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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

PRESIDENT OFFERS RENEWED DIALOGUE TO SOVIETS AT U.N. -- President Reagan doesn't expect the Soviet Union to do any substantive talking with the United States on arms control and other critical issues until next spring at the earliest, but he is using his visit to the U.N. to give the Soviets a rationale for renewing high-level dialogue.
(AP, UPI, Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. ENVOY INVESTIGATING EMBASSY BOMBING TRAVELS TO DAMASCUS -- An American envoy is in Damascus for talks with Syrian leaders as U.S. warships cruised off the Lebanese coast and officials press their search for clues to the U.S. Embassy bombing.
(New York Times, Washington Post, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

BUSH CAMPAIGNING IN MIDWEST -- Vice President Bush planned to devote two and a half days of a four-day trip to Illinois before traveling on to Indiana, Michigan and Pennsylvania.
(AP)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Sunday Evening)

PRESIDENT AT UNITED NATIONS -- President Reagan flew to New York for his first encounter with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

TRIP NEWS.....A-2

CAMPAIGN -- Walter Mondale came out of church and went off to give a couple of Sunday lessons of his own.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....A-4

MIDDLE EAST -- The U.S. is exploring the possibility of acting as mediator between Syria and Israel for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-8

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

Ambassador Kirkpatrick suggested Washington would like to strike back at its terrorist enemies, but who are they?

WEEKEND TV TALK SHOWS....B-4

TRIP NEWS

REAGAN TO STRESS ARMS CONTROL, U.S.-SOVIET TIES

NEW YORK (Patricia Wilson, Reuter) -- President Reagan, after breaking the ice at an informal meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, today is to declare U.S. willingness for constructive negotiations with the Soviet Union. In a speech to the United Nations, Reagan would stress "the imperative of reducing nuclear arms, the importance of solving regional disagreements and the opportunities for broadening bilateral exchanges," a senior Administration official said.

ARMS CONTROL VITAL, REAGAN TELLS GROMYKO

NEW YORK (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1) -- President Reagan, meeting Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko for the first time as President, declared that the United States "wants nothing less than a realistic, constructive, long-term relationship with the Soviet Union."

President Offers Renewed Dialogue to Soviets at U.N.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3) -- The tone of the President's remarks at a reception for heads of states and delegations was bright and optimistic, and that optimism is expected to dominate his speech to the General Assembly today and his meeting in the White House Friday with Gromyko.

(Barry Schweid, AP) -- President Reagan, reaching out to the Soviet Union in this election year, is proposing "a realistic, constructive, long-term relationship" to reduce weapons stockpiles and improve prospects for world peace.

(Helen Thomas, UPI) -- Reagan and Gromyko chatted amiably and smiled frequently at the reception thrown by Reagan at the Starlight Ballroom in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Reagan Sees Gromyko, Urges Better Relations

(Henry Trewhitt, Baltimore Sun, A1) -- Mr. Reagan will address the General Assembly today. Secretary Shultz said the President would offer new approaches regarding negotiations with the Soviet Union and, more broadly, how to deal with pressing world issues.

PRESIDENT SAYS ANNEX SECURITY WAS INCOMPLETE

NEW YORK (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A13) -- President Reagan said that security arrangements were "not complete" at the United States Embassy annex outside Beirut hit by a car bomb attack last week, comparing it to a kitchen remodeling job not finished "as soon as you'd wish."

Reagan Says There Was No Negligence in Beirut

(Washington Times, A7) -- "The move was made (to the new annex building two months ago) because it represented a safer territory, a safer building," Mr. Reagan said in answer to questions at his meeting with Argentine President Alfonsin. "But work had to be done. Anyone that's ever had their kitchen done over knows that it never gets done as soon as you wish it would."

Reagan Concedes Embassy Security Was Not Complete

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1) -- But the President argued that even though the new embassy in the East Beirut suburb was not completely outfitted the move had to be carried out. State Department officials said Mr. Reagan was referring to the decision to move the embassy from temporary headquarters in West Beirut.

(Helen Thomas, UPI) -- The Mondale camp has turned the attack into a campaign issue, saying that some of the three bombings of U.S. installations in Beirut could have been avoided.

REAGAN-ALFONSIN

NEW YORK (R. Gregory Nokes, AP) -- President Reagan met with Argentine President Alfonsin and praised Argentina's progress toward democracy, Secretary Shultz said.

REAGAN TO STRESS FOREIGN POLICY

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1) -- President Reagan embarks today on a week of foreign policy ventures aimed at completing the transformation of what was once his most serious political liability into a reelection asset.

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS TAKE SPOTLIGHT IN PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

(Charles Aldinger, Reuter) -- The chilly state of U.S.-Soviet relations was captured in the spotlight in the presidential campaign as both candidates prepare for meetings this week with Foreign Minister Gromyko. President Reagan addresses the United Nations today and meets Gromyko in Washington Friday.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. AIDE MEETS WITH ASSAD

NEW YORK (Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1) -- A senior State Department official, Richard Murphy, met with Syrian President Assad in Damascus as the United States undertook a renewed effort to arrange the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, according to Administration officials.

U.S. Envoy in Syria on Peace Quest

(Henry Trewhitt, Baltimore Sun, A1) -- Senior Administration officials said Murphy was trying to determine what American role would be practical.

(Peter Smerdon, UPI) -- U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Murphy's arrival in Damascus coincided with Syrian charges that U.S. warships were deployed off Lebanon for possible retaliatory by U.S. and Israeli forces.

3 Navy Ships Arrive Off Lebanon as a U.S. Envoy Visits Damascus

(John Kifner, New York Times, A1) -- The purpose of the naval movements off Lebanon was not known but it appeared, like Murphy's visit, to be intended as a sign of support and encouragement to the government of President Gemayel.

ISRAEL DROPS CALL FOR JOINT PULLOUT FROM LEBANON

JERUSALEM (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A1) -- Israel has dropped its demand that Syria withdraw its troops from Lebanon at the same time Israel does, and it will consider a unilateral troop pullback if given assurances that Syria will later also withdraw, Israeli officials said.

U.S. OFFICIALS MAY BE READYING NEW MIDEAST PEACE PUSH

NEW YORK (R. Gregory Nokes, AP) -- The Reagan Administration appears poised for a new round of diplomacy aimed at bringing peace to Lebanon in response to an Israeli plea for assistance in pulling its troops out. Secretary Shultz said in New York that although the Administration has left Lebanon alone since the collapse of the U.S.-brokered 1983 troop withdrawal agreement, the time might be right for another try.

ISRAEL ASKS U.S. TO RENEW LEBANON DIPLOMACY

NEW YORK (William Scally, Reuter) -- Israel has asked the United States to resume active diplomacy in Lebanon and Secretary Shultz says the Reagan Administration wants to be helpful in the region.

RELOCATION OF U.S. EMBASSY IN ISRAEL
SEEN LESS LIKELY AFTER BEIRUT BOMBING

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A2) -- The recent terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon may make it less likely that the United States will move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, congressional sources said.

WINS...

BIDEN CHARGES U.S. MIDEAST POLICY IS 'CONSISTENTLY NAIVE'

(Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A7) -- The Reagan Administration's security arrangements for the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon came under fire. Embassies can be "made more secure," said Sen. Biden, charging that Administration officials were "not doing their job."

FIVE EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS ARE EVACUATED FROM LEBANON

BEIRUT (Washington Times, A7) -- Five embassy staff members injured in the car-bomb explosion at the U.S. Embassy annex in East Beirut were evacuated, and temporary replacements arrived from the United States, U.S. officials reported.

MILITARY TO HONOR SERVICEMEN KILLED IN BEIRUT

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (UPI) -- Today at the East Coast's largest military mortuary, memorials for the two servicemen killed in the second terrorist suicide bomb attack on a U.S. installation in 11 months are planned.

NICARAGUAN SWITCH ON ACCORD IS SUSPECT

PANAMA CITY (Jay Mallin Sr., Washington Times, A1) -- Despite Nicaragua's dramatic shift to acceptance of the Contadora accord that would allow democratic elections in Central America, suspicion was voiced in the region this past weekend that important problems still exist.

NICARAGUA SAYS U.S.-BACKED REBELS PLANNING MAJOR SABOTAGE

(Nancy Nusser, UPI) -- The Nicaraguan government says 1,500 U.S.-financed rebels have entered the country's northern provinces from neighboring Honduras in preparation for a major sabotage campaign before national elections in November.

U.S. ARMY CLOSING SCHOOL FOR LATIN OFFICERS IN PANAMA

FORT GULICK, Panama (Edward Cody, Washington Post, A12) -- The U.S. Army School of the Americas formally has closed its doors after 38 years of training Latin American soldiers and weaving an old-boy network for U.S. influence among the hemisphere's military elite.

UNESCO SESSION MAY DECIDE IF U.S. STAYS

PARIS (Washington Times, A7) -- The executive board of UNESCO begins three weeks of meetings Wednesday that are likely to determine whether the United States goes through with its decision to withdraw from the organization.

U.S. MAY LAG IN BIO-CHEMICAL DEFENSE PLAN

(Washington Times, A4) -- The international increase in chemical and biological weapons has outstripped both the ability of U.S. intelligence to monitor the growth and arms control accords to control it. Those conclusions -- or warnings -- came from a recent classified briefing of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence by government specialists in intelligence, defense and arms control.

PROXMIRE HITS STATE DEPT. TRAVEL

(Washington Times, A4) -- The State Department spent more than \$400,000 in two years on ocean travel, mostly first class, for embassy employees who could have flown for a fraction of the cost, Sen. Proxmire said. Proxmire gave the department his Golden Fleece Award.

**ECONOMIC RECOVERY, DEBT FACE GATHERING
OF WORLD FINANCE MINISTERS**

(Sally Jacobsen, AP) -- Against a backdrop of rebounding world economy, finance ministers from around the world were sitting down today to share their hopes for a continuing recovery and their worries about the debt problems of Third World nations.

Joint IMF-Bank Panel Says Trade Protectionism Major Problem

(Alver Carlson, Reuter) -- A joint committee of the IMF and the World Bank said trade protectionism was a major problem and called for concrete measures to stop it from spreading.

World Bank Urges Urgent Effort to Rescue African Nations

(Gene Kramer, AP) -- The World Bank, opening its annual meeting today, is urging governments to join in an urgent effort to avert what it called "the specter of disaster that confronts Africa."

Aid Reform Is Urged for Africa

(Stephen Nordlinger, Baltimore Sun, A1) -- In a 102-page report, the bank said large amounts of aid to Africa from the industrialized nations had been wasted over the years on the building of hotels, large conference and university centers, highways and other "white elephants" the countries could not afford to maintain.

**SOVIETS' NEXT CHANGE OF LEADERS
IS EXPECTED TO HAVE LASTING EFFECT**

MOSCOW (Frederick Kempe, Wall Street Journal, A1) -- From small details, Kremlin-watchers are trying to piece together a profile of Grigori Romanov and others in the new generation of Soviet leaders. Their findings gain interest as Moscow nears what almost surely will be the most important transfer of power since Stalin's death. The next leader, it is felt, could dominate the Soviet Union for the next 20 years.

CHERNENKO TURNS 73 TODAY

MOSCOW (John Iams, UPI) -- President Chernenko received the Order of Lenin and the Gold Hammer and Sickle, the Soviet Union's two highest awards, on the eve of his 73rd birthday today.

PROBABLY DOESN'T LIKE APPLE PIE EITHER

LONDON (UPI) -- British author Graham Greene doesn't like the United States, Americans and most of all, President Reagan. So said the novelist in an interview published to mark his approaching 80th birthday. In his interview with British novelist Martin Amis, Greene said he was "amused and interested" to hear that Reagan would meet Foreign Minister Gromyko. "I don't think he (Gromyko) will allow Reagan to pass himself off as a peacemaker," Greene said.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "War Games Raise Havoc in West Germany," a feature by Walter Pincus on the property damage and problems faced by the common West German while the annual fall NATO military exercises go on in that country, appears on page A1 of The Washington Post.

The second of three articles on the Soviet Union, "Glum Times For Country's Intelligentsia," is on page A1 of The Washington Post.

NATIONAL NEWS

BUSH CAMPAIGNING IN MIDWEST

(Terence Hunt, AP) -- Vice President Bush is setting out on a campaign trip to four industrial heartland states offering nearly a third of the electoral votes President Reagan needs to win a second term but suffering higher-than-average unemployment that could hurt the GOP ticket.

REGARDLESS OF WINNER, DERATE PACT IS HISTORIC BREAKTHROUGH

("Reagan & Co.," Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A2) -- President Reagan's strategists won all of the battles in negotiations with Walter Mondale's representatives on presidential debates, but they may have provided Mondale with a long-shot opportunity to win the war. Mondale's real victory is that the Reagan side agreed to any debate.

REAGAN'S FAST START INCREASES OPTIMISM OF HILL REPUBLICANS

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4) -- President Reagan's strong campaign start has contributed to a surge of optimism among Republicans in both houses of Congress, reviving hopes for some endangered GOP senators and rekindling dreams of rebirth of the functional "Reagan majority" in the House.

DEMOCRATS TO TRY TO TURN CRIME AGAINST REAGAN

(Larry Margasak, AP) -- House Democrats, stung by President Reagan's persistent criticism of their handling of his anti-crime proposals, say they plan to make an issue of Republican-led defeat of a bill to tighten the use of the insanity defense.

MONDALE ATTACKS REAGAN'S TACTICS

(Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A3) -- Walter Mondale appealed to fellow Democrats and other voters to "take a second look at the Republican home they're being sold" by President Reagan's use of statements by past Democratic presidents to buttress his cause.

(Mike Shanahan, AP) -- Facing polls showing substantial numbers of Democrats are ready to vote for Reagan, Mondale said the President has been doing a "cynical rewrite of history" by praising past Democratic heroes like John F. Kennedy, Harry S. Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Mondale Says GOP Intends to 'Control Your Private Life'

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A2) -- In his weekly paid political broadcast, the former vice president charged that the President's party, as represented by its most recent national convention, wants to put "government between you and the most private choices of your life."

MONDALE: REAGAN SHOULD CALL OFF HECKLERS

(Matthew Quinn, UPI) -- Walter Mondale wants President Reagan to make a "clear statement" and issue orders to Republican committees nationwide calling off the hecklers that have dogged the Democratic ticket. "He hasn't done that," the Democratic candidate said. "I wish he would." The Reagan-Bush campaign, however, angrily denies any involvement in the heckling.

MONDALE'S CAMPAIGN MAY JUST BENEFIT
FROM NEWEST ISSUE: ALLEGED DIRTY TRICKS

(David Shribman and Rich Jaroslovsky, Wall Street Journal, A64) -- Walter Mondale's lagging presidential campaign may have found a new issue to stir support -- the demonstrations that have greeted him and his running mate in campaign stops last week. The Mondale campaign has stopped short of accusing President Reagan and his aides of masterminding the protests. But a top Mondale aide called on the President to order an internal investigation.

HART CASTIGATES REAGAN, MONDALE

(Washington Post, A3) -- Sen. Gary Hart said that President Reagan and Walter Mondale practice "old politics at its worst" and added that he probably would be ahead in 12 states if he were the Democratic presidential nominee.

FERRARO'S CAMPAIGN: CRASH COURSE IN NATIONAL POLITICS

COSTA MESA, Calif. (Ann Blackman, AP) -- Slowly but surely, Geraldine Ferraro is adjusting to the rhythms of the campaign trail, a marathon test not only of political skills but of patience, humor and endurance.

WHAT THE MEESE FIGHT IS REALLY ABOUT

(News analysis by Mike Feinsilber, AP) -- From one viewpoint, the fight over the fitness of Edwin Meese to serve as attorney general was over ethics. But that was only part of the story. Much of the opposition facing Meese was based on his political philosophy rather than his ethics.

47 FARMERS HIT \$1 MILLION JACKPOT IN PAYMENTS-IN-KIND

(Washington Times, A5) -- Forty-seven farmers each received government-owned commodities worth more than \$1 million in return for not growing crops in 1983 under the Reagan Administration's payment-in-kind program, according to the Agriculture Department.

(Barry Massey, AP) -- They were among about 12,000 farmers who each got government-owned commodities and supports worth more than \$100,000 for not growing crops, the department said.

BUSINESS FORECAST: CLEAR SKIES AND A DISTANT STORM WARNING

(Martin Crutsinger, AP) -- The current economic recovery should continue for at least another nine months, but after that rising interest rates and giant federal budget deficits make a recession more and more likely, a national group of economists said.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK: VP, ENTOURAGE TAKE OVER RESTAURANT

BURLINGTON, Vt. (Terence Hunt, AP) -- After traveling through three states, delivering four speeches, contending with hecklers and a faulty sound system, answering questions at two news conferences and again at a meeting with students, the work day was finally over for George Bush. It was time to relax. The Vice President and his wife, Barbara, and another couple slipped into his limousine and were driven under police escort to the Ice House, a shoreside restaurant at picturesque Lake Champlain.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Tax Debate: Wide Issues," a news analysis by Peter Kilborn, appears on page A1 of The New York Times.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR SUNDAY EVENING, September 23, 1984

(NOTE: ABC only. CBS and NBC did not air due to football games)

PRESIDENT AT UNITED NATIONS (lead story)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan flew to New York today for his first encounter with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. Mr. Reagan speaks tomorrow to the United Nations General Assembly. But it was the prospect of seeing Gromyko at a reception tonight, however briefly, on which attention was centered -- attention that Rita Flynn reports only the President can command.

Flynn: Arriving in New York, the President tonight gets his first chance to size up Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, who will be among the guests at a reception the Reagans are hosting for United Nations diplomats. (TV coverage: the Reagans arriving in New York.) But first Mr. Reagan gave Walter Mondale one more lesson in what an incumbent can do that a challenger cannot. It was one photo opportunity after another (TV coverage of President meeting with foreign dignitaries and at luncheon) with Ronald Reagan depicted as a world leader sitting down to talk with foreign dignitaries, including his first meeting ever with Raoul Alfonsin, the recently-elected president of Argentina. During remarks later this evening, Mr. Reagan will sell the same message of hope he's been delivering to campaign audiences at home, advancing an optimistic vision of the future of the world, pledging to better relations with Moscow. In his U.N. speech tomorrow, Mr. Reagan again tries to block the Democrats' charge that he's quick to resort only to military solutions. He will promise to do more to seek peaceful ways out of international disputes, portraying himself not as a man of war, but as a diplomat at heart.

Donaldson: ABC News will carry President Reagan's speech tomorrow morning to the U.N. live beginning at 10:30 Eastern time.

CAMPAIGN (story #2)

Donaldson: While President Reagan was up in New York today, receiving the undivided attention of observers at home and abroad, the Democrats were escalating their complaints that their top candidates are having a hard time being heard by anyone because of campaign heckling. Walter Mondale led the charge.

Brit Hume: Walter Mondale came out of church this morning and went off to give a couple of Sunday lessons of his own. First he devoted his weekly radio address to answering President Reagan's call to Democrats to join the Republicans. "Their fights are your fights," Mondale warned. Then at a news conference outside the studio, Mondale accepted the first presidential endorsement ever from the Women's National Political Caucus. But the subject soon turned to a topic with which Washington has been buzzing for days -- the heckling Mondale has gotten from Reagan supporters at campaign rallies. Mondale called on the President to stop it.

(Mondale: "I think he ought to stand up and say, 'Look, we've got six weeks to go. This campaign is about our future. There are many issues to be discussed. Let's let the candidates be heard.'")

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR SUNDAY EVENING, September 23, 1984 (continued)

(Hume: continued) In the meantime, his campaign chairman was making a similar appeal on an interview program. (James Johnson on NBC's Meet the Press: "This is a serious matter. People have a right to be heard in presidential politics, and I think whatever possible association there was from the Reagan-Bush campaign for this heckling, should be investigated and stopped.")

And on the same program a leading Congressional Democrat charged that Reagan campaign officials were indeed responsible.

(Rep. Tony Coelho: "They, off camera, or off the record, have bragged about it and they bragged about it all over this town. They have these organized sessions on a daily basis.")

Top Reagan campaign officials have denied involvement in the heckling, and it is worth remembering that Mondale has been badly heckled only once, last Tuesday in Los Angeles, and that gave rise to a strong response from the candidate that had his supporters cheering and his aides smiling.

Donaldson: Last Thursday, President Reagan denied his campaign is organizing the Mondale heckling, and while saying heckling is a fact of life and hecklers have a right to be heard, he said, in Mondale's case, it had been rude and he wished it would stop.

DEBATES (story #3)

Donaldson: Incidentally, Newsweek magazine reports that David Stockman, the budget director, will play the role of Walter Mondale when President Reagan rehearses for his upcoming debates with Mondale. Stockman is experienced. In 1980, he played the role of Jimmy Carter in similar Reagan rehearsals. This time Stockman will presumably refuse to look at anything remotely resembling a Mondale briefing book.

MIDDLE EAST (story #4)

Donaldson: The U.S. is exploring the possibility of acting as mediator between Syria and Israel for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon. Israel suggested that role this weekend, and a senior U.S. diplomat is now in Damascus testing the waters. Meanwhile, Beirut remains jittery as the investigation continues into Thursday's car-bombing of the U.S. Embassy.

ABC's Charles Glass reports from Beirut: The Lebanese army and Moslem militiamen fired on an unidentified ship off the coast of Beirut, forcing civilians to run for cover. Local radio stations reported the boat fired back, but reported no casualties. The U.S. has ordered three American warships into these trouble waters. The State Department investigation into security measures at the annex is continuing. Assistant Secretary Murphy left Lebanon for Damascus last night after briefing newsmen on his trip. President Gemayel addressed the Lebanese people in a 16-minute televised speech last night, calling on them to unify in order to end the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon.

(Middle East story continued on next page)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR SUNDAY EVENING, September 23, 1984 (continued)

(continued)

ABC's Bob Zelnick reports from Tel Aviv: Three Americans injured in Thursday's bombing were moved to a Tel Aviv hospital today, a change from last October, when Israel's offer to treat wounded Marines was considered diplomatically sensitive and turned down. Israel also sought U.S. help today. Arriving in New York, FM Shamir invited Washington to see if Syria would agree to keep the PLO from returning to eastern Lebanon if Israel withdraws. President Reagan's response was cautious. (President: "I don't think it would be good for me to comment now on what might be or get into hypotheticals. We're interested in peace in the Middle East and let's leave it at that.") Diplomatic sources here say Assistant Secretary Murphy will be testing Syria's response to the proposed Israeli tradeoff of withdrawal for security. In Western Lebanon today, nine more Israelis were injured in three separate incidents, including a PLO attack.

ABC's Dennis Troute: Ambassador Kirkpatrick suggested Washington would like to strike back at its terrorist enemies, but the problem is, who are they? Kirkpatrick spoke on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley." (Kirkpatrick: "We cannot continue to accept such attacks on Americans and American people. I think that's quite clear. Now, it's also clear, though, we have to know who they are and we have to know where they are.") Kirkpatrick is the latest of several Administration officials, including the President, to suggest that retaliation won't occur. Sen. Biden said the Administration should have prevented last week's attack by moving more quickly to improve security arrangements at U.S. embassies, but admits that dealing forcefully with terrorist opponents is hard, because U.S. intelligence agencies lack information about them. And intelligence analysts say Washington won't hit hard at terrorists even when they are pinpointed for fear of inflaming anti-U.S. feelings in the world. That's especially true now; with Washington poised to mediate between Syria and Israel, the Administration may not want to lessen its diplomatic clout in the region by campaigning against terrorists who are certain to have powerful Arab friends.

Donaldson: Mondale kept up his attack on President Reagan over the embassy bombing, saying the U.S. had once again been humiliated in Lebanon as the result of inadequate presidential leadership. And Mondale's campaign manager, Jim Johnson, said the bombing will remain a political issue until Mr. Reagan answers the question, how could it happen again? In New York, the President rejected any suggestion of negligence, saying 75% of all security devices were in place at the embassy. And he said the delay in completing the other work was like home remodeling. Anyone that's ever had a kitchen done over, said the President, knows it never gets done as soon as you wish it would.

-end of ABC Network News-

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ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Interviewers: David Brinkley, George Will, Sam Donaldson

Guests: Donald Rumsfeld, Senator Joseph Biden, Jr. (D., Del) and
Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick

Interview with Donald Rumsfeld on Beirut:

Brinkley: What would you say is the proper course now for the U.S. in the Middle East?

Rumsfeld: The important thing for the country is to appreciate what terrorism is. The purpose is to terrorize and the reality is we live in a dangerous world and in fact terrorism, works. What the U.S. needs to do is to understand that it is a type of warfare....The first thing we have to do is not withdraw from the world and to recognize that while we can undertake certain security measures, the reality is that security simply forces a change in tactics....The fact of a terrorist act does not mean our policy is wrong, it does not mean we should change it.

Will: Terrorism works. Isn't this the problem and hasn't it worked uncommonly effectively against this Administration? Doesn't this Administration therefore bear a very heavy burden for having encouraged this kind of attack?

Rumsfeld: It's terribly important that we not allow it work, that we not alter our policy. And yet it can, as you point out, erode support for a policy.

Will: Do you believe that it is impossible to stop a truck from driving up to an American embassy?

Rumsfeld: The fact is that terrorists can attack at any place, at any time, using any method, and as long as you are going to function in the world, it is impossible to defend against any attack at every time and -- so that the security approach is important, but it's not the right way to approach the problem.

Donaldson: Should we now retaliate?

There's no question but that there are instances when it would be appropriate. The first thing that needs to be done is to improve our intelligence gathering capability. A second thing is to "leproidize" the states that are engaged in state-sponsored terrorism; they can be isolated politically and economically....The reality is that if an individual is willing to give their lives, they can in fact find opportunities to kill people. Every time I was in Lebanon, we were at risk. Does that mean we shouldn't go there? George Shultz and Ambassador Bartholomew are very sensitive to security problems. They are doing an excellent job in this area. We're spending something like 15 percent of the State Department budget on security, over \$200 million.

Donaldson: Jimmy Carter had to take responsibility for the capture of our people in Iran. Don't you think Ronald Reagan ought to take responsibility for what's happened in Lebanon?

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ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Rumsfeld: I can understand the overriding desire to make everything that happens in the world political. What I am talking about is a fundamental activity that's taking place on this globe; it's changing the balance of power; it is an act which is able to negate all the strength or power or riches of other countries, to achieve political goals. It's something that we as a country have to address on a bipartisan basis.

* * *

Interview with Senator Biden:

Brinkley: Do you find it difficult to understand how the same murderous stunt can be pulled three times in the same city? Beirut.

Biden: I don't think the issue is whether or not we can stop all terrorism. I think the first issue was, can we stop car bombs and truck bombs. And I found it somewhat interesting when I got my recent brief, on Friday, about how we can't be too protective -- we send the wrong signals, the wrong images, we have too much out there. It has to be open and et cetera. And yet I seem to recall not too long ago seeing trucks filled with sandbags in front of the White House while we were waiting to put up guards. Why couldn't we have had two trucks? I don't understand. I think it comes down to a consistently naive and overly optimistic view about what our policy is or should be in the Middle East and the prospects for progress.

Will: Should someone take responsibility for failure?

Biden: It seems to me someone should.

Will: Who?

Biden: The answer is, we don't know the answer to that yet, and it's either someone in State --

Will: How about the Secretary of Defense who says that is beyond the wit of the United States Marines to stop truck bombs?

Biden: Well, the Secretary of Defense, I think should resign for reasons other than that. I mean, I have very serious policy disagreements with him in the whole region --

Brinkley: You mean you think he should have resigned two or three years ago.

Biden: Oh, yes, I think he should have resigned two or three years ago. I don't think he understands, very bluntly, what's at stake in the Middle East, and I think we have no policy in the Middle East. We haven't had a policy for some time. And I might say, that goes back to the Carter years too. But the irony here is, I think we are all finally beginning to admit that in fact the same thing that plagued Carter is now plaguing this Administration. There are certain things that we can in fact do to protect what are the most egregious terrorist activities. The problem is that we have Defense now blaming State; State will blame Defense; and the President is supporting everybody.

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ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Donaldson: It seems to be understood that four Americans recently kidnapped in Lebanon, a diplomat, a journalist, a pastor, et cetera, we know where they are, we know where they are being held. They are hostages. They are American.s Why don't we go free them?

Biden: Two reasons: we are concerned that in going after them we may have them forfeit their lives. The second answer I suspect you would get is that you may very well complicate very complicated circumstances which are being worked on diplomatically in the Middle East --

...I listen to a President stand there, as other Presidents have, and say this is a horrible thing, and we are going to retaliate, and we'll take any action, and that's what should stop. We should either put up or shut up.

Donaldson: To be fair, Mr. Reagan specifically did not say we would retaliate in this case.

Biden: In this case, in the past, he has, and in the past Jimmy Carter has. It's kind of ironic ... two kinds of Presidents in a row, embroiled in the same thing, and each having to change significantly the rhetoric they've used.

* * *

Interview with Ambassador Kirkpatrick:

Brinkley: What should we do at this point?

Kirkpatrick: I think we need to face, a good deal more realistically than we have, that while Lebanon is in some sense both at peace and conflicted, there are people in Lebanon who are really quite literally at war with us. ...no one was really focusing on the fact that Muamar Khadaffi and some other important people in the world have said outright that their intention is to drive the U.S. and the West out of Lebanon for once and for all. And they clearly are using all violent means at their disposal to do that.

Will: Isn't it rational for them to do that, given that one truck did drive the Marines out of Lebanon?

Kirkpatrick: I don't think one truck drove the Marines out of Lebanon. I think there's a lot of mythology about Lebanon, frankly. People don't face the fact that we went to Lebanon as part of an international peace-keeping group with the British and the French and the Italians for the purpose of reinforcing what was a very shaky peace. And it turned out that there were people there who wanted control over Lebanon a lot more than they wanted peace. There was a kind of a mistake about that. It was a mistake shared by the British and the French and the Italians. But we were there as a peace-keeping mission, not to impose American will, at all. And that bombing didn't drive us out. What drove the British and the French and the Italians and us all out was the realization that that peace-keeping force could not perform the functions that it was there to perform under the circumstances of continuing violence there.

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Will: A premise of the Reagan campaign of 1980 and of the rhetoric since then has been that those who strike at the United States cannot do so with impunity because there will be a price to pay. Are you saying that because Khadaffi explicitly says he's part of the campaign to drive us out, we perhaps should retaliate against him and others who are similarly vocal, even though we can't connect them with this particular act?

Kirkpatrick: No, I'm not saying that. But I am saying that we need to face the fact that there are people determined to drive the U.S. and the West out of Lebanon.

Will: How do we raise the price of their doing so?

Kirkpatrick. I'm sure it's important to do so. We need to face the fact that we're operating in Lebanon in a zone where some people are at war with us. We are not at war with them; they are at war with us. And then we've got to take measures that are appropriate of that fact.

Donaldson: Should we retaliate directly against groups that have been killing our people?

Kirkpatrick: I think it is perfectly clear that we cannot continue accept such attacks on American and American people. It's also clear that we have to know who they are and where they are. We know in a rough kind of way who they are. We know Khadaffi, for example, claimed credit for having driven, as he put it, the British and the French and the Italians, the Americans and the Israelis out before, and he said that the revolutionary Syrians and Lebanese and PLO and Libyans did it. And that they were proud of it, and that they were proud of it, and that they would continue their war against us. But we have to know which Lebanese and Syrians and Iranians and Libyans --

Donaldson: Is it a failure of intelligence services?

Kirkpatrick: Obviously we don't know as much as we need to and as we wish we did. I think we are falling into this "it must be our fault" syndrome. I think we are falling into the "blame America first" syndrome again, in this whole discussion, because we are not really facing the difficulty of the problem and the measures that have been taken already, and the fact that there is an investigating team, too on the spot, and we're going to take more measures.

...I would like to say that it's the first time in my experience in the last three-and-a-half years that the Reagan Administration and the President, specifically, have been widely accused of being too restrained in the use of force. A lot of people try to present the President as a gunslinger, ready to resort to force at the drop of a hat. Now, you are suggesting, all of you as I hear you, that the United States is being too slow in fact to retaliate with force against these people. That's a new thing in this campaign and this administration.

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Brinkley: A great many countries and a great many people in the Middle East and elsewhere have learned that terrorism works. They have learned that it is very difficult for a civilized country, like ours, to respond. Where does that lead?

Kirkpatrick: It leads to the conclusion of how very difficult it is for civilized people committed to the rule of law and concern about human life to live and defend themselves where the lines between civilians and military and war and peace are systematically obliterated. And obviously we've got to face this and we've got to face it squarely as a people and adapt to it. We have to do this on a bi-partisan basis. We can't do it in a what that then if the U.S. attempts to retaliate or undertakes retaliation we are then accused of resorting at the drop of a hat to disproportionate force or gunsling or something of that sort. It's a perfect example of a policy that needs bipartisan seriousness and bipartisan support.

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Round-robin Discussion...

Brinkley: What might we expect from the Reagan/Gromyko meeting?

Hodding Carter: Virtually nothing. A meeting like this which follows no substantive meetings at any working level is going to be very strong on headlines and very short on substance.

Donaldson: The White House will seek to portray this meeting as an example of how the Soviets will in fact deal with Ronald Reagan and he can in fact deal with the Soviets, after three-and-a-half years of do-dealing on the presidential level at all. I suspect the Soviets are not going to come out of that meeting saying we decided Ronald Reagan was a nice guy after all, because they've heard him for three-and-a-half years -- the evil empire...

Brinkley: They've never said that any president was a nice guy, have they?

Donaldson: No, but they've been able to deal with some other American presidents. But this President who has excoriated them repeatedly in public and who displays his lack of knowledge on the facts -- he believes that submarine-based missiles can be recalled, for instance -- is one that I think the Soviets are not going to come out and help with some sort of a White House driveway statement, to the effect that the meeting was substantive and made progress.

Brinkley: Do you think Reagan has really been too easy on the Russians with his rough language?

Will: I think he's been descriptive in his language. I don't think his behavior conforms to it. When Gromyko walks in the room, in private, why doesn't he say, "How's the family? How's the weather? When are you going to stop torturing the Sakharovs? When are you going to quit butchering Afghanistan? When are you going to quit destabilizing Central America? Why do we want amity in a case like this?"

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

Donaldson: If he does that, the atmosphere will not be conducive to Gromyko responding anyway but "butt out, it's none of your business."

Will: Who cares? It is our business. They signed the Helsinki agreements. Then he can go on to the 26-or-so violations of the arms control agreement.

Carter: This meeting is as good a demonstration as the explosion in Lebanon. After all the tough talk is over, this Administration has to face the same kinds of reality that past Administrations have faced. You have to talk to the Russians. You have to acknowledge...

Will: Why?

Carter: Because they are the other great power in this world, and to simply stand there and say we have nothing to say to you, you're good guys, we're to simply vacate the stage. We need demonstrated that, while you can say all that good tough talk, when the tough talk is over, you can't do anything about a bombing in Beirut and you can't do anything except talk to the Russians.

Will: They signed these agreements. We're so proud of them. You can talk about all the Helsinki violations and all the SALT I and SALT II violations. Why don't we do that? That's talking to the Russians. Why does it only count as "talking to the Russians," if we avoid the subjects.

Carter: You can do anything you wish, but the regular talking with your chief adversary at least allows you to do something more than stand on a stump, wave the flag, beat your chest, and do nothing. which is what this Administration...

Donaldson: I'm certain there will be no substantive talks with the Russians.

Brinkley: Why are they bothering to meet?

Donaldson: Mr. Reagan hasn't met a Soviet official except for Anatoly Dobrynin, the Ambassador to Washington. And also Mr. Gromyko is the closest to someone that we think holds power rather than Chernenko, so I suppose Mr. Reagan will be talking to one of their top men. The point is until after the election, I don't think there will be any purpose served in the next 60 days, and after that, if Mr. Reagan is reelected....

Brinkley: Meaning it's a waste of time?

Donaldson: No, it's a question of what policy will be followed after the election if he's reelected. Will he be the Ronald Reagan of 25 years of virulent anti-Communism, who never met one that he liked, except the Chinese Communists? Or will it be a new Reagan, born-again, of a new feeling for the world?

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ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY (continued)

On politics and heckling:

Will: In terms of heckling and actually drowning out a speaker, Ronald Reagan became governor of California, in no small measure because of the mis-behavior of such students at Berkeley. He knows the danger of a backlash from this, and he should speak out about it. But that's not what Ms. Ferraro's problem is. The problem is the issue of abortion. The fact is she's trying to have it both ways. She wants to rise in the Democratic Party by adhering to the liberal catechism on abortion which means you have to be not just in favor of free choice, but subsidizing abortions with the taxpayers money, of many people who consider it murder, and she wants to be useful to Democrats appealing to Catholic voters. She's having a lot of trouble doing that because her position is akin -- as a lot of the protesters say -- to saying I'm morally opposed to slavery but I don't mind my neighbors owning a few, and if they're poor, I'll vote a subsidy for them to buy some. She has an incoherent position. She loves the '73 Supreme Court decision, or at least a lot of the people who support her do. It nationalized the issue; it Constitutionalized the issue, and it's going to be with us for the rest of our lives. When she drives up, there are going to be people with signs, because this is a burning issue.

Carter: Mrs. Ferraro's position may be confused, but it accurately reflects the majority of the Catholics of this country. And if you read the polls, you'll understand that the hecklers out there are not speaking for the majority of the Catholics. Mrs. Ferraro is. Read them and weep. The organized opposition, which is stepping forth on this issue, is speaking for a very real, but minority view. The Catholics, who presume to speak for the faith on this, can't have it both ways either. They can't pretend they are speaking for the Catholics of this country, who don't agree with it as the same time they are saying Mrs. Ferraro is trying to have it both ways.

Donaldson: Mrs. Ferraro's position is not the issue here. I think everyone recognizes that heckling is part of our system. It is part of the price you pay if you are a candidate, but if a political...

Carter: I worked for something called "front-lash" in the 1964 Johnson campaign, whose major function was to make sure there was organized heckling of Goldwater every place that he went.

Donaldson: ...if a political party or political opponent organizes heckling for the purposes of disrupting the opponent's ability to hold a rally and the opponent's ability to be heard, that is not free speech.

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CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guest: Terrorism expert Robert Kupperman of Georgetown University.

Stahl: Some people in the Administration are saying that (the embassy bombing in Lebanon) couldn't have been prevented anyway.

Kupperman: I respectfully disagree. Right after the last Beirut incident we had dump trucks in front of the White House with sand in them. It was also do-able to create pop-up barriers, automatic pits, and have dogs that sense explosives.

Stahl: And they did get that call on September 8th, warning that something like this was going to happen?

Kupperman: We get lots of such things, everything from kooks to potentially very serious.

Stahl: Let me ask you about pre-emptive strikes. Are these possible? Do we know enough about who they are in any place?

Kupperman: If you don't mind killing a lot of the wrong people, sure. If we bungle it, and it appears that we bungled it really badly, and we got the wrong people, and maybe some of our people get caught, hanged, Syria, Iran, wherever, we're going to find ourselves in a curious problem. Not only is there the risk of escalation, to actual military confrontation, there's the other side of it. These people may, with some degree of justice, particularly the ones who had nothing to do with hurting us, decide through their own cell structure in the U.S., which exists, to go attack here, and then we're going to have an excuse for unbridled intelligence that will actually begin in the U.S.

Stahl: They've already threatened to attack here. That's why we do have the barriers up at the White House.

Kupperman: Threats are one thing, an actual attack, where we had a giant car bomb or van, or maybe even worse, radiological or chemical weapons...all of this is do-able. We're not doing a steady, stage planning for it. We're reacting. Whether we react well or poorly per incident, no matter what the time horizon is between the highs and lows of hysteria to apathy, we're not doing our job.

Guests: Senators Richard G. Lugar and Patrick J. Leahy, members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Stahl: Do you have any hint that the Administration is planning a retaliatory strike?

CBS -- FACE THE NATION (continued)

Leahy: If there is a planning of one, the last thing that should be done is to discuss it publicly and what's going to be done. One of the big mistakes after the bombing of our Embassy is we talked about retaliation. After the massacre of the Marines, the Administration talked again about retaliation. You can't cry wolf in this. You cry wolf, you encourage more terrorist things, you don't discourage them. If there is going to be retaliation, they we ought to find out who to retaliate against and then do it swiftly, surely, and talk about it afterward.

Stahl: Do you think there should be a strike in this case?

Lugar: If the violators can be found, and if we are certain of who did it.

Stahl: You're both suggesting that we don't know who did it. What's wrong with our intelligence?

Leahy: I think when you're dealing with terrorist groups, especially if it is a small terrorist group, it's very, very difficult.

Stahl: This is the third bombing done in the same fashion. We have been reading the same names over and over. Why can't the CIA tell us whether they are involved or not?

Lugar: Intelligence leads have been followed. It is important for us to begin tightening further all of our procedures. Both the Carter and Reagan Administrations have been doing progressively.

Stahl: Have we had some successes (in preventing terrorist attacks)?

Leahy: There have been. The issue here is was there adequate security, and there was not adequate security. There was an absolute lack of security in the Marines when they were massacred last year. No matter how good our intelligence is, the terrorism is going to be there in the Middle East, and it's going to continue.

Stahl: How do you explain how this could happen again in the same way?

Lugar: A choice was made to move our Embassy personnel to East Beirut as opposed to the vulnerability in the West. The possibilities of security not being 100% completed were there.

Stahl: Last time, nobody was fired. Nobody was blamed. Is that going to happen again this time?

Leahy: Had we actually fired some people, and had we pointed out where those mistakes were, maybe they would have moved a lot faster in our Embassy now.

Guest: David Aaron, Mondale's foreign policy adviser.

Stahl: Does your campaign have a plan to try and make what happened in Beirut a major campaign issue?

CBS -- FACE THE NATION (continued)

Aaron: No, no. This is a major issue, and it reflects not only the tragedy of the moment, the inadequate security, the failure of Presidential leadership to make sure that all the agencies of government were working together effectively. The event really underscores the fact that we've had four years of policy failures in the Middle East under President Reagan, from the Reagan plan to the whole debacle of Lebanon, and at the end of that rather sad chapter, when he decided to pull the troops out of Lebanon.

Stahl: The Israelis are about to ask the Administration to help mediate the withdrawal of the Israelis from Southern Lebanon.

Aaron: This is the sort of thing that the Reagan Administration should have been doing.

Stahl: If Mondale were President, wouldn't he at some point pressure Israel on anything?

Aaron: I have never seen a case in which pressure of the sort that we saw under the Reagan Administration has been effective in changing Israel's mind over basic security issues.

Stahl: What is happening in this campaign, where Mondale can't take an issue and make it stick?

Aaron: We support the Gromyko talks. That's why Mr. Mondale is going to meet with Mr. Gromyko, to tell him that they ought to get together, they ought to negotiate, they ought to get serious, they ought to accomplish something, and we hope those talks do accomplish something.

Stahl: (Will the situation in Beirut) be an issue in this campaign for the next six weeks?

Aaron: It will be an issue if the President and his advisers continue to refuse to answer questions about it. Was the White House involved in the decision to withdraw the 80 Marines who were protecting that facility before its security was complete, and did they do it for political reasons? This is a very serious charge. The President has said he is satisfied with the security arrangements at the Embassy. Nobody else in the world is satisfied with those arrangements.

Lugar: The Administration will answer, and the Administration will beef up security and do the right things. For these reasons, the issue will be defused.

Leahy: I think if we look powerless in the Middle East, the Americans die, of course that's an issue because it diminishes the United States in a very vital part of the world.

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NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderators: Marvin Kalb and Roger Mudd.

Guests: Rep. Tony Coelho (D.-Cal.), Chairman, Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee; James Johnson, National Chairman, Mondale-Ferraro.

Mudd: In recent weeks you have emerged, if I may put it this way, of "keep your distance from Walter Mondale." You have said the trouble is at the top of the ticket, not with your Congressional Democrats. How can you dump him like he's some George McGovern?

Coelho: First off, we haven't dumped him, and I don't know who told you all these things. There is no bigger fan, better friend, bigger supporter of Walter Mondale than Tony Coelho. Secondly, I am telling our candidates to endorse and promote Mondale's deficit reduction plan. Ronald Reagan has failed to put a plan forward. He believes in "photo ops" instead of facts for the future. We don't feel in trouble. I'll predict again the Democrats in the House will pick up seats in 1984.

Kalb: Mr. Johnson, I'd like to ask you about the heckling Mr. Mondale and Ms. Ferraro have encountered. There is some indication this might be orchestrated heckling. Do you think that's the case?

Johnson: I don't know whether it is or isn't, but I think President Reagan has an obligation to get to the bottom of it. If there's any indication at all that people in his campaign were associated with it, he should take personal responsibility and see to it that it's stopped.

Mudd: What's the matter with that heckling? It's a tradition in Britain.

Johnson: I think what's wrong with it is that it's interfering with the right of a presidential candidate to be heard. This (campaign) is about what kind of future we'll have for our children, what kind of Supreme Court will be appointed, whether we'll have war or peace in Central America and the Middle East. These are big questions, and I don't think anybody has a right to stand between a candidate and the people.

Kalb: No one's arguing, I don't think, that these are small issues, but the President seem to be riding over them, and not going head-to-head with Mondale. He may not do it so long as the polls indicate the kind of big lead he has. What makes you think the voters will turn around to stick with the issues?

Johnson: When you get into a debate with Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale, I think people will see not only are these questions very significant, but there are very substantial differences between Mondale and Reagan, and when they see the differences I think they will be much more inclined to support Mondale.

Mudd: I think it is fair to say that Ronald Reagan has conquered inflation, launched an economic recovery, has reasserted American strength abroad, and he has at least started the regeneration of patriotism. What's left for Mondale? Of course, the tax increase.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Coelho: First off, he's borrowing from the future, and the American people are starting to understand that. We have a President who refuses to sit down and debate, and at the same time has a campaign organization that brags about trying to prevent Mondale and Ferraro from addressing the issues. It's Nofziger and Rollins who are applauding the fact that they have been able to stop the message from getting out.

Mudd: How is somebody going to vote for Mondale because he'll increase their taxes?

Coelho: It is because there are people out there who are sincerely concerned about where their kids' future is going.

Kalb: (Mr. Coelho), you believe there is an orchestrated effort to heckle Mondale and stop him from getting his message across?

Coelho: Absolutely...they, off-camera, or off the record, have bragged about it all over this town. I think heckling is part of the political process. But it is sincere heckling. It is people who feel strongly about issues. It's not organized....Not only am I suggesting dirty tricks, but I'm suggesting that the people that were involved in the dirty tricks of the '72 campaign are reinvolved in the '84 campaign. It's the same people.

Mudd: What about the President's age? Why don't you use that issue, sir?

Johnson: We don't think that's an issue.

Kalb: What about Lebanon? Do you feel there has been a security goof, a lapse on the part of the Administration?

Coelho: Yes. We put 100 Marines there to try to make sure that this particular embassy is protected, and they were taken out because it was "secure." Who made that decision? Did the President approve it? This same person, Ronald Reagan, in 1980 was criticizing the President because he failed to provide the proper security for the American Embassy in Iran and there was a takeover. Here's a man who is in front of the camera to take all the credit every time he can, or manufacture credit if necessary. But whenever there's a problem, you always have some Marine or somebody else who has to bear the brunt of it. Where's the chief?

Mudd: Could Mondale's initial reaction to this last bombing been tougher?

Johnson: He wanted to be absolutely certain he put the questions on the table that need to be answered. You can be assured that unless there are a lot better answers, you'll hear a lot more from Walter Mondale.

Mudd: Everybody is counting on Mondale doing very well (in the debates). That's the big breakthrough you're hoping for. Doesn't that underestimate the debating ability of Ronald Reagan?

Johnson: I don't think the debate or the campaign is ultimately going to be evaluated on who's a better television star....Ronald Reagan is not good for you and your family. He is not good for jobs. He is not standing up on trade. He's not making progress on arms control. He is not bringing peace to Central America.

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THE MCLAUGHLIN GROUP

Host: John McLaughlin

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

On the Beirut bombing:

Buchanan: The U.S. must become a country you don't trifle with.

Novak: As long as the U.S. carries on its present Middle East policy, no embassy or ambassador will be safe.

Germond: I don't think you can properly blame the President for this.

Kondracke: The President is responsible for embassy security ultimately. The Administration is claiming it does not know what the Islamic Jihad was all about. A year ago, Weinberger said it was the Syrians. We did nothing about it. We talked, we bluffed, we encourage these people. We are pictured throughout Islam as the enemy of the Arab world and the enemy of Islam. We open ourselves up to this.

Buchanan: The Soviet Union diplomats are not taken hostage. Their embassies are not invaded, because, if you do, you pay a terrible price.

Germond. We spend a lot of money on intelligence. Why don't we ever know anything?

McLaughlin: It's inexcusable after what happened to the Marines. Reagan's policy is a failed miserable policy in Lebanon.

Q. Will Ronald Reagan take retaliatory action? All: No.

On politics: Is Mondale inching his way back?

Germond: Not that I've noticed. The debate is important, but Mondale is in such dire straits. He does have some coherence in what he says now.

Novak: I don't think Mondale has hit bottom yet. The Democratic candidates are really running for the hills. Mondale is typhoid Mary.

McLaughlin: Tony Coelho said the Democratic Party is not at fault. It's the ticket that's at fault. They're cutting Mondale and Ferraro off.

Kondracke: It's very ironic that these are the guys who nominated Mondale and now they're ratting out on him. Debates do tend to equalize candidates. If Mondale handles himself well, people are not going to think as ill of him as they do. There is a sympathy factor. The Reagan-Bush campaign in California is pulling Segretti-style dirty tricks every stop along the way. They've got these little Nazis, called "Fritz-busters."

Buchanan: I don't think they ought to be shouting down Mondale. I think Reagan should speak to the subject. We are seeing the McGovernization of the Mondale campaign. He's becoming whiney and shrill. He says Ronald Reagan is more interested in prevailing in a nuclear war than preventing one. Nobody believes that about Reagan.

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Novak: This is the first time we have serious Democratic politicians saying we could take a bath on November 6th on the House races.

McLaughlin: Will there be a realignment in the House in 1984?

Buchanan: No. Novak: For the first time, I think it's possible.

Germond: It may be more than 20 seats. Kondracke: No. McLaughlin: No.

On Meese: Is the way now cleared for Meese to become Attorney General?

Kondracke: I would guess it is. There were ethical questions raised about him. He's cleared. Howard Metzenbaum's job is to oppose the Reagan Administration in the Senate.

Novak: The opposition to Ed Meese initially had nothing whatsoever to do with criminal impropriety or any impropriety. They opposed him because of his views on criminal justice, which were the working man's views and against the elite's views. There are some people who are saying the special prosecutor did not actually clear him. Of course he cleared him.

Germond: He did clear him, and Meese is entitled to the clean bill.

Buchanan: There is no reason to oppose Meese, except ideology.

McLaughlin: Will Edwin Meese become Attorney General?

Buchanan: All Yes but Germond.

Comments on the Ray Shamie primary win in Massachusetts.

Novak: Republicans voted for Richardson, independents and blue-collar voters went for Shamie.

Germond: These were people attracted to Shamie the way they are attracted to Ronald Reagan. It is what's happening all over the country.

Buchanan: Shamie represents the future of the Republican Party; Richardson represents the past.

Kondracke: There are no liberal Republicans left.

Will Shamie win?

Buchanan: Yes. Novak: Probably not. Germond: Probably not.

Kondracke: No. McLaughlin: No.

Predictions: Buchanan: The bank's next big problem -- Peru.

Novak: Jesse Helms will win if Reagan wins big.

Germond: Carl Levin in Michigan will win.

Kondracke: Mondale is doing his debate preparation this weekend with Michael Soveran, President of Columbia University.

McLaughlin: Mulroney and Reagan will cut deals on cooperation on acid rain; eliminating dumping of potatoes and other food crops and fisheries. In exchange, Mulroney, will come to aid of Reagan in Central America and on arms negotiations.

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AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Host: Martin Agronsky

Panel: Carl Rowan, James Kilpatrick, Hugh Sidey, Marianne Means

Q. Re the Beirut bombing: Could something of great importance happen between now and the election at home and abroad that could upset the standing between Reagan and Mondale.

Rowan: I doubt it. Mondale won't get a hundred votes out of the situation because he's got to criticize Israel and he's not going to do it.

Kilpatrick: I don't think an event of this sort will make much difference in the campaign. Other unpredictable things such as an illness or Mr. Reagan's part might affect it, but not this.

Sidey: It's a wash. There are elements that could change. Mr. Reagan's health still remains one of those unknowns. Also the economy.

Means: I agree. It's unlikely anything could change it at this time.

Q. Was security adequate? Can Mr. Reagan be held blameless?

Rowan: He can't be held blameless but there probably can never be enough security around a U.S. Embassy if you have people who hate the U.S. or U.S. policies enough to commit suicide. Mondale has to try to hold Mr. Reagan's to blame for some of this without appearing to be saying I understand why these terrorists did this.

Kilpatrick: Mondale cannot say, "The blood of these men is on your hands, Mr. President."

Means: It does demonstrate that Reagan doesn't have any clearer idea of how to combat terrorism on this scale than that wimp, Jimmy Carter, did. He talks tough and does nothing.

Agronsky: Mr. Reagan was sharply critical of Mr. Carter on the grounds there had been a warning that there was a threat there and our people should have been taken out. What's sauce for the goose...

Kilpatrick: Reagan said there was only one President and he was not going to comment on Mr. Carter's handling of it.

Agronsky: He did it before the campaign.

Sidey: When the Marines were killed, it wasn't a failure of policy. It was a failure of command on the ground. I think someone out to be fired in this instance.

Means: Somebody chose those commanders. Reagan is Commander-in-Chief.

Sidey: He is far removed from that.

Agronsky: How long can you be far-removed from these things? Mr. Reagan stepped in and took the responsibility after the earlier bombing.

Rowan: It is a colossal failure of policy. Lebanon has become Israel's Vietnam.

Means: We have less influence in the Middle East now than we did when Reagan came in.

Rowan: We should never have gotten in a position of appearing to condone and be a partner in an invasion that we knew could do nobody any good and only bring U.S. a lot of hostility in the Islamic world.

Means: If you have a President who talks tough all the time and then does nothing, really, people are going to say we can get away with anything with him. What's strong about that? He's supposed to be strong where Carter was weak?

Sidey: That's simply not the case. When the Grenada invasion and other actions in general, he's viewed as quite a strong President.

Kilpatrick: It's impossible to turn these embassies into absolute fortresses. We have it here in Washington. If any suicide kamikaze driver wanted to drive a van full of dynamite onto Capitol Hill, no problem.

Agronsky: I'm concerned about the White House. I think a large truck could go through the White House gate, perhaps blow up the whole front of the White House. We don't take that into account sufficiently.

Kilpatrick: More concrete here, more concrete there?

Agronsky: You've got to do it. It's the nature of the dreadful world in which we live.

Rowan: There are a lot of small planes flying around and I don't we can shoot down every one that approaches the White House.

On the election and the polls:

Agronsky: Are we in a point 7 weeks before the election in which we can say it's over, that Mondale can't win?

Kilpatrick: I'm not going to say that. It's going to be a close election. It's been an interesting week -- Mondale lost his cool on the West Coast; the potential Mondale-Gromyko meeting; the Norman Lear commercials taking up the religious issue. Mr. Lear gives me a real pain in the rear. Over recent years, when the Rev. Martin Luther King was promoting civil rights and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy was doing it, and the Rev. Andrew Young was doing it and the Rev. William Sloan Kaufman, and the National Council was whooping it up and and the bishops were in favor of a nuclear freeze, you didn't hear one little tiny murmur from Mr. Lear about the separation of church and state. It's just a bunch of hypocrites who love the mingling of church and state when it's to their advantage, but when Rev. Falwell does it, it's terrible.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY (continued)

Sidey: I think the heckling thing is interesting. It's a minor issue but it is kind of disturbing. It's bad. I wish the President would speak up and say if they're my people, let's stop it.

Rowan: This is going both ways. Vice President Bush was heckled to the point that he cut his speech short and started talking about something else. And when the press revealed that he had jumped to a different speech, they announced they aren't going to give advance copies out.

Means: The public is closer to Mondale on a large number of the really major issues than they are to Reagan. They like Reagan personally.

Agronsky: The issues are not having the impact everyone anticipated they would have. Personalities seem to matter more than the issues, no matter what Mr. Mondale says.

Sidey: There are those who claim that the Reason Mr. Mondale is so low in the poles is that his message is getting through.

Rowan: Reagan will not answer any Mondale charge. We will find out that the debates whether he can force Mr. Reagan to talk about these issues.

On the Gromyko meetings:

Sidey: This whole thing has been blown out of proportion. This is a normal meeting, not highly significant.

Agronsky: For three years now, there has been some hope that Mr. Reagan would meet with the Soviet leadership.

Sidey: The Mondale element isn't that important.

Means: Reagan can't lose, no matter what Mondale does. It undercuts the issue of his total isolation from high Soviet leadership.

Rowan: Reagan and Gromyko will be two old riverboat gamblers, playing a game and Mondale is just going along for the picture taking. I don't expect much out of it in any way shape or form.

Sidey: Dean Rusk said to not discount pointless talk among these people. He said you may not appear to achieve anything for the moment but feelings come out of these meetings. We ought to have more "pointless" talk among these men.

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PBS -- WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW

Moderator: Paul Duke

Panel: Charles Corddry, Baltimore Sun; Harry Ellis, Jack Nelson, Los Angeles Times, Hedrick Smith, New York Times

Smith on the Middle East situation: This week was an unusual one. It demonstrated in about 72 short hours both the power and the peril and the vulnerability of an incumbent when he's seeking reelection. Democrats were fairly quick to jump on it, jumped on it hard. There seems to be no question that the Defense Department and State Department didn't really work out the security when they moved the embassy from West Beirut to East Beirut. That had not been completed by the time that this bombing episode came. The question is whether or not there are ways in which you can limit the damage, and this one, after all, has succeeded to the extent that this truck did not actually get into the building. If there's going to be a suicide bomber, you pretty well have to acknowledge the fact that you've got people in a civil war in a country like Lebanon and they're simply at risk. What the Democrats are saying now is that this shows that the President isn't paying that much attention to the security on the embassy in Beirut. The people beneath him don't work it out. The agencies don't get together. This revives bad memories from everyone. It's one of the reasons why some Republicans believe that the Democrats aren't going to linger on this one very long.

Nelson on the campaigns: The President made five different speeches in Iowa and Michigan and he prefaced all of his political remarks with some comments about this bombing and about what a terrible tragedy it was. Tremendous crowds were whipped up by the Republicans and the Reagan-Bush campaign. At the same time Mr. Mondale has his campaign rallies that are fairly subdued, fairly small crowds, not very good TV and not a lot of excitement. A lot of the reporters wondered whether the protesters at Ferraro's and Mondale's campaigns have been organized. People are looking into it. The Reagan campaign people and the President himself have denied it. The President is more isolated than Richard Nixon. He is inaccessible, and they don't want to make him accessible. He's way out front in the polls and they feel like he might run into some problems. If Mr. Reagan is elected by any sort of landslide, Mr. Meese will have no problem getting approved by the Senate this time.

Ellis on the economy: Had the GM strike dragged on it would have caused a significant drag on the economy, and it could have blunted the recovery sharply. Next April, will the U.S. government renew -- or will it put pressure on the Japanese to renew -- their car restraint arrangement? Bill Brock says that kind of protection should stop. The President's steel imports plan shows politically a very astute middle course. This is protectionism under another name. Our basic U.S. industries, automobile, steel and textiles are going down the road towards protectionism.

Corddry on the defense budget: Has Congress got to that stage where it worries about the deficit and social programs and begins to cut the defense buildup? It's shaving billions here and there, but this is not really big stuff. Spending will rise and the impact is yet to come. You are seeing some genuine crackdowns and holding the line in certain really big important matters regarding Pentagon spending. I think that if Reagan is elected, we'll have the MX; if Mondale's elected, we won't.

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