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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Government Shut Down By Reagan -- President Reagan shut down part of the federal government for several hours, sending 500,000 workers home at midday as Congress wrangled with a spending bill for two-thirds of the government. (AP, Reuter, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Poll Shows Landslide For Reagan -- Heading into Sunday's debate, President Reagan has a lead over Walter Mondale broad enough to make possible an electoral-college landslide and deep enough to boost the hopes of Republican candidates for other offices, the latest Washington Post-ABC poll shows. (Washington Post)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. Agencies Link a Moslem Group to Beirut Blasts -- U.S. intelligence agencies have evidence that a Moslem military group in Lebanon known as Hezbollah, or the Party of God, was responsible for the car bombing last month of the U.S. Embassy, Reagan Administration officials said. (New York Times)

Reagan Gains Favor in Western Europe -- Western Europeans, impressed by the vigor of the U.S. economic recovery and what appears to be a more conciliatory approach toward the Soviet Union, are looking more favorably at the likely prospect of a second-term Reagan Administration. (Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Thursday Evening)

POLL -- The President is clearly ahead, as of now, in 45 states, according to the ABC News-Washington Post poll.

CAMPAIGN DEBATE -- Judging from this week's campaigning, Mondale will concede that Reagan's a nice guy and has good intentions, but charge that he's too out of touch and inattentive to detail to be a good president.

PRESIDENT ON TELEVISION -- The orchestration of television coverage absorbs the White House. Their goal is to emphasize the President's personality.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS...A-7

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

NATIONAL NEWS

GOVERNMENT SHUT DOWN BY REAGAN

President Reagan shut down part of the federal government for several hours, sending 500,000 workers home at midday as Congress wrangled with a spending bill for two-thirds of the government. By nightfall, a 36-hour extension was approved and the White House said workers should return to their jobs this morning. The shutdown touched off a day of partisan finger-pointing. Hours after ordering the shutdown, Reagan blamed Democrats for it, saying, "You can lay this right on the majority party of the House of Representatives." Democrats quickly fired back, saying the Republican-controlled Senate had stalled the spending bills and accusing Reagan of staging a dramatic but unnecessary "Hollywood publicity stunt" three days before his first debate with Walter Mondale. (David Hoffman and Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A1)

Federal Employees Return to Work After Congress Votes Funds

Sen. Hatfield warned House Democrats that Reagan would certainly veto the spending bill if \$18B for new water projects were not deleted. Congressional sources said House members, who have been stalwart in their demand the U.S. end its covert war in Nicaragua, would insist on their position to eliminate \$28M for contra aid. Asked if Congress looked stupid because of the shutdown, Sen. Biden said: "Yes, we look silly. And the President even more foolish playing theatre on this."

(Carol Giacomo, Reuter)

Federal Workers Give Shutdown Mixed Reviews

Lisa Granger was delighted to leave her desk for an afternoon in the autumn sunshine but co-worker Adoncia Boykins called the shutdown a "stupid" interruption of important work. "We are working on the tax reform project and we have a lot of work to do," Boykins, a Treasury Department secretary, grumbled. Politicians were not quick to accept responsibility for the shutdown. President Reagan immediately blamed the Democrats, who quickly pointed the finger at Republicans.

(Sally Jacobsen, AP)

Senate Approves Spending Measure; Conferees Meet

Congressional leaders said it was uncertain whether President Reagan would sign any compromise. David Stockman sent a letter to the Senate repeating his desire for a "clean" bill to finance the Government, "without extraneous provisions or last-minute add-ons." He said the conference committee would have to delete many extraneous provisions to return the bill to "acceptable form."

(Robert Pear, New York Times, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ronald Kessler's feature, "A Washington 'Holiday': Employees Scramble as Unfunded U.S. Agencies Close," appears on page A1 of The Washington Post.

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POLL SHOWS LANDSLIDE FOR REAGAN

Heading into Sunday's debate, President Reagan has a lead over Walter Mondale broad enough to make possible an electoral-college landslide and deep enough to boost the hopes of Republican candidates for other offices, the latest Washington Post-ABC poll shows. Reagan led his challenger 55-37%. But the breadth of his lead was shown more clearly in the state-by-state polls. Reagan led everywhere except the District of Columbia and Rhode Island, where he and Mondale are even. California and New York were the only other states where Reagan's lead was less than 10 points. The Sept. 22-Oct. 2 poll is a super-sized sample of 12,000 people. (David Broder and Barry Sussman, Washington Post, A1)

SUNDAY'S MAIN EVENT: REAGAN VS. MONDALE

Both Mr. Reagan and Mr. Mondale are expecting the other to unleash severe attacks -- Mr. Mondale on the President's social programs and Mr. Reagan on the former vice president's role during the Carter years. Mr. Reagan is again expected to ask the electorate, "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?" Mondale campaign manager James Johnson said the candidate hopes to show that "he is in touch with the concerns of the average American family and that Ronald Reagan is out of touch." It is a classic clash of philosophical differences, perhaps the clearest in this century. (Ron Cordray, Washington Times, A1)

Debate Panel Rejects are Super-Secret Item

Of all the secrets at the White House, none is more closely guarded than the identities of the prospective questioners in the Sunday night debate who were blackballed by President Reagan's aides. Similar secrecy shrouds the Democratic challenger's rejection slips. The Mondale managers no doubt have rejection slips ready for such identifiable conservatives as George Will, James Kilpatrick, Patrick Buchanan, William Buckley and others who have shown themselves to be friendly to Mr. Reagan. Just as likely, Mr. Reagan's men have their thumbs down on the likes of Rowland Evans, Robert Novak, Jack Germond, Jules Witcover, Anthony Lewis, Joseph Kraft, Carl Rowan, Elizabeth Drew and Mary McGrory.

(News Analysis by Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Debate Likely to Echo Campaign Rhetoric

In large part, the debate will echo the rhetoric of their campaigns; the lines of attack aren't likely to contain many surprises.

(News Analysis by Donald Rothberg, AP)

MONDALE'S IMAGE IS A VICTIM OF TELEVISION'S EYE

Mondale comes off at a sharp disadvantage, appearing shrill, harsh -- sometimes even menacing. Yet, at the same time -- primarily because of his voice -- he comes off as somehow "weak" and a "wimp," something his friends and associates find incredible. Reagan is never shrill or menacing. He is the narrator of one of his campaign commercials and his strong, confident voice, as smooth and mellow as 20-year-old scotch, soothes and reassures as he extols the accomplishments of his first term.

(News Analysis by James Dickenson, Washington Post, A4)

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FERRARO DECRIES REAGAN'S LEADERSHIP, CAMPAIGN

HARRISBURG, Pa. -- Rep. Ferraro, pronouncing herself "a one-woman truth squad," derisively called President Reagan "Mr. Leader of This Country" while relentlessly attacking his handling of the Sept. 20 bombing of the Beirut embassy annex. In a subsequent press conference, Ferraro also had harsh words for the Republican advertising campaign when asked why Reagan appears to have such a commanding lead. "Look at the amount of money being spent on the ads. And if you can keep those ads going over and over and over....It's almost like brainwashing." (Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A6)

'QUICK-WITTED' ILLINOIS REP. TO PREPARE BUSH FOR DEBATE

When the Reagan-Bush campaign set out to find a stand-in to play the role of Geraldine Ferraro in a series of exercise debates with Vice President Bush, they did not have to ponder long or look very far. Rep. Lynn Martin (R.-Ill) fit perfectly. Aware of the comparisons between herself and Ferraro, Martin has been careful to point out that while her political views are similar to Mrs. Ferraro's on civil rights issues, she has very different ideas on matters of fiscal responsibility. (John McCaslin, Washington Times, A3)

A NEW BMOC REIGNS AT OHIO STATE AND HIS MONOGRAM SAYS 'RR'

COLUMBUS -- There is an unlikely new hero on campus here this fall. A lot of students describe him in pop culture terms as "larger than life" and a representative of "the kind of psychology the Pepsi generation lives on." His name is Ronald Reagan. He is 73 years old, a conservative and the very antithesis of the counterculture that dominated campuses a dozen years ago. Walter Mondale provokes little such enthusiasm, even among his student supporters. Samples of college students from national public opinion polls generally are too small to tell if Reagan is as popular on other campuses as at Ohio State, never a hotbed of radicalism. But they indicate that Reagan is at least holding his own among college students, a liberal group until recent years, and he is running exceptionally strong among all voters under 25.

(Bill Peterson, Washington Post, A3)

DEMOCRATS SEE DISTRESSED FARM ECONOMY AS FERTILE GROUND

Walter Mondale's political strategists believe that if the Nov. 6 presidential election hinges on pocketbook issues, agriculture is one issue that is ripe for their candidate. "The fact is that we've got him on the issue," said Mondale spokesman Don Foley. But he added, "It's clear that we haven't made our case" to the public. "The question is, can you get people to listen? Time's ticking away." A statewide poll in Iowa, a state where the economic problems on the farm are perhaps at their worst and where Mondale has made several visits, raises questions about whether the Democratic candidate can make his case, and whether agriculture is even a deciding issue. The Des Moines Register found in August that while a majority of farmers believed Mondale would do a better job of helping them, they planned to vote for Reagan by a margin of 2-to-1.

(Jim Drinkard, AP)

BUSH PREFERABLE TO REAGAN, SAYS O'NEILL

Speaker O'Neill says Vice President Bush would make a better president than Ronald Reagan. "The Vice President is a much...more able fellow as far as the government is concerned than the President of the United States," said O'Neill in a TV interview with Larry King. The Speaker said he would prefer Bush because of his experience in government and because Bush "doesn't believe, in my opinion, the philosophy of the people that he has surrounded himself (with) unless he has been brainwashed in the last 3 1/2 years, and I can't believe that Bush would be brainwashed." (AP)

BUSH SAYS IRS RULINGS TAXED HIM UNFAIRLY

TULSA -- Vice President Bush says he believes he has been "singled out" by the IRS and "taken to the cleaners" over two tax rulings that forced him last June to pay \$198,000 in taxes and interest. Bush said he plans to sue the IRS to recover the money.

(Juan Williams, Washington Post, A7)

Bush Sees Himself As Victim of IRS

MEMPHIS -- Vice President Bush resumed campaigning here this afternoon as his staff portrayed him as an ordinary taxpayer at war with the Internal Revenue Service.

(Jane Perlez, New York Times, A1)

MONDALE LASHES OUT, CHARGES BUSH'S 13% '83 TAX BILL 'NOT FAIR'

Walter Mondale said it is unfair for a man as wealthy as Vice President Bush to pay less tax than the maid who cleans his office. Speaking outside his home before going to a meeting with senior citizens in Rockville, the Democratic standard-bearer noted the Vice President paid only 13% of his adjusted income in federal income tax last year.

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A3)

Bush Tries to Shift Attention Away From Finances

Vice President Bush, accused by Mondale of not paying a fair share of income taxes, is trying to shift attention away from his finances and back toward his own criticism of the Democratic challenger. Departing from his normal practice of holding a news conference in each city he visits, Bush refused to meet with reporters Thursday during a trip to Memphis. "The story's over," said Peter Teeley. "Tomorrow is a new day."

(Terrence Hunt, AP)

JOB GROWTH SLOWS IN ACCOMPANIMENT WITH ECONOMIC DECELERATION

America's unemployment rate will likely hold steady for some months to come as new hiring by business slows along with the slackening of the overall economic recovery, analysts say. The surprising and impressive job gains of the first two quarters, these economists say, cannot be repeated because a host of other indicators of business health demonstrate that the recovery has slowed significantly.

(Merrill Hartson, AP)

DONOVAN COMPANY DEALT WITH GANGSTERS

Labor Head Didn't Know of Mob Ties, He Contends

Copies of construction contracts obtained by The Washington Times show that Raymond Donovan has conducted business with organized-crime figures, though he has insisted throughout his career that he has never knowingly done so. Donovan described one of these figures as a close friend of 25 years, but said he had not been familiar with allegations about the man, Mario Gallo.

(Gene Goltz, Washington Times, A1)

Polygraph Test Indicates He Told Truth About Jopel

About two weeks before he was indicted, Secretary Donovan voluntarily took a like detector test -- and passed it -- on questions pertaining to the Jopel Construction Company.

(Washington Times, A1)

BLACK POVERTY HAS HIT RECORD 36%, POLICY GROUP REPORTS IN NEW STUDY

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, which has provided much of the statistical underpinning for criticism of the Reagan Administration's tax and budget policies, said nearly 36% of all blacks lived in poverty last year, the highest black poverty rate since such record-keeping began in 1966. Coming a month before the election, the report was seized on by black leaders as political ammunition. The center is headed by former Carter Administration official Robert Greenstein.

(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A2)

RELIGION, POLITICS ARE INSEPARABLE IN A COUNTRY FOUNDED ON FAITH

The (religion/government) debate has ardent partisans on both sides and probably will never be settled. But the one thing it does prove is that religion and politics cannot be fully separated -- not in America. To the men and women who built this country, religious and political liberty were inseparable.

(Don McLeod, Washington Times, A1)

HINCKLEY TELLS OF PROGRESS

Presidential assailant John Hinckley Jr., speaking in a steady voice, told a federal judge at a hearing in U.S. District Court that "I now cherish my life" and asked for a chance to prove "to the entire world that I am getting well." Judge Barrington Parker denied Hinckley's request for more telephone and grounds privileges and access to the press, saying he was acting on the recommendation of Hinckley's psychiatrist.

(Phillip Smith, Washington Post, A1)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

UPSURGE IN MIDEAST TERRORISM LAID AT IRAN'S DOORSTEP

Terrorism in Lebanon, apparently sponsored by the government of Iran, made the Middle East the world's hottest trouble spot last year in lives lost, property damage and political instability, the State Department has concluded. In addition to Iran and Libya, Cuba, Syria and South Yemen are believed supporting, exporting or at least encouraging terrorism, said a spokesman for the State Department.

(Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A5)

U.S. Agencies Link a Moslem Group to Beirut Blasts

U.S. intelligence agencies have evidence that a Moslem military group in Lebanon known as Hezbollah, or the Party of God, was responsible for the car bombing last month of the U.S. Embassy, Reagan Administration officials said. The officials said the group was also involved in terrorist attacks last year against the U.S. Embassy and the Marine barracks in Beirut and the American Embassy in Kuwait. The explosive material used in some of these attacks, the officials said, was provided by the Iranian Government, and in one case the transfer of explosives to Lebanon via Syria was monitored at one stage by the CIA. Officials said President Reagan and his senior aides had not authorized a retaliatory strike against the Party of God both for practical and policy reasons. Military and intelligence aides, according to the officials, have advised the White House that because the group's leaders and followers do not ever assemble in one place, an air raid would be ineffective and would risk killing innocent civilians. The White House was told it would also be difficult to introduce American forces covertly into the Bekaa to carry out a commando raid. Equally important, the officials said, is a widespread belief among Mr. Reagan's aides that a retaliatory strike against the Party of God or Iran would only produce an escalation in terrorist attacks against the U.S.

(Philip Taubman, New York Times, A1)

LEBANON CHIEF RULES OUT TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS

PM Karami, discussing the withdrawal of Israeli troops from his country, said his Government wanted to substitute some for of U.S. diplomacy for direct negotiations with Israel. Karami's comments underscored the problems that have arisen since the new Israeli Government said it was ready to withdraw.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

KARAMI/MEETING REQUEST

UNITED NATIONS -- PM Karami said he had asked for an appointment with President Reagan, and would welcome U.S. help in bringing about an Israeli withdrawal from his embattled nation. "We want America to play a constructive role for our cause in Lebanon," Karami told reporters to the U.N. Correspondents Association here. The prime minister said he did not know whether an appointment could be arranged, "but we want to see President Reagan. If it is possible for America to solve such a big problem, it would be a good thing for all of us."

(AP)

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REAGAN GAINS FAVOR IN WESTERN EUROPE

BONN -- Western Europeans, impressed by the vigor of the U.S. economic recovery and what appears to be a more conciliatory approach toward the Soviet Union, are looking more favorably at the likely prospect of a second-term Reagan Administration. There is still considerable skepticism about Reagan's leadership qualities. Europeans never have been comfortable with the notion of an actor presiding over the world's most powerful country, nor have they forgotten the gaffes in which Reagan seemed to portray himself as a happy-go-lucky nuclear warrior. But in the past year, much of the blame for the hiatus in arms control has been shifted to the Soviet Union. European diplomats are convinced that the decision to walk out of the Geneva arms talks and to freeze East-West dialogue hurt Moscow badly in terms of Western European public opinion and took the pressure off Reagan. (William Drozdiak, Washington Post, A1)

SOVIET POLITBURO REAFFIRMS ITS 'READINESS' FOR TALKS WITH U.S.

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Politburo formally endorsed FM Gromyko's report on his talks with President Reagan and reaffirmed Moscow's readiness for a serious, businesslike "dialogue" with the U.S. The Soviet leadership accepted Gromyko's assertion that his talks with Reagan and Secretary Shultz "did not reveal any signs that the United States intended to adjust its policy course toward realism and peacefulness." But a communique asserted the Soviet Union would welcome a normalization of Soviet-American relations on the principles of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in each other's international affairs.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A27)

Gromyko: U.S. Must Show Sincerity

FM Gromyko reported to the Politburo on his talks with American leaders and said it is time for Washington to show its sincerity about improving U.S.-Soviet relations, a foreign ministry spokesman said. Gromyko's report, as outlined by a spokesman, reaffirmed Soviet demands for "concrete deeds" by the U.S. before there can be any improvements in relations. (Washington Times, A7)

Kremlin Calls on Reagan to Make Move

The Kremlin has praised FM Gromyko for his efforts in talks with President Reagan and said the onus lies with the White House to prove it wants better relations with Moscow. At a Moscow press conference, foreign ministry spokesman Vladimir Lomeiko gave the first relatively positive Soviet comment on last Friday's Reagan-Gromyko meeting. "The fact that the meeting took place...is important and useful," he said. Some Western analysts said Lomeiko's slightly less negative interpretation of the Washington Talks might imply that Moscow was less reluctant than it had first appeared to consider Reagan's overtures.

(Peter Millar, Reuter)

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WHITE HOUSE SET TO UNVEIL REPORT OF SOVIET ARMS VIOLATIONS

The White House will make public within the next week a potentially politically explosive report on Soviet violations of arms control agreements over the last 25 years, Sen. Symms (R.-Idaho) said. Symms said NSC Adviser MacFarlane had informed him an unclassified version of the report of the General Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament would be sent to Congress "within a week."

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A4)

U.S., EAST GERMAN DIPLOMATS HOLD 'CORDIAL' SESSION

NEW YORK -- The chief diplomats of the U.S. and East Germany met here for the first time in six years for a discussion described by the State Department as "warm and cordial" and possibly the opening round of a more extensive dialogue. Secretary Shultz later told reporters it was "a positive meeting," though he tempered the unusually cordial official U.S. description by saying, "I don't have my hat in the air or anything."

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A27)

Shultz Says Has 'Positive' Talks with East German

Secretary Shultz has had what he called a "positive" meeting with FM Fischer and said they agreed they want to expand relations between the two countries. Shultz said there were "a number of things" the U.S. would like East Germany to do in the relationship, including the settlement of Jewish claims going back to World War II.

(William Scally, Reuter)

BONN SHUTS EMBASSY, TELLS EAST GERMANS TO SEEK LEGAL EXIT

BONN -- West Germany, urging East Germans not to use its diplomatic missions as exits to the West, has temporarily closed the doors of its embassy in Prague, where about 40 refugees have been camped for at least a week. Government sources said East and West Germany were engaged in delicate talks to end the occupation, but they were moving at a snail's pace.

(Reuter)

ISRAEL IS SEEN UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE NEW U.S. AID 'TIL ECONOMY IN ORDER

Agreement on new economic aid for Israel is not expected in next week's meetings between PM Peres and President Reagan, partly because Israel doesn't yet have its financial house in order, government sources said.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A4)

U.S. LINKS MARCOS FOES TO STABILITY

Reagan Administration officials told members of Congress the U.S. is banking on Democratic opponents of President Marcos to restore stability to the Philippines to avert a possible communist takeover there within a decade. The officials said it is essential to U.S. and Philippine interests for Marcos-led abuses of the economy to end, for Democracy to be restored and for discipline to be established in the Philippine military.

(Washington Post, A28)

SELECTED GRENADIAN MATERIAL RELEASED BY STATE, DEFENSE

The State and Defense departments released an 800-page compilation of selected Grenadian government documents that its authors said proves "a single-minded dedication" on the part of the deposed Marxist government of the late Maurice Bishop toward "creating, over time, a communist society on the Soviet model." The printing and release of 10,000 copies of the documents coincides with a series of events marking the first anniversary of the Grenada invasion. These include a White House reception for 50 of the medical students who were rescued from the island and rallies at 117 college campuses. (Washington Post, A30)

FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE HEATS UP IN GREECE

ATHENS -- The first poisoned arrows have been shot in a prelude to Greek general elections that may topple the Socialist government of Premier Papandreou. Papandreou has accused opponent Mitsotakis of "treason" and described him as a "nightmare" working for the "interests of foreign monopolies" -- meaning the U.S. (Andrew Borowiec, Washington Times, A6)

GREEK LEADER SAYS KAL JET WAS U.S. SPY PLANE

ATHENS -- PM Papandreou, in a speech to members of the Socialist Party, said KAL-007 was spying for the U.S. Alan Romberg said Papandreou's charge "stands in stark contrast to the findings of the international community and appears to be a blatant replay of the Soviet cover story to deflect responsibility for its action." (Washington Times, A6)

U.S. Angered By Greek Leader's Statement

In one of the sharpest U.S. statements ever directed at a NATO ally, the U.S. is accusing PM Papandreou of showing a "willful disregard for the facts" in his comments on the Soviet Union's shooting down of KAL-007. Calling Papandreou's statement "outrageous," Romberg said, "There is not the slightest evidence for a claim of a 'spy' mission and any such claim can only be termed irresponsible." U.S. officials, speaking privately, said they were unaware of any U.S. action recently that might have provoked Papandreou's remarks. They said the statement, made to members of Parliament who represent his Panhellenic Socialist Movement, seemed aimed at pleasing its left-wing faction. (George Gedda, AP)

VIETNAM SAYS U.S. MUST TAKE ALL PRISONERS IF IT WANTS ANY

GENEVA -- Hanoi, opening talks with the U.S. on refugee questions, has responded to its offer of asylum for Vietnamese detainees in so-called re-education camps by a challenge to take all of them. But Vietnamese Assistant FM Le Mai, speaking last night after six hours of talks with U.S. officials, declined to say how many prisoners were in the camps. A State Department official said the Vietnam statement did not appear to be a new position. "We are quite prepared to accept all of them," said the official, who did not want to be named. But he added that "we have to work out a procedure to identify the people involved."

(Peter Griffiths, Reuter)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 4, 1984

NEW POLL FAVORS PRESIDENT

ABC's Peter Jennings: ABC News and the Washington Post have just finished conducting the largest sampling of public opinion we have done this Presidential year. We have listened to the views of more than 11,000 registered voters, and this is the conclusion: If the Presidential election were held right now, Ronald Reagan would hand Walter Mondale the worst Electoral College defeat ever suffered by a major party candidate.

ABC's Barry Serafin: President Reagan had reason to smile today when he posed with those Republican Congressional candidates. The new ABC News-Washington Post poll shows Mr. Reagan with an 18-point lead among registered voters -- 55% for the President, 37% for Mondale. More importantly, it shows him leading almost everywhere. The President is clearly ahead, as of now, in 45 states and 3 others -- Tennessee, West Virginia, and even Mondale's home state of Minnesota -- are leaning toward the incumbent. The 48 states in the Reagan column at this point add up to an enormous 527 electoral votes, nearly double the number needed to win. Two states -- Hawaii and Rhode Island, representing just 8 electoral votes -- are rated as toss-ups. Our new poll shows Mondale out in front right now only in D.C., with 3 electoral votes. But today Mondale continued to insist that he's beginning to turn the tide. (Mondale: "I think we're behind, but I think we're doing a lot better than a lot of these estimates suggest -- as a matter of fact, I'm convinced of it." Ferraro: "Ronald Reagan has been an actor for 40 years -- he's good at doing what he does. Look at the amount of money being spent on ads. If you keep those ads going over and over and over again, it's almost like brainwashing.") Leadership remains a cutting issue in the Presidential race. more than 2/3 of the voters we surveyed see Mr. Reagan as a strong leader. Only about 1/3 see Mondale that way. And half say they have an unfavorable opinion of the challenger. Only about 1/3 feel that way about the incumbent. The polls show no evidence that the bombing of the U.S. embassy in Beirut has affected the President's standing. Any possible effect of the Donovan controversy is not known -- the survey was conducted before the Labor Secretary was indicted. But the huge difference in electoral vote outlook at this point indicates that, more than ever, Mondale's prospects for helping himself and other Democratic candidates, will depend on his performance in the upcoming Presidential debates. (ABC-4)

EMERGENCY FUNDING (ALL NETS LEAD)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: A sizeable piece of the federal government in Washington was closed today and a half million government employees were sent home. It was not an official holiday. It was a political power struggle between President Reagan and the Congress. When Congress failed to pass a huge spending bill in time officially keep the money rolling in the federal agencies, President Reagan ordered that non-essential government employees be sent home.

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 4, 1984

EMERGENCY FUNDING (continued)

CBS's Dan Rather: A confused and chaotic Congress missed today's deadline for passing an emergency catch-all spending bill.

CBS's Robert Shackne: Who was responsible for the government's confusion -- that depended on who was talking. (President: "You can lay this right on the majority party in the House of Representatives." Cong. Wright: "If the government shuts down, it will be obviously -- if it's the fault of any party -- it's the fault of the Republican party.") The delay has taken place in the Republican-controlled Senate, but a lot of people on Capitol Hill put the blame on the Senate procedures which allow members to try and add on their own pet projects. In mid-afternoon, after 6 days of debate, the Senate finally passed the \$470B-plus money bill. But a conference committee meeting tonight still has to resolve differences between House and Senate versions, and depending on that comes out, the President will decide whether to sign or veto the measure.

REPUBLICANS VISIT THE WHITE HOUSE

Rather: One hundred fifty Republican incumbents and 50 more would-be incumbents lined up on the South lawn of the White House today for a chance to stick to Mr. Reagan's coattails. It was but one example of a Presidency that projects a personality and an image that -- even in the view of harsh critics -- is almost picture-perfect in its skillful use of television. (TV coverage: President and GOP incumbents on South lawn.) (CBS-14)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: Appearing with Republican Congressional candidates at the White House, Mr. Reagan was asked why he had ordered a shutdown of the federal government. (President: Sam, normally I wouldn't take a question, but that is a challenge, not a question. This has been typical of what has happened ever since we've been here. And you can lay this right on the majority party in the House of Representatives. Just once, just once it would be great to have a budget on time.") Cong. Wright immediately challenged the President's claim -- (Cong. Wright: "An unwarranted aspersion.") -- pointing out, one, that the House has consistently passed appropriations bills before the Senate and, two, that the President let the government run for the better part of two days earlier this week, when it was technically out of money. And Speaker O'Neill called today's shutdown "a Hollywood publicity stunt." Whatever it is, non-essential White House employees went home with everyone else. White House officials contend the President had no choice in the shutdown. And although he will sign the new continuing resolution to operate the government tomorrow only, they warn he may very well veto a longer resolution if it comes loaded down with extra spending. But all that aside, the President had a chance today, through his dramatic action, to make a political point against the Congress in an election year -- and this from a man who's long contended "the less government, the better." (ABC-3)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 4, 1984

CAMPAIGN

Brokaw: President Reagan and Walter Mondale are cramming for the first of their Presidential debates. All week, Mondale has been carefully laying his foundation for the debate because this one is crucial for the campaign.

NBC's Lisa Myers: Mondale emerged long enough to take a couple of swipes at Reagan, and tried to boost ratings for what he considered a make-or-break debate. (Mondale: "It's very, very important, and I hope every American will watch.") He warned senior citizens dependent on Social Security and Medicare to watch very carefully. (Mondale: "You know what we're going to hear from Mr. Reagan? 'I'm the best friend those programs ever had.' And he'll want you to believe that. So why don't we just go over the record.") Looking at Reagan's record is a key part of Mondale's debate strategy. Judging from this week's preview, he will concede that Reagan's a nice guy and has good intentions, but charge that he's too out of touch and inattentive to detail to be a good President. (Mondale: You can dream to your heart's content, but if you think that submarines and farmers don't have nuclear warheads on them, as Mr. Reagan thought, you won't move us back from the brink. And I do not doubt Mr. Reagan's good will toward rural America. But there's a difference between good will and good deeds. He has not mastered what he must know to command his own government and to lead.") The goal was to challenge the competence of Reagan the President without seeming to say nasty things about Reagan the person. But Mondale's advisers are painfully aware that even the right criticism of Reagan won't do much good unless they quell deep and persistent doubts about Mondale himself. To improve his image leading into the debate, new television commercials have hit the air. Mondale's closest advisers believe that what's critical is that he finally come across as a leader. Some worry that as a practical matter, those 90 minutes will be his last real chance to climb back into this race to persuade voters that he has what it takes to be president.

PRESIDENT ON TELEVISION

Lesley Stahl: How does Ronald Reagan use television? Brilliantly. He's been criticized as the rich man's President, but the TV pictures say it isn't so. At 73, Mr. Reagan could have an age problem, but the TV pictures say it isn't so. Americans want to feel proud of their country again and of their President, and the TV pictures say "you can." The orchestration of television coverage absorbs the White House. Their goal: to emphasize the President's greatest asset, which his aides say is his personality. They provide pictures of him looking like a leader, confident, with his Marlboro-man walk -- a good family man. They also aim to erase the negatives. Mr. Reagan tries to counter the memory of an unpopular issue with a carefully chosen backdrop that actually contradicts the President's policy.

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PRESIDENT ON TELEVISION (continued)

Stahl continued: Look at the handicapped Olympics, or the opening ceremony of an old age home -- no hint that he tried to cut the budgets for the disabled and for federally-subsidized housing for the elderly. Another technique for distancing the President from bad news -- have him disappear, as he did the day he pulled the Marines out of Lebanon. He flew off to his California ranch, leaving others to hand out the announcement. There are few visual reminders linking the President to the tragic bombing of the Marine headquarters in Beirut. But two days later the invasion of Grenada succeeded, and the White House offered television a variety of scenes associating the President with the joy and the triumph. David Gergen recently retired as the President's media advisor. (Gergen: "It is a mistake to try to have the President inserted into every issue, good or bad, but particularly the bad ones. It's just not a good way to run the Presidency.") In running the Presidency, the White House often prevents reporters from questioning Mr. Reagan. Aides admit that helicopter engines are revved up so the questions can't be heard, and other times it's aides who interrupt. This tight control has baffled those who think Mr. Reagan is at his very best when he's spontaneous, say, in dealing with hecklers. (President: "I'll raise his taxes.") Or in tossing off one-liners. (President: "I never get good reviews from Tass.") He can be masterful at deflecting a hostile question. (Reporter: "Did you mean to give a signal to other Republicans that if they don't conform that off will go their heads?" President: "How can you say that about a sweet fellow like me?") Time and again, the President, with uncanny skill, shifts the focus from the details of an unpopular issue to a popular subject -- himself. Take education. He responds to a briefing about an inner city school's dilapidated conditions with a personal story. (President: "In our high school gymnasium, in my day, there were a few places on the floor that you couldn't try for a basket because the beams holding the ceiling up interfered.") There is, of course, a sound reason the White House has kept the President under wraps -- it's his gaffs. But since he was criticized for being isolated and wrapped in a cocoon, Mr. Reagan has been taking more questions lately, resulting in more mistakes. His explanation of security lapses at the Beirut embassy annex: (President: "Anyone who's ever had their kitchen done over knows that it never gets done as soon as you think.") There's a lot of evidence that the American people don't care if Mr. Reagan makes mistakes -- they like him anyway. President Reagan is accused of running a campaign in which he highlights the images and hides from the issues. But there's no evidence that the charge will hurt him, because when the people see the President on television, he makes them feel good -- about America, about themselves, and about him. (CRS-15)

SHULTZ U.N. MEETINGS

Jennings: Secretary Shultz has been holding meetings with foreign diplomats in conjunction with the U.N. General Assembly. Today he met with the East German foreign minister and held what a U.S. spokesman called "a warm and cordial exchange in which they agreed on the need to expand relations." (ABC-12)

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BUSH FINANCES

Rather: George Bush is complaining about an IRS decision that made him pay \$198,000 in back taxes and interest. Walter Mondale said today Bush still paid a lot less proportionately than many, if not most, Americans. The overall 13% of adjusted income that Bush paid in federal taxes last year, Mondale said, is "less than the maid pays who cleans up the offices of the Vice President." (CBS-13)

BEIRUT BOMBING

Rather reports that U.S. intelligence now claims it knows the group responsible for the Beirut bombing -- a radical Shiite group which is based in West Beirut and has ties to Iran. (CBS-4)

U.S. EMBASSY IN TURKEY

Jennings: In Ankara, a newspaper reports police are searching Turkey's capital for a truck-bomb they believe is intended for an attack on the American embassy there. The embassy received a terrorist threat on Monday. Authorities reportedly are looking for a truck they believe is holding nearly 700 pounds of explosives. (ABC-11)

ECONOMY

Brokaw: A report out tonight charges that, economically, black Americans are falling behind whites even more these days, and charging because of the policies of the Reagan Administration. The report says that since the start of the Reagan era, long-term unemployment -- that is, people out of work six months or longer and still looking -- has increased only slightly among whites, sharply among blacks. The report puts the blame for the widening gap on the recession and the budget and tax policies of the Reagan Administration. The study was made by a group called the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. It said that middle class blacks had been especially hard-hit by cuts in government employment. (NBC-6)

HINCKLEY

Brokaw: In Washington today, a federal judge turned down John Hinckley's personal plea for more freedom in a mental hospital where he's now being kept. He said he would never harm another human being, but the judge ordered him kept under tight restrictions. (NBC-5, ABC-8, CBS-5)

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