow said prospects were not good for improved superpower relations. However, efforts will be made to heal the rift on Sept. 26 when Secretary Shultz and FM Gromyko meet in New York. Depending on how this session goes, there could be a meeting between President Reagan and Gromyko.

(ABC-2, NBC-3, CBS-7)

OGARKOV

Rather: Soviet Marshal Ogarkov, the first deputy defense minister and chief of the Soviet armed forces' general staff, has been replaced by one of his senior deputies. Ogarkov became known to the West's general public a year ago when he presided over a lengthy Moscow news conference to discuss the Soviet downing of KAL-007. The Kremlin announcement said only that Ogarkov had been relieved of his post in connection with a new appointment. It did not say what his new job is.

(NBC-4, CBS-8)

STAR WARS DEFENSE

NBC's Marvin Kalb: NBC has learned the Pentagon has drastically accelerated the Star Wars timetable, with some of the new weapons being readied for development by the end of this decade. Secretary Weinberger is not disturbed that such space weapons research and development will undercut the ABM treaty with the Soviet Union. (Secretary Weinberger: "Do we want to let a treaty which the Soviets are not observing and have violated, do we want to let that kind of a treaty stand in the way of our ability to develop a thoroughly reliable system of defense which can render their nuclear missiles impotent?") The Administration makes no secret of the fact that if the President is reelected, he will press ahead with his version of Star Wars defense.

(NBC-3)

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

CBS's David Martin looks at this elite fighting group in the first of two reports: The Rangers, the Seals, the Combat Control team, Delta unit. They are as much a part of the Reagan defense buildup as the billions spent on nuclear weapons. To some, even within the military, Special Operations forces are a loaded gun waiting to go off. To others, they are more like an insurance policy.

(CBS-6)

HINCKLEY

Koppel: A Denver newspaper reports that John Hinckley Jr. has asked for an absentee ballot to vote in this fall's presidential election. A clerk in Colorado said he wasn't sure whether state law would permit Hinckley to vote. Hinckley did not indicate for whom he would vote.

(NBC-11, ABC-6)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, September 6, 1984

ISRAEL

ABC's Bob Zelnick reports a new Israeli government of national unity is at hand. The unity agreement calls for urgent measures to bring Israel's 400% inflation under control, but sources say Peres is already planning an early trip to Washington for more U.S. aid. In Lebanon, sources say the new government will seek tacit assurances from Syria that the PLO will not be permitted back into the Bekaa Valley if the Israelis withdraw. Peres and Shamir have also agreed to invite Jordan's King Hussein to negotiate the West Bank's future without preconditions, but the agreement requires Israel's voters to approve any territorial compromise on the West Bank while the Cabinet appears to be stacked in favor of new Jewish settlements. (NBC-5, ABC-3)

KOREA/JAPAN

Koppel: South Korean President Chun became the first South Korean leader ever to visit Japan. Emperor Hirohito formally expressed his regrets for that era of colonial rule. (NBC-5, ABC-4)

UAW

Rather: UAW President Beiber selected GM as the strike target if negotiations fail to produce a new contract. (ABC-9, NBC-6, CBS-5)

RELIGION AND POLITICS

NBC's Ken Bode: This merger of religion and politics, while it's been in the headlines for only the past few weeks, has been going on much longer. (TV Coverage: Pat Boone singing. Boone says, "God bless you Mr. President." Shot of President Reagan listening. Bode shows various clips of the President making speeches on the subject.) The Reagan strategy was to solidify his base with evangelical Christians early, hit their issues -- abortion and school prayer -- then, let the preachers massage it into their flocks. (TV Coverage shows Jerry Falwell speaking at the Baptist Fundamentalism Convention.) Democrats and some religious leaders argue that Mr. Reagan is attempting to issue God a Republican jersey. (TV Coverage: 1960 tape of Candidate John Kennedy saying the separation of Church and State is absolute.) But President Reagan says times have changed. (President: "John Kennedy was speaking in an America in which the role of religion, and by that I mean the role of all churches, was secure. Abortion was not a political issue. Prayer was not a political issue.") (TV Coverage shows Mondale in synagogue and in black church.) Theologian Harvey Cox says religion is properly a part of the political debate. (Cox: "It has some bearing on political choices and I think it's much better to have it out, debated, talked about in the open rather than in the alleys.") Cox cautions Republicans and Democrats to remember what Lincoln once said, namely that God's purpose may be different from the purpose of either party. (NBC-12)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

RELIGION AND POLITICS

Morality, Religion, Politics -- "...Mr. Reagan's fervid pulpitry shifts presidential politicking to a plane where issues are only tormented, never illuminated, and where divisiveness rather than consensus is the only possible result. Even worse, his effort to make religion a political issue obscures the topics that need attention, such as nuclear arms and the role of the federal government in American life...." (Hartford Courant, 9/2)

PRESS ACCESS

Ronald Reagan, Far Away -- "...The President is moving the press farther and farther away, and many reporters believe that the real reason for that is that he and his people are afraid that close up he may begin to look a little too old and distracted to run the most powerful country in the world for the next four years. Maybe, though, he won't really be running it after this controlled campaign ends. If Mr. Reagan is re-elected, he can move the press and other outsiders so far away that no one will ever know if he's really there or not." (Baltimore Sun, 9/6)

DEBATES

Keep Journalists Out of debates -- "...There is a function for a moderator who introduces the candidates, explains the ground rules and enforces them by calling time on an overly lengthy answer, for example. But beyond that, there is nothing to be done that cannot be done by the candidates themselves. All four of these individuals are experienced public servants, familiar with the issues and well aware of their differences with their opponents. There is no basis at all for believing that they cannot put their own cases, and challenge their opponents' contentious, as well as anyone in the world...."

(David Broder, Chicago Tribune, 9/1)

PROTECTIONISM

Yielding for Principle -- And for Politics -- "The Reagan Administration, firmly dedicated to free trade, is facing a painful decision on restricting steel imports....In this case, it is a matter of giving an inch on principle in order to defend the rest of the principle.....The word in Washington is that the Administration will yield a little, as it has already, in its stance on free trade in order to avoid having to yield much more. Its major worry is a House bill, backed by the steel industry, to flat-out hold imports to 15 percent of the U.S. market....It is regrettable that the Administration feels impelled to surrender even a small part of the high ground of the principle of free trade. But what it is considering is less an assault on the principle than the House bill -- and it may lessen the effects of the political assault on Republican policies by Democrats in the nation's industrial heartland."

(Tampa Tribune, 8/31)