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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

Candidates Trade Jibes -- Before dropping off the campaign trail to cram for Sunday's crucial debate, Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale used tough language about each other that hinted the televised clash will be less than amiable.
(Gannett, Baltimore Sun, Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

Prime Drops to 12.5%; Analysts Differ on Decline -- Most major banks joined the fall to a lower prime lending rate, but economic analysts say it isn't clear where the rate is going for the remainder of the year.
(Washington Times)

Factory Output Falls First Time Since Recession -- The nation's industrial production fell a substantial 0.6% last month, the first decline since the recession ended nearly two years ago.
(Washington Post)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CIA Primer Tells Nicaraguan Rebels How To Kill -- A CIA document that became public this week tells Nicaraguan rebels how to win popular support and gives advice on political assassination, blackmail and mob violence. The 44-page booklet is a primer on insurgency.
(New York Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

VP BUSH -- The Vice President conceded the record shows Mondale never actually said U.S. Marines died in shame in Lebanon, but he claims that is what Mondale meant. Mondale renewed his demand that the Vice President apologize.

TRIP -- President Reagan kept up his attack on Mondale on the subject of foreign policy.

BEIRUT BOMBING -- The Nation is reporting that President Reagan ignored a CIA warning and a Pentagon recommendation to withdraw Marines from Beirut five days before the attack in October, 1983.

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This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff. For complete stories or information, please call ext. 2950

TRIP NEWS

CANDIDATES TRADE JIBES

President Reagan and Walter Mondale, warming up for Sunday's debate, traded some of the harshest rhetoric of the campaign, with Reagan claiming the U.S. had "unilaterally disarmed" under the Carter Administration and Mondale calling Reagan's approach to foreign policy "naive and primitive." (Washington Post, A1)

Before dropping off the campaign trail to cram for Sunday's crucial debate, Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale used tough language about each other that hinted the televised clash will be less than amiable. Mondale charged that President Reagan's record is "one of profound confusion" and described the President as an amiable man who simply isn't governing the nation. And Reagan accused the Carter-Mondale Administration of disarming the U.S. and of being "baffled" by the Soviet Union. (Ann Devroy and John Omicinski, Gannett)

REAGAN: U.S. 'DISARMED'

GLEN ELLYN -- President Reagan said the U.S. had "unilaterally disarmed" in the face of a Soviet arms buildup before he took office, and he laid the responsibility on Mondale and the Carter Administration. In a preview of his expected lines of attack in Sunday's debate, Reagan also criticized Mondale for the Iranian hostage crisis, suggested Mondale was naive about the Sandinista revolution and said Mondale had "failed to repudiate" Jesse Jackson's sympathetic comments about Castro. (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A5)

REAGAN USES INSULTS, SARCASM IN CAMPAIGN

GLEN ELLYN -- President Reagan continued his slashing attacks against the record of Walter Mondale, turning to bitter sarcasm and thinly disguised insults. The President, who seems to be warming up for a no-holds-barred approach in next Sunday's debate, said his opponent would jeopardize the security of the nation. Tuesday, Mr. Reagan came very close to likening the Democratic opposition to rodents. Mr. Reagan, sticking largely to statistics and politeness, is generally conceded to have lost the first debate. He is expected to come out fighting in Kansas City. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

DEMOCRAT SAID TO LEAVE LEGACY OF 'SOCIAL, INTERNATIONAL CHAOS'

GLEN ELLYN -- With the polls showing his lead narrowing, President Reagan pressed his effort to undermine Mondale's credibility as a leader, particularly in foreign policy, in advance of Sunday's crucial debate. Suggesting the former vice president's record offered insight into his abilities, Mr. Reagan cited a long list of domestic and foreign policy predictions and positions, and said with new sarcasm: "It occurred to me that maybe all we have to do to get the economy in absolutely perfect shape is to get my opponent to predict absolute disaster."

(Gilbert Lewthwaite, Baltimore Sun, A1)

REAGAN TOUGHENS STYLE: ATTACKS OPPONENT HEAD-ON

It started off as a dignified Oval Office campaign that kept President Reagan above the partisan fray. Now there is a visible change. With Mondale shaving the President's lead in the polls, anxious Reagan strategists have gone on the attack and altered the Reagan style, making for a more rough-and-tumble campaign.

(Charlotte Saikowski, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

NATIONAL NEWS

MONDALE: REAGAN NAIVE

PALO ALTO -- In response to Reagan's accusation that he is a threat to national security, Mondale said such attacks are in keeping with a 30-year record of "profound confusion" that had led Reagan to launch similar blasts at past presidents, Democratic and Republican. Reagan called President Kennedy weak for not taking "what he called the final step in Cuba," he called President Johnson weak for "not threatening the use of atomic bombs in Vietnam," he accused President Ford of "bowing and scrapping" before the Soviet Union, and he accused President Nixon of being weak for signing SALT I. (Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A6)

Mondale Cites Reagan 'Confusion' Over Foreign Policy

Walter Mondale and Ronald Reagan, their debate on foreign policy four days away, are searching into each other's political history to support their growingly bitter contentions that neither is fit to lead the country in the nuclear age. Reagan and Mondale campaigned with a vengeance Tuesday, getting in last-minute shots before exchanging speeches and fund-raising dinners for briefing books and rehearsals in preparation for their showdown in Kansas City. After the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, Mondale said, according to the President, "It just baffles me why the Soviets, these last few years, have behaved as they have." "Doesn't he know it's their nature?" Reagan asked a student audience who roared with laughter. "But then, there's so much that baffles him." The remark about the nature of the Soviets was a throwback for Reagan, who has been trying to distance himself from the tough anti-Soviet rhetoric that characterized much of his term. (David Lawsky, UPI)

Incumbent's 'Primitive Notion' of National Defense Draws Fire

Mondale, in one of his most forceful attacks on President Reagan's leadership, accused the President of having "a record of profound confusion" on defense and foreign policy and a "naive and primitive notion of national strength." Mondale took sharp aim at the President's competence, saying in Los Angeles he thought Mr. Reagan showed "an appalling lack of comprehension about what our (strategic) forces really are."

(Nancy Schwerzler, Baltimore Sun, A1)

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MONDALE URGES FORMATION OF UNION OF DEMOCRACIES

PALO ALTO -- Walter Mondale, declaring President Reagan has a "naive and primitive notion of national strength," urged formation of "an Assembly for Democracies" to promote democratic values. In what was billed as a major statement on foreign affairs, Mondale said that, if elected, he would call a summit of the world's democratic leaders to establish an assembly to support development of free institutions. Among other things, the assembly would seek to advance democratic values such as human rights and would unite democracies in the struggle for peace and arms control, the nominee said. (Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A3)

BUSH DEFENDS REMARK

LOS ANGELES -- Vice President Bush sought to prove that Walter Mondale suggested that American Marines "died in shame" in Lebanon, producing statements in which Mondale said President Reagan's policies had "humiliated" the U.S. in the Middle East. Bush, who called a news conference to defend his debate charge against claims by Mondale that it was "libelous," referred reporters to the American Heritage Dictionary, which defines humiliation as "degradation, disgrace and shame." Asked if he was equating criticism of Reagan's foreign policy with criticism of the Marines, Bush responded: "Nobody had to say it's a tremendous 100,000% success....I hope I'm not so defensive that any criticism of the policy I would equate with humiliation." (Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A3)

Bush Renews 'Shame' Issue in California Appearances

Neither of the quotes by Mondale and Ferraro indicated shame on the part of the 241 Marines killed in the bombing of their barracks in Beirut last year, and both referred to humiliation suffered by the U.S. But Mr. Bush said it was the same as a slur on the dead Marines.

(Don McLeod, Washington Times, A2)

JABS CALLED 'PLANNED'

CLEVELAND -- Geraldine Ferraro said a recent string of derogatory comments about her by Vice President Bush, his wife and his press secretary were "planned." Ferraro also said President Reagan's age is "something to be considered" by voters on Nov. 6. Asked during a question-and-answer session about the "age" issue, she said, "That's not a judgment that I should make, with reference to the President's age. I think that that's something the American public has to take a close look at and consider, or not consider, whether it's important or not important."

(Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A3)

YOUTHS TIE JOB HOPES TO GOP, FERRARO SAYS

CLEVELAND -- Young people support the Reagan-Bush ticket because "they really believe Reagan can guarantee them a job," Rep. Ferraro said, and they don't have that same confidence in the Democratic ticket. "Unfortunately," she said of her unintended accolade for the Republican ticket, "it's not accurate....Any economist will tell you that if we don't do something about the deficits, we will slide back into a deep recession," she said. (Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A2)

FERRARO LEADS DEMOCRATIC ATTACK FOR REST OF WEEK

LOS ANGELES -- As Mondale bones up for his final debate with President Reagan, the day-to-day Democratic cause is in the hands of Geraldine Ferraro. At two rousing and heavily attended events in Cleveland and Illinois, she lashed out at Reagan and Vice President Bush in an attempt to build momentum for the final debate. She charged that personal attack on her by Bush, his wife and his chief spokesman were part of a "planned" maneuver by the Republicans. "The Bushes are not the type of people who accidentally let something like that slip out," she said.

(John Cotter, Reuter)

HART SUGGESTS AGE TRIPPED REAGAN IN DEBATE

LOS ANGELES -- Gary Hart suggested that President Reagan's age was responsible for his occasionally halting performance in his debate. Chatting with reporters aboard Mondale's campaign jet, he said, however, that the problem was one of "competence and control," rather than Reagan's chronological age.

(AP)

REAGAN'S AGE BECOMES ISSUE IN GREAT DEBATE TRADITION

Nobody said a word about President Reagan's age during his leadoff debate with Mondale -- but it became the issue. That is in keeping with the great tradition of the Great Debates. Over the 24 years since traditionally televised debates became a sometime part of presidential campaigning, the most telling issues they have generated have been matters of image, style, things that were not spoken, or were spoken by mistake.

(News Analysis by Walter Mears, AP)

REAGAN, MONDALE START DEBATE PREPARATIONS

President Reagan and Walter Mondale retired temporarily from an increasingly combative presidential campaign to prepare for their debate. Both went into practice sessions. In major speeches, the two set out the main arguments they are expected to lay out in the debate, using some of the bluntest language in a campaign that has taken a bitter turn in the last few days.

(Michael Battye, Reuter)

MONDALE STIRS UP NEW YORK POLITICS

Walter Mondale's decision to skip one of the highlights of New York City's election season, the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Dinner of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, created a political stir. Many politicians, including Mayor Koch, said they thought the candidate had made a mistake. But they also voiced the opinion that it would probably not do him much damage in the end (Michael Oreskes, New York Times, A1)

THE LATEST POLLS

President Reagan leads Walter Mondale 56-39% in a new national poll conducted by The Los Angeles Times. (Washington Post, A5)

SEN. KENNEDY FANS DEMOCRATIC FLAME

HARLINGEN, Texas -- Sen. Kennedy has hit the campaign trail as gatekeeper of his brother's legacy. "I'll travel across the country in this campaign to say," he roared here to a Mexican-American audience of more than 1,500, "that Ronald Wilson Reagan has no right to quote John Fitzgerald Kennedy." "As I remember -- and I do -- Ronald Reagan was a Democrat for Nixon in 1960....So I have a simple question: I wonder why Reagan doesn't quote Nixon now?" (Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A10)

REAGAN FACES LEGISLATION

President Reagan is considering more than 150 bills passed in the final days of the 98th Congress, including several that, in another session, would be likely candidates for veto. But some also are favorites of powerful interest groups, leaving the President with some hard choices with the election so near. A leading example grants an estimated \$400M to \$800M in relief to timber companies, mainly in the Pacific Northwest, by excusing them from old contracts to buy federal timber at what today seem high prices. Reagan signed it yesterday. A veto might have had unpleasant political repercussions in Oregon and Washington, where the President's lead over Mondale is not as large as in some other states. (Spencer Rich, Washington Post, A4)

GOP CHALLENGER CLOSING GAP IN ARKANSAS SENATORIAL RACE

LITTLE ROCK -- Sen. Pryor's Republican challenger contends the incumbent "is sinking like a stone" in his campaign for a second Senate term. Democrats say Pryor's head is still well above water. Both candidates have polls to buttress their arguments. A Lance Tarrance poll, taken in August for Rep. Bethune, showed a Pryor advantage of 52.6 to 36.4%. That's not good for an incumbent. But a Pryor poll, taken in September, gives him an edge of 63-30%.

(Bill Kling, Washington Times, A1)

N.C. GOV. HUNT HITS 'RADICAL RIGHT'

RALEIGH -- "I don't want North Carolina to be known as the home for radical right-wing politicians," said Hunt. "I don't want North Carolina to be known for narrow, intolerant leaders who claim that God is on their side." Sen. Helms replied by pointing out that in 1981 Hunt had called President Reagan's economic recovery program "radical." Helms said he concluded the governor uses the word "radical" for everything that is not liberal.

(Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A1)

SENATE RACE IN IOWA IS A SEESAW

Sen. Jepsen, though battered, remains very much alive -- locked in a seesawing race with Rep. Harkin. It's a linchpin contest, top priority for both parties, and one that illustrates the powerful crosscurrents running through politics this fall. A Des Moines Register poll published Sunday found Rep. Harkin leading 46-41%, reversing an earlier 50-41% Jepsen advantage. But many Democratic and GOP professionals see this race as too tight and too volatile to call.

(Dennis Farney, Wall Street Journal, A64)

PRIME DROPS TO 12.5%; ANALYSTS DIFFER ON DECLINE

Most major banks joined the fall to a lower prime lending rate, but economic analysts say it isn't clear where the rate is going for the remainder of the year. There's nothing political about the drop, said Marlin Fitzwater. "They're just responding to the economic forces at work." Analysts said that, for now at least, low private credit demand and an easier credit policy by the Federal Reserve are offsetting the deficit's pressures. Other analysts said the prime rate drop may prove to be just a temporary phenomenon. David Wyss, chief financial economist for Data Resources Inc., of Lexington, Mass., consulting firm, said heavy Treasury borrowing virtually assures higher rates by year-end.

(Steven Beckner, Washington Times, A1)

FACTORY OUTPUT FALLS FIRST TIME SINCE RECESSION

The nation's industrial production fell a substantial 0.6% last month, the first decline since the recession ended nearly two years ago, the Federal Reserve Board reported. Part of the drop was a result of the brief strike against GM, and most forecasters are confident that no new recession is beginning. Nevertheless, the drop in output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities was larger than analysts had been expecting.

(John Berry, Washington Post, A1)

REAGAN INITIATIVES ON EDUCATION DEPRIVE DEMOCRATS OF KEY ISSUE

Today, much of the public perceives President Reagan as being good for education. One pollster this spring found only 6 to 8% of the populace uncomfortable with Mr. Reagan's education policies. "There's no question the President took the education issue away from the Democrats," said Rep. Goodling (R.-Pa.), "because their approach has been to just come up with another new program, and throw more money at it."

(Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

PANEL PROPOSES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

A citizens committee whose members include three former Cabinet secretaries recommended adoption of national health insurance as a more efficient and fair method of providing health care to all Americans. The National Citizens' Board of Inquiry into Health in America released a two-volume report that proposed, for the interim, expansion of Medicare coverage and health insurance for unemployed workers. The report focused on making the case for a universal comprehensive national health care plan similar to those in Canada, Great Britain and other industrial nations.

(Betty Anne Williams, AP)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHERNENKO SAYS U.S. HOLDS KEY TO ARMS TALKS

MOSCOW -- President Chernenko said in an interview that Soviet-American relations could be improved if the U.S. would demonstrate a genuine interest in reaching an equitable agreement "at least on one of the essential questions" of arms control. He singled out four such issues and made it clear a resolution of "at least some of them" would open the way for the resumption of negotiations on nuclear arms. The four issues included Moscow's proposal to prevent the militarization of outer space, a mutual freeze on nuclear weapons, ratification by the U.S. of test ban treaties and a pledge by the U.S. not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A1)

Move Linked to Campaign

Advisers to President Reagan and Walter Mondale said Chernenko's overtures to the U.S. on arms control may be aimed at pushing the issue to the forefront of the U.S. election campaign in advance of Sunday's debate. Advisers to both candidates also said Chernenko's proposals were worth careful study to see if they represent an opportunity to break the stalemate.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

FIT-LOOKING LEADER JOKES IN INNER SANCTUM

MOSCOW -- To an observer who has watched him from a distance during infrequent public appearances, the Soviet leader appeared fit and in good health. His complexion was ruddy, his handshake extraordinarily firm and his gait steady. His delivery was far better than in his public speeches. Chernenko's breathing was short and shallow, although less so than in public appearances.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A1)

SALVADORANS DID NOT DISCUSS MAJOR ISSUES

SAN SALVADOR -- Both President Duarte and his rebel opponents have assessed the historic peace talks as a success, but statements made Monday night and Tuesday by each side indicated their positions on how to end the war remain far apart. Most of the public statements so far have been positive. Both sides interpreted the decision to set up a joint committee to hold a round of further talks beginning next month as an important step toward ending the war.

(Loren Jenkins, Washington Post, A1)

Duarte Says He'd Talk Peace to Anyone; D'Aubuisson Blasts Talks

SAN SALVADOR -- President Duarte said he is "ready to talk to anyone" to end this nation's civil war, but added his meeting with rebel leaders was not official recognition of the guerrillas. Meanwhile, Roberto D'Aubuisson held a news conference and called the La Palma meeting "buffoonery." He said rebel Guillermo Ungo and Duarte were allies in the Christian Democratic Party and were intent on turning the nation to socialism.

(Arthur Allen, AP)

Duarte said he has a "timetable" for peace and hopes leftist guerrillas can take part in March elections. "I am demonstrating with actions that this government will do whatever has to be done to achieve peace," Duarte said.

(Michael Drudge, UPI)

Salvadoran Left Says Fighting to Continue

SAN SALVADOR -- Shortly after the meeting in La Palma, the members of the guerrilla delegation invited several reporters and independent observers to return with them to their mountain hideout. There, the guerrilla leaders made clear in a wide-ranging interview their continuing doubts about the rule of Duarte and their determination to pursue their military goals. (Alma Guillermoprieto, Washington Post, A22)

U.S. Reaction

Duarte's peace bid drew expressions of warm praise from President Reagan and Secretary Shultz, but State Department officials said it was still unclear whether serious negotiation with leftist rebels would be possible. Reagan sent Duarte a message saying that the U.S. shares his hopes and prayers that "this courageous initiative is the first step in a process that will bring a lasting peace through democracy to your nation." Meanwhile, the State Department disclosed that Shultz, on an official visit to Canada, sent a message to Duarte describing the meeting at La Palma as a "success" and saying he shares Duarte's "well earned feelings of triumph." Privately, State Department officials said the meeting was more serious than they had expected. (George Gedda, AP)

Military Weakness of Salvador Rebels Key to Negotiations

SAN SALVADOR -- Whether peace can actually be achieved will depend primarily on the military strength of the guerrillas. Many observers here believe the reason the guerrillas agreed to Monday's talk with Duarte's government was that the military situation has been significantly improving in favor of the army. More and more Salvadoran soldiers are being trained by U.S. instructors, and more and more weapons and equipment are arriving from America. The guerrillas, on the other hand, lack food and ammunition and are suffering from continuing desertions. (Jay Mallin, Washington Times, A1)

Duarte Hails 'Conquest' -- Rebels Question Motives

Duarte is billing his agreement on peace talks "a conquest," but a rebel leader who met with Duarte says the government does not really want peace. Guillermo Ungo, who led rebel negotiations, returned to Panama and told a Colombian radio station Duarte is not serious about peace because he turned down the rebels' proposed ceasefire. "The answer of the government was to refuse our proposal," Ungo said in the interview. "They flatly ruled it out, which indicates that the government itself wants us to keep killing each other," said Ungo. (Michael Drudge, UPI)

CIA PRIMER TELLS NICARAGUAN REBELS HOW TO KILL

A CIA document that became public this week tells Nicaraguan rebels how to win popular support and gives advice on political assassination, blackmail and mob violence. The 44-page booklet is a primer on insurgency. Most activity of this sort in Nicaragua has been paid for by the U.S. through the CIA. The primer explains how to kidnap and kill officials, blow up public buildings and blackmail ordinary citizens. The White House had no comment on the document. But at least one member of Congress, Rep. Downey, was calling for an investigation.

(Joel Brinkley, New York Times, A1)

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GRENADA BEGINS TRIAL OF 19 REVOLUTIONARIES ON MURDER CHARGE

ST. GEORGE'S -- Nineteen islanders went on trial for the murder of PM Bishop last year. All 19 refused to plead guilty or not guilty, calling themselves prisoners of war and questioning the court's authority under "foreign occupation" to organize the trial.

(Edward Cody, Washington Post, A17)

CLARK, SHULTZ PLEDGE COOPERATION DESPITE ACID-RAIN DIFFERENCES

TORONTO -- Secretary Shultz said Canadian FM Clark gave him a "hard time" on the controversial issue of acid rain pollution from U.S. factories. But Shultz, repeating Reagan Administration policy, said the U.S. would continue studying the problem before deciding whether to order what he said would be a costly cleanup program to reduce high-sulfur emissions from Midwestern coal-burning industries.

(James Morrison, Washington Times, A6)

U.S. AGREES TO BUY MORE FROM ISRAEL

TEL AVIV -- Secretary Weinberger agreed the U.S. will buy \$100M worth of Israeli products in the last three months of this year to help offset Israeli purchases of U.S. military equipment, U.S. and Israeli sources said.

(Fred Hiatt, Washington Post, A17)

U.S. DENIES IT MADE NEW DEBT CONCESSION

The Reagan Administration, seeking to clarify an apparent misunderstanding, said it did not agree to new concessions on \$500M owed by Israel to the U.S. but reminded the Israelis they already have the right to postpone payment at the price of additional interest. Israeli diplomatic sources, backing away from claims in Israel that there had been a specific agreement, said Secretary Shultz mentioned to PM Peres last week that postponing the debt payment would be one way of easing Israel's problems. However, the Israeli sources disputed reports from Israel that the Peres government has decided on such a step.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A17)

WIENBERGER TO HAVE UNSCHEDULED TALKS WITH HUSSEIN

TEL AVIV -- Secretary Weinberger winds up a two-day visit to Israel and flies to neighboring Jordan for brief meetings with King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders. No reason was given for the sudden decision to visit Jordan. But there was speculation that the recent resumption of diplomatic ties between Jordan and Egypt would be among the topics discussed. Israeli officials expressed satisfaction with the results of the Secretary's visit, although they declined to discuss details.

(Robert Gary, Reuter)

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LEBANON'S PARLIAMENT ELECTS HARDLINER

BEIRUT -- The Lebanese Parliament elected as its speaker an anti-Israeli hardliner, Hussein Husseini, replacing the moderate Kamel Assad, who held the post 12 years. Husseini immediately pledged to make "the liberation of south Lebanon from Israeli occupation" the objective of his one-year term. He called for increasing government support for the "heroic national resistance" -- a term generally used for guerrilla attacks against Israeli troops in the southern part of the country.

(Washington Times, A5)

ARMY AND MILITIA FIGHT IN HILLS NEAR BEIRUT

BEIRUT -- Moslem impatience with the pace of political reforms spilled over into artillery duels between Lebanese army regulars and militiamen in the hills overlooking Beirut. Radio reports in the capital said Moslem Druze militiamen and army regulars traded shells late Tuesday night between the villages of Aitat and Keyfoun and the key army position at nearby Souk al Gharb. There were no reliable reports of casualties.

(Hala Khoury, UPI)

IRAQ SEEKING TO BUY 45 U.S. HELICOPTERS

Iraq is holding talks with a Texas firm about the purchase of up to 45 commercial helicopters that were developed initially as military transports, sources say. State Department officials said no licenses would be required if the helicopters do not carry munitions equipment.

(Barry Schweid, AP)

CHERNENKO, ASSAD DISCUSS MIDEAST

MOSCOW -- President Chernenko and President Assad met in the Kremlin as part of the Soviets's latest diplomatic effort in the Middle East. Tass said the two leaders attacked U.S. and Israeli policies and stressed the strong ties between the Soviet Union and Syria, its primary ally in the Mideast. Tass said they also reiterated demands that Israel withdraw from southern Lebanon and that a Palestinian state be created on the West Bank of the Jordan River.

(Washington Times, A6)

U.S. SKEPTICAL THAT SAKHAROV GIVEN EXIT VISA

COPENHAGEN -- A U.S. official says a statement by a Soviet leader that dissident Andrei Sakharov had been given an exit visa but does not want to leave the Soviet Union "can't be trusted." Ivan Polyakov, vice chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and member of the central committee, told a group of 10 Danish parliamentarians that Sakharov could leave his internal exile in Gorky for the West any time. The U.S. State Department was skeptical of Polyakov's remarks.

(UPI)

TAIWAN MINISTER CALLS FOR MORE SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS

TAIPEI -- Taiwan's foreign minister Chu Fu-Sung has called on the U.S. to sell the island more sophisticated weapons to meet what he called an "increasing threat" from China. Chu told the parliament's Foreign Relations Committee that Taiwan's military purchases from Washington were expected to reach \$760M this year, compared with \$780M last year. But he said Taiwan still lacked sophisticated weapons to counter military modernization by China.

(Reuter)

NEWS FROM THE STATES

COOK COUNTY CHAIRMAN HARSH ATTACK ON REAGAN

CHICAGO -- Cook County Democratic chairman Edward Vrdolyak has launched a new "Punch 10" straight-ticket voting campaign with a harsh attack on President Reagan. Vrdolyak's \$12,000 in radio commercials blame Reagan for the bombings of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The Chicago alderman is using his own 10th Ward campaign chest to finance the commercials.

HAIRDRESSER POLL FAVORS REAGAN

ST. LOUIS (UPI) -- Americans who frequent the nation's beauty salons prefer Ronald Reagan over Democratic challenger Walter Mondale in a presidential poll released Tuesday. About 10,000 salon clients, both male and female, filled out ballots declaring their preferences in the Nov. 6 election. The Reagan-Bush ticket was favored by 58.8 percent of the clients while Mondale-Ferraro was selected by 38.6 percent.

CELESTE PRAISES FERRARO

CLEVELAND (UPI) -- Gov. Richard F. Celeste Tuesday applauded vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro's criticisms of federal deficits, saying deficits will rob Ohio of jobs. "I think it was an excellent speech," said Celeste, a Democrat. "She articulated a couple of points about the deficit and how the deficit is going to take jobs from Ohio and Cleveland."

CITY COUNCIL ASKS R-B CAMPAIGN TO PAY FOR SECURITY

CUPERTINO, Calif. (UPI) -- The City Council, irked over a \$17,000 bill for security at President Reagan's Labor Day rally at De Anza College, has asked the city attorney to look into the legality of spending tax money on political events. The council's 5-0 vote Monday night came in response to a letter from the Reagan-Bush campaign declining to reimburse the city for the money it spent during the Sept. 3 rally. The city, which does not have its own police department, billed officials at the Reagan-Bush campaign headquarters in Washington, D.C., \$16,812.72 for extra deputies provided by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department. Campaign officials responded that there had been no prior agreement to reimburse the city, so they would not pay. City Manager Robert Quinlan wrote campaign officials for the reimbursement because he claimed the event had been a campaign visit and not a presidential one.

REPORTER EXPECTS DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN NICARAGUA
IF REAGAN IS RE-ELECTED

FRESNO (UPI) -- Nicaragua will become another Vietnam for the United States if President Reagan is re-elected, a reporter who spent two years studying the situation in the Latin American country said Monday. Karl Grossman, whose book "Nicaragua: America's Next Vietnam?" was published last spring, made the prediction in a talk at Fresno State University. He said he expects direct military involvement in the Nicaraguan revolution if Reagan wins a second term.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

PRESIDENT MAY CAMPAIGN IN CALIFORNIA AGAIN

SACRAMENTO (UPI) -- President Reagan may make another campaign trip -- possibly next week -- to California where private polls show his lead over former Vice President Walter Mondale is slipping. The polls taken by both political parties showed Monday the president's lead in his home state has narrowed to between six and 10 points.

REAGAN URGED TO SIGN TIMBER RELIEF BILL SOON

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- State Reagan-Bush campaign officials and Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale urged President Reagan Tuesday to sign the timber contract relief legislation passed by Congress recently. John Gram, a co-chairman of the Reagan-Bush campaign in Oregon, said he has not been informed whether the President will sign the measure, but added, "We hope he does. I really kind of think he will." Gram said passage of the measure could only improve Reagan's chances in the state because it would help the employment picture all over the Northwest as well as aiding small and mid-sized timber companies with federal contracts. Walter Mondale, in a statement released Tuesday by his campaign office, urged Reagan to sign the legislation, which he called critical to the Northwest timber economy. "Ronald Reagan's policies have devastated the timber industry and the Northwest economy," said Mondale. "I call on President Reagan today to take one small step to aid the Northwest and sign the bipartisan timber contract measure before him." Senator Hatfield said the President may wait until Wednesday to sign the bill because Vice President George Bush is scheduled to visit Portland that day. U.S. Budget Director Stockman has said he is against the bill and Hatfield said that position stems "basically from a lack of understanding."

MONDALE MOVING IN ON REAGAN IN KENTUCKY

FRANKFORT, Ky. (UPI) -- The momentum that began a week ago in Louisville has pushed Democratic Walter Mondale up in the polls at least 10 percentage points in Kentucky, a Democratic pollster said Monday. Harrison Hickman, the campaign pollster for U.S. Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, said Mondale had cut Reagan's reported 25-point margin "about in half" since the Oct. 7 presidential debate. Hickman would not release specific numbers from a poll he took in Kentucky last Wednesday and Thursday, but he said Mondale was between 10 and 15 points behind Reagan, compared with the 25 points reported from mid-September polling. "If anyone thinks that's positive, they're whistling by the graveyard," said Republican national committeeman Larry Forgy, who chairs the Reagan campaign in Kentucky.

DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATOR AMONG REAGAN BACKERS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- Rep. Jimmie Don McKissack, D-Star City, a Democratic officeholder for nearly 18 years, is included on a list of members of the Democrats for Reagan-Bush Committee. "The national Democratic Party has changed a lot in the last few years; it has moved away from conservative Democrats," McKissack, who is not seeking re-election from District 91, said in an interview Friday.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

HART HITS HAZARDOUS WASTE

SACRAMENTO (UPI) -- Speaking from outside the barb-topped fence of an Air Force base hazardous waste dumping ground, Colorado Sen. Gary Hart has accused President Reagan of rewarding instead of punishing polluters. Hart, fulfilling a promise to campaign for one-time rival Walter Mondale, made the comments to reporters Monday outside McClellan AFB, one of the country's worst toxic sites. He said Reagan "has done about everything he can to reverse" environmental commitments of the 1970s and "failed to acknowledge the environmental needs of the '80s." California, where a Mondale tracking poll shows Reagan's lead has narrowed to 6 percentage points, could swing the election, said Hart. He suggested the 73-year-old president's age will be a factor among voters. One resident, Kathy Paiz, chastized Hart for making cleanup of toxic waste dumps "a political issue" and said the situation also was "crummy" under the Carter administration.

SIERRA CLUB CRITICIZES REAGAN

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club Monday criticized the Reagan administration's failure to support a bill that would have accelerated the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. "The disturbing thing is that the Reagan administration failed to get behind this bill despite the strong bipartisan support it had in the U.S. House," said Byron Brewer, Sierra Club legislative chairman.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION LAGS ON TOXIC CLEANUP:
WISCONSIN ACTION COALITION

MADISON, Wis. (UPI) -- The Wisconsin Action Coalition makes it clear it does not like the way the Reagan Administration is handling the cleanup of toxic waste sites. And the coalition -- Wisconsin's largest alliance of consumer groups -- has a point. The state has 23 sites that were picked by the U.S. Environmental Agency for priority cleanup under the 3½-year-old Superfund program. The record, nationally and in America's Dairyland, is dismal, according to the Coalition, which did a study of the program.

BUSH, FERRARO COMING TO OREGON

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- Both major-party vice presidential candidates plan campaign journeys to Oregon in the next 10 days as the election battle heats up. Democratic vice presidential nominee Geraldine Ferraro will appear at a \$100-a-ticket fundraiser Oct. 26 at the Portland Hilton, campaign officials said Monday. Vice President George Bush arrives in Oregon Wednesday, which prompted Rep. AuCoin to state Monday that "it's time to bring us some good news on the timber bill."

BUSH TO VISIT SPOKANE THURSDAY

SPOKANE, Wash. (UPI) -- Vice President George Bush will attend a noon rally at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane Thursday. The visit could be the last of a series of visits by Republican and Democratic officials trying to woo northwest voters into their respective folds for the Nov. 6 election. So far, Nancy and Maureen Reagan and Joan Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro have made appearances or held rallies in Spokane.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

POLL SHOWS MONDALE GAIN

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- A coalition of women's groups supporting the Mondale-Ferraro ticket reacted with glee Tuesday to a new presidential election poll showing Mondale gaining on President Reagan. State Treasurer Ann Richards, a key participant in a statewide effort to register women voters, cited a new Lou Harris poll indicating Mondale was within nine percentage points of Reagan nationwide and within seven percentage points in the 11 largest states. She also repeated a claim by Mondale's Texas coordinator, Dwyane Holman, that the former vice president will carry Texas "comfortably" if he is down by only six to eight points on the Friday before the Nov. 6 election. Both Richards and Holman base that claim on their belief that current polls do not reflect minorities and newly registered voters -- particularly women.

REPORT BLAMES REAGAN ADMINISTRATION FOR HUNGER PROBLEMS

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- A legislative study outlined Tuesday in conjunction with World Food Day indicates the number of hungry Texans has tripled since 1980 and blames the problem on Reagan administration policies. "Hunger is a growing problem in Texas and evidence of its incidence has increased dramatically since the first policies and cutbacks imposed by the Reagan administration in 1981," committee chairman Hugh Parmer, D-Fort Worth, said in the Austin leg of a national teleconference to discuss world hunger. He said the demand for emergency food assistance grew 300 percent in Texas since 1980 with more than 2 million Texans now facing "the threat of hunger." Parmer predicted the number would rise to nearly 3 million in 1985 with as many as 20 percent of the state's residents going hungry within the next few years.

POLL ON CHURCH AND POLITICS

BOSTON (UPI) -- A majority of Catholics in Massachusetts, even those opposed to abortion, believes the church should not be involved in politics, a new poll shows. Sixty-one percent of Catholics, and 58 percent of those against abortion, said the church should keep away from political issues, according to the poll published Sunday in the Boston Herald.

COLLEGE CAMPUSES TURNING CONSERVATIVE

(UPI) -- Young people on college campuses across North Carolina are switching from liberal to conservative activism because "they see the need for a job," says a leader of one of the state's 15 Youth for Reagan-Bush chapters. Young Republican organizations have sprouted by the dozens on North Carolina's campuses, once hotbeds of support for liberal causes, officials said Monday. The shift started during President Carter's administration and mushroomed after President Reagan's election, students said.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

REAGAN, O'NEILL HAGGLE IN SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL JOURNAL

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (UPI) -- Two nationally known authors -- President Reagan and House Speaker Tip O'Neill -- use a special magazine printed to honor the U.S. Constitution's bicentennial to argue over the proposed line-item veto, the editor said Monday. The Republican president and the Democratic speaker struggle for power with the words of articles they wrote for "Toward the Bicentennial of the Constitution," said editor Dr. Stephen White. "Who is to say that this group, this Congress, should bow to the wishes of any one individual, no matter who that individual may be," O'Neill, D-Mass., said in his article, "Congress: The First 200 Years."

"The people have grown to expect leadership from the president not only in executing the laws but also in presenting a legislative program to Congress for consideration," Reagan replied in his article, "The Presidency: Roles and Responsibilities."

TWO MEN CHARGED WITH THREATENING REAGAN'S LIFE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI) -- A federal prosecutor Tuesday said he would ask that one of two area men charged with threatening the life of the president undergo a psychiatric examination. John Osgood, Assistant U.S. Attorney, said Tuesday he would file a motion asking Gunner Lee Bond, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., be sent to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners in Springfield, Mo., for a psychiatric examination to determine whether he is competent to stand trial. The Secret Service and police Monday arrested Bond, also known as Deicoul Ibbaka, after Gov. Christopher S. Bond received a tape recording containing the threat against Reagan. The envelope containing the tape had the suspect's return address on it, authorities said. Gunner Lee Bond was being held on \$25,000 bond.

DOLE AT FUND-RAISER

TOPEKA, Kan. (UPI) -- Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., spoke at a fund-raising breakfast for Jim Van Slyke Monday, saying 2nd District voters who support President Reagan must vote for Van Slyke. "Your support for Ronald Reagan is very important," Dole said to about 150 people. "But what's more important is to give him someone who will vote for his programs in the Congress. That's just how simple it is." Dole said Reagan's programs are being undermined by Democrats and the importance of the Van Slyke candidacy is to replace Democratic incumbent Jim Slattery with a Republican from the 2nd congressional district.

BROWN KNOCKS REAGAN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, D-Ky., received some re-election campaign help Monday night from his primary election rival, former Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. Brown, addressing a Huddleston campaign rally, criticized President Reagan's handling of the federal deficit, saying the administration was "unraveling the financial structure of America" and "selling out the future of our children." And, Brown added about the deficit, "What President Reagan has done is shameful." On the other hand, Brown said Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale had the courage to propose a solution to the deficit question.

-end of News from the States-

CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES

(UPI) -- Schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for Wednesday, Oct. 17, and tentative schedules for the week ahead.

Walter Mondale:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 7:10 a.m. EDT arrives Washington National Airport from Los Angeles. 7:20 a.m. departs for Washington residence; no public schedule for balance of day.

Thursday, Oct. 18-Saturday, Oct. 20: private time at home, Wash.

Sunday, Oct. 21: Participates in debate with President Reagan, K.C., Mo.

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Geraldine Ferraro:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 8 a.m. PDT departs Beverly Hilton Hotel for Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, 4357 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. 8:20 a.m. addresses California Coalition of Women, Masonic Temple. 9 a.m. departs for Los Angeles International Airport. 9:30 a.m. private time, airport. 10:15 a.m. departs for Sacramento, Calif. 11:25 a.m. arrives Sacramento. 12:05 p.m. rally, Library Quad, Sacramento State University. 1 p.m. private time, Sacramento State University. 2:15 p.m. departs for Sacramento airport. 3 p.m. departs for Seattle, Wash. 4:40 p.m. arrives Boeing Field, Seattle. 4:55 p.m. private time, airport. 5:40 p.m. attends closed dinner, no location given, Seattle. 6:05 p.m. departs dinner. 6:25 p.m. attends private reception, no location given. 6:45 p.m. departs reception. 6:55 p.m. private time, Madison Hotel, 5115 Madison St., Seattle. 7:55 p.m. departs for KOMO-TV studio, Seattle. 8:05 p.m. arrives KOMO-TV to tape segment of ABC's "Nightline." 9 p.m. departs for hotel. 9:10 p.m. arrives Madison Hotel for overnight.

Thursday, Oct. 18: Morning events, Seattle. Afternoon departs for New York City with a refueling stop in Columbia, Mo. Evening arrives New York and motorcades to home in Queens, N.Y., for overnight.

Friday, Oct. 19: Private time, Queens residence.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Morning event, Amhurst, Mass.; afternoon event, Burlington, Vt.; evening event, Bangor, Maine.

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President Reagan:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: Washington; prepares for candidates debate.

Thursday, Oct. 18: Appears at Al Smith dinner in New York, returning to Washington for overnight.

Friday, Oct. 19: Prepares for debate, Washington; flies to Camp David.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Delivers weekly paid radio address from Camp David.

Sunday, Oct. 21: Returns to White House and departs for Kansas City, Mo., for presidential candidates debate with Mondale.

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Vice President George Bush:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 10 a.m. tours San Francisco China Town's business district. 12:20 p.m. foreign affairs address to the Commonwealth Club, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. Late afternoon goes to Portland, Ore., for community forum and overnight.

Thursday, Oct. 18: 12:30 p.m. rally, Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Wash. Early evening forum, no location, Seattle, Wash. Overnights Seattle.

Friday, Oct. 19: Early morning, maritime industry tour, Seattle. 2:55 p.m. CDT rally, a high school in Council Bluffs, Iowa. 4:30 p.m. press availability, Club 64 Restaurant, Council Bluffs. 5:10 p.m. closed fund-raiser, Club 64. 6:20 p.m. departs for Washington.

-end of A-Section-

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VICE PRESIDENT BUSH

CBS's Dan Rather: Vice President Bush conceded today that the record shows Walter Mondale never actually said U.S. Marines died in shame in Lebanon. But Bush claims two dictionaries indicate that's what Mondale meant, and Bush still refuses to apologize. Bush's counterpart, Geraldine Ferraro tread on sensitive ground too today, talking about President Reagan's age as an election.

CBS's David Dow: Vice President Bush today struggled and failed to get rid of an issue that has ignited Democratic tempers and promises to land squarely in Sunday's presidential debate. The battle broke out after Bush's statement in his own debate last Thursday concerning the bombing of American Marines in Lebanon. (Vice President, in debate: "For somebody to suggest, as our two opponents have, that these men died in shame -- they better not tell the parents of those young Marines.") Bush now concedes his opponents never said the Marines died in shame, though he has insisted in two appearances they suggested the same thing by saying the U.S. was humiliated in Lebanon. His defense rested on two dictionaries -- one last night, another today. (Vice President, at appearance in L.A.: "Let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International, where humiliation is defined as: degradation, disgrace and shame." Vice President at press conference: "That came, I said, from Webster's. It's the American Heritage dictionary. Webster's, which I cited last night, equates humiliation with debase. And you see debase as deep shame.") But the defense and refusal to apologize only served to stir up Democrats even more. (Speaker O'Neill: "We have to tell the American public. And when I said he lied -- it's a word that I hate to use with regards to any person, but particularly a high official of the government. But you've got to get the truth over to the people.") There's no clear sign yet that the shame debate is having any impact on voters. But as Bush campaigned through California's farm belt today, he conceded -- quote -- we're in a close race. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings: Most of the attention is still locked on the presidential election. With exactly three weeks to go, the campaign is taking on a different tone, a bitter tone.

ABC's Carol Simpson: Before a glittering crowd of wealthy California Republicans last night, Vice President Bush defended his assertion in last week's debate that Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro suggested U.S. Marines killed in Beirut died in shame. Bush cited a Mondale quote from an old newspaper article saying President Reagan let Middle East terrorists humiliate us. (Vice President: "At the risk of being called patronizing, let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International, where humiliation is defined as: degradation, disgrace and shame.") Bush apparently could not find any direct quotes from Mondale and Ferraro saying the Marines died in shame. So in a news conference today, all he could produce as proof of his charge were more dictionary definitions and more old

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Simpson (continued): newspaper quotes, including some from Ferraro saying the Marines died on a mission without purpose. (Vice President: "Mr. Mondale and Mrs. Ferraro can argue all they want. They can demand apologies every day. But the fact of the matter is that accusing young men of dying without a purpose and for no reason is, in the lexicon of the American people, a shame.") Vice President Bush also accused Mondale and Ferraro of being guilty of what he called rhetorical excess. He said the Democrats have made serious errors in judgment when discussing national security and foreign affairs. For all those reasons, said Bush, he will not apologize. (ABC-2)

NBC's John Severson: There are signs that somebody is worried about George Bush's campaign. (TV Coverage: Lyn Nofzinger watching Vice Presidential news conference.) For the first time, Republican troubleshooter Lyn Nofzinger is traveling on the Bush plane. As of today, Bush will no longer be as accessible to the national press corps as he was before the slip ups started. Reagan-Bush campaign director Ed Rollins watched as Bush tried to joke about his and Barbara Bush's off-color campaign rhetoric. (Vice President: "Barbara and I almost didn't make it tonight. We were up in our room, washing our mouths out with soap.") But the most serious controversy which continues to dog the campaign is the Bush charge that his opponents said the Marines in Lebanon died in shame, a charge Mondale denies. (Vice President: "Well, let me quote him on that subject.") Bush quoted Mondale as saying the U.S. had been humiliated in Lebanon, but he was unable to quote Mondale or Ferraro as saying that the Marines died in shame, even with the help of a dictionary. (Vice President: "Let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International ... disgrace and shame.") But he quoted from the wrong dictionary, and later said it should have been the American Heritage dictionary. (Vice President: "Let's just go by this dictionary, then. Let's go by this dictionary. Humiliation --") Instead of apologizing to Mondale, Bush attacked Ferraro. (Vice President: "Is Mrs. Ferraro too determined always to blame the President first, too determined to make partisan points, too busy to take the time to learn the facts?") And Mondale leveled his most personal attack on Bush. (Mondale: "The American people see somebody who's sort of like a political hit-and-run driver. Well, he's hit us with a false charge. He doesn't have an answer, and he doesn't have the manhood to apologize.") With only three weeks until the election, and with the polls tightening, Bush can't risk any more mistakes. His new strategy is to attack and avoid questions. (NBC-4)

WALTER MONDALE

ABC's Brit Hume: When Walter Mondale heard in California this morning that George Bush was still refusing to apologize, he renewed the demand in the strongest terms yet. (Mondale: "There is no way that Mr. Bush can avoid the fact that he made a vicious charge. It is dead wrong. He should apologize. So, let me give him this

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Hume (continued): advice: George, apologize. Get it over with. Stop embarrassing yourself this way. You'll feel better the next day.") But when he was asked if Bush still refused -- (Mondale: "Well, I think the last five days, he's paid a big price already. The American people see somebody sort of like a political hit-and-run driver. And he's hit us with a false charge. He doesn't have an answer, and he doesn't have the manhood to apologize.") The main event today was a campus rally and speech on foreign policy, in which Mondale answered Mr. Reagan's charge of yesterday that he is confused on the subject. (Mondale: "For 30 years, Mr. Reagan has had a naive and primitive notion of national strength." (Cheers) "Mr. President, if you want this campaign to turn on who's out of touch with reality, you will have that debate and it begins this morning on the Stanford campus.") Mondale also called for creation of a permanent assembly of the world's democratic nations, a proposal that like everything else today seemed aimed at raising the interest and the stakes in Sunday's foreign policy debate with the President.

(ABC-3)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Arms control and nuclear war will be two of the big topics at Sunday's debate between Walter Mondale and President Reagan. Today Mondale warmed up with some hardballs aimed directly at the President. He was speaking to a friendly student audience at Stanford University in California. (Mondale: "He called John Kennedy weak and blasted him for not taking what he called the final step in the Cuban crisis. (Boos) He called Lyndon Johnson weak, and attacked him for not threatening the use of atomic weapons in Vietnam. (Boos) For 30 years, Mr. Reagan has had a naive and primitive notion of national strength. (Cheers))

(NBC-2)

REP. FERRARO

CBS's Phil Jones: Ferraro appeared to be taking this advice today as she accused the Administration of walking away from responsibility for the deaths of Marines in Beirut. As for Ferraro, she walked right into the controversy over whether President Reagan's age should be a campaign issue. She had been sidestepping the question, saying it was up to voters. But today, she said that and more at a Cleveland news conference. (Ferraro: "However people want to deal with the age issue is up to them, if they want to deal with it at all. But I believe it should be one of the factors considered along with everything else. There are lots of things you should take into consideration, and age is one of them just like health -- down the line.") And the President himself could not get away from the issue today, when asked by a student if he felt his age would have any effect on his upholding another term. (President: "All I know is that I feel fine. I have a little gym there in the White House. I work out every day, except when they put me out on the road this way. The doctors all say -- well, the way I put it is I'm not really this old, they mixed up the babies in the hospital." (Laughter)) And so, if you think all of this is heavy political combat, just stop and think. We still have three weeks to go before election day.

(CBS-2)

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ABC's Lynn Sherr: Geraldine Ferraro agreed to an unusual airport press conference today to respond to George Bush's charges on the Beirut bombing. (Ferraro: "This Administration does, first of all, distort very frequently the things that either I or Fritz Mondale say or have voted or have stood for. And then, secondly, has -- you know -- done this type of thing again -- of backing off, trying to save face, almost. That's the thing that bothers me.") Earlier, at a rally at the Illinois State Capitol, one eager supporter carried a reminder of that other remark Bush made about kicking ass at the debates. (TV Coverage: Sign in crowd reading: Illinois Voters Will Kick Bush's Behind Nov. 6.) Ferraro dealt with that one at a stop in Cleveland, saying it, along with suggestions by his wife and press secretary that Ferraro is either a witch or bitchy were not accidental. (Ferraro: "Let me say that I think that those comments were planned. The Bushes are not the type of people who will accidentally let something like that slip out.") Ferraro also took a swipe at the top of the ticket, gently suggesting for the first time that the President's age is a legitimate issue for voting. (Ferraro: "-- make the determination. I think that that's something they have to decide. What effect age, if any, will have upon his ability as President of the United States. It might have none.") Ferraro's staff says her remarks are not part of any stepped up attack on the Republicans, that she's simply saying what she believes. But they believe the rhetoric on both sides will heat up as the sides get closer in the polls. (ABC-4)

PRESIDENT REAGAN

Jennings: Well, while Mr. Bush and the two Democratic candidates continue to tangle, President Reagan has been campaigning in Illinois. That is a state where the race appears to have tightened up since the first presidential debate. The two dominant themes of the President's campaign today were foreign policy and the President's age.

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan at a rally in a Chicago suburb kept up his attack on Walter Mondale on the subject of foreign policy. (President: "My opponent failed to repudiate the Rev. Jesse Jackson when he went to Havana, stood with Fidel Castro and cried, 'Long live Cuba. Long live Castro. Long live Che Guevara.'") But if the President seemed confident in his attacks on Mondale, it was another matter during a tour of a local career center science lab, when the subject of his own age. (Student: "Do you feel that your age will have any effects on you upholding another term in the office if you were re-elected." President: "Upholding?" Student: "Another term in the office if you were re-elected?" President: "Ah -- this must with be in regard to some of the things about my health and age and so forth. No, I feel fine.") To demonstrate how fine he's feeling, the President has been walking a lot in public recently. For the first time since the attempt on his life three-and-a-half years ago. How come? (President, walking from helicopter: "Well, because the gentlemen who are in charge of security have said that I can do it these last few places.") Asked why security was less of a problem

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Donaldson (continued): now than it had been, no one answered. But by day's end, such defensive subjects had been put aside, overwritten by the enthusiastic applause of the President's party. Well, that's it for today. As a matter of fact, except for Thursday night's Al Smith dinner, that's it for the week. The big thing now is to prepare for the Sunday night debate with a lot of practice and a lot of rest. (ABC-5)

Jennings: That Al Smith dinner is going to be held in New York. Mr. Mondale was also supposed to be at the dinner, but decided not to attend in order to prepare for the debate. He suggested that Ms. Ferraro attend in his place. The Roman Catholic archdiocese of New York, which sponsors the dinner, said no, and a spokesman says the decision was based on precedent, not on Ms. Ferraro's views on abortion. Ms. Ferraro said today that she is disappointed. (ABC-6)

Brokaw: In President Reagan's campaign, very little is left to chance. It's generally agreed among Republicans and Democrats alike that the packaging of Ronald Reagan is the most effective in the long history of American presidential campaigns. Tonight, White House correspondent Chris Wallace takes us backstage for a Reagan tour.

NBC's Chris Wallace: (TV Coverage: Chicago rally) The President campaigning among young people today in suburban Chicago, trying to show he has a plan for the future. One more in a remarkable series of appearances this fall in which the President's men have used stagecraft to get their message out. A campaign that even Hollywood would envy. Decisions on where to go are made by a tight circle of White House and campaign officials. Director of advance Bill Henkel, who did the same job for Richard Nixon, decided just how the President would spend four hours in Illinois. (Henkel: "I'm looking for imagery and symbols. We are in fact producing a mini-play. We are in fact producing something that in fact will be interpreted by a much larger audience than is actually witnessing it.") Advance man Jim Kuhn then led a team of 50 Washington staffers, who spent a week assuring that everything would go on cue. (Advance man: "We need everybody to go. All we need is bodies at this point.") Thousands of phone calls were made. Local Republicans were recruited. All part of the advance man's motto: no surprises. (Kuhn: "If you take every stone and turn it over and look at it three or four times, basically you can eliminate 99 percent of those problems or surprises. And that's what we do in a five or six day period.") One objective was to have students ask the President questions to show Reagan can think on his feet. Some students said they were coached. (Student: "We were not to say anything stupid or highly sophisticated so the President understands. Just to make everything run smoothly.") The visual extravaganza was to be a big rally. But Kuhn had a problem. (Advance man: "We can't do a balloon drop because the ceiling is too low, as you know.") He decided to dramatize what the President called the new patriotism with lots of flags and six choruses. (TV Coverage: Scenes from the rally.) The point of all this: to make the events look good on

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Wallace (continued): television. The audience would largely be extras on a stage. (Ed Murnane: "We know that this is going to be -- that there's a good response. We know that it's going to be a good event for the news media to cover.") To have everything in place, aides estimated, cost the campaign about \$50,000 and taxpayers more than twice that, for security and communications. Despite all the planning, there were surprises. One student asked whether the President was too old to serve another term. Aides seemed disturbed, but Reagan didn't. (President: "Well, the way I put it is: I'm not really this old, they mixed up the babies in the hospital.") The well-rehearsed rally was the usual show-stopper. The only problem: banners that were supposed to stretch across the ceiling got tangled. Still, the Reagan team did its job again, creating the images and symbols that seemed to have a powerful effect on voters. (TV Coverage: Woman crying in rally audience.) (NBC-5)

CAMPAIGN COMMENTARY

George Will comments that the campaign is unusually petty. It all started when the Bushes and their press secretary said some rather sophmoric and silly things about Ms. Ferraro. Now Ms. Ferraro has said something almost as silly when she says it was planned. In fact, Ms. Ferraro's been around national politics long enough to know that you can explain most things, particularly dumb things, either in terms of fatigue, confusion or plain dumbness. We have a kind of indignation industry in Washington right now. And also, we've lost our sense of humor. (ABC-7)

BEIRUT BOMBING

Brokaw: Tonight, The Nation magazine is reporting that President Reagan ignored a CIA warning and a Pentagon recommendation to withdraw American Marines from Beirut five days before the terrorist attack on the Marine headquarters. 241 Americans were killed at the time. According to the magazine, the CIA warning and a recommendation from Secretary Weinberger to pull back the Marines -- those recommendations were delivered at a White House meeting. But then, The Nation reports, Weinberger was persuaded to rescind his recommendation, and tonight National Security Adviser McFarlane told Andrea Mitchel of NBC News: I do not recall any such recommendation. (NBC-3)

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Jennings reports the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a man who, in terms of raw numbers, can be said to represent the majority of South Africans because he is black. The Nobel committee chose Tutu, as the committee put it, because he represents the non-violent struggle for change in South Africa. (ABC-Lead and 9, NBC-6)

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Rather interviews Archbishop Tutu. He asked him about the Reagan Administration's policy towards South Africa's white minority government, a policy called "constructive engagement."

Tutu: Constructive engagement has not worked. Far from working to change the situation in South Africa in the right direction, as I've tried to indicate, things have deteriorated and deteriorated badly. It seems to me that this Administration is saying that blacks are expendable. The name of the United States in the black community in South Africa, very sadly, is mud.

Rather: Why is that?

Tutu: Because you -- your country, it seems, is collaborating with, supporting a system that is bringing too much unnecessary and untold misery on children of God's children. And that you are supporting an unjust, a repressive regime. (CBS-5)

PRIME RATE

Rather: Several major banks today lowered their prime lending rate by a quarter of a point to 12½ percent. Yesterday, Bankers Trust reduced its prime to 12¼ percent. (CBS-7, ABC-12)

EL SALVADOR

CBS's Richard Wagner reports that, although the guerrillas are already back in La Palma, and the army is back on patrol a few miles away, it's increasingly apparent this is a country so weary of war that peace, after five years of killing, indeed has a chance. It's evident both sides deeply want to end a war neither can win. It's far less evident how much either is willing to compromise to bring that about. (CBS-9)

NBC's Mike Boettcher says, the morning after the La Palma talks, the guerrillas cleaned their M-16s, sang revolutionary songs and convinced themselves it would be a long time before they could stop fighting and hiding in the mountains. Roberto d'Aubuisson doesn't trust the guerrillas. I hope Duarte wasn't putting on a show for a foreign power, d'Aubuisson said. He meant the United States. But Duarte's peace effort was playing well at home. (NBC-8)

N.C. SENATE RACE

The race between Jesse Helms and Jim Hunt for South Carolina's contested Senate seat is one of the hottest, down-and-dirtiest of all of this year's Senate battles. The charges and money are flying in all directions. (CBS-11, ABC-8)

AFGHANISTAN

NBC shows new footage brought back by a West German photographer of the fighting in Afghanistan. (NBC-11)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTSEL SALVADOR

Next Monday at La Palma -- "Whether the hard right, which has not by a long shot lost all connections in the armed forces, will stand still for a dialogue is no less a question than whether the Marxists in the guerrilla leadership will dare submit their political fate to the new elections Mr. Duarte has in mind. The wrong kind of signal from either side's foreign patrons could easily upset whatever process may conceivably get under way. It is a moment of great uncertainty, but of great promise too."

(Washington Post, 10/10)

Duarte's offer -- "The way to peace in El Salvador, however, is through political settlement: This is a conflict that will not be settled solely through military action, despite the Duarte government's recent successes. The Duarte initiative of peace talks should be supportive. At the same time expectations ought to be kept within bounds.....The current Duarte offer, and the tentative response of rebel leaders, are part of the ongoing political process on both sides."

(Christian Science Monitor, 10/10)

Surprise in El Salvador -- "The test for the rebels will be whether they are willing to lay down their arms not for just one meeting but for the long negotiations that will be needed to bring justice to El Salvador without violence. The bigger question, in the short term, is whether the Salvadoran military will cooperate with Duarte's peace initiative."

(Los Angeles Times, 10/10)

Peace Powwow in El Salvador -- "The fact is the guerrillas had little choice in the matter; they've been calling for unconditional talks ever since launching their insurgency five years ago. Even so, while the prospects for a peaceful settlement appear brighter, there is no assurance President Duarte's initiative will lead to serious negotiations."

(Washington Times, 10/12)

The Olive Branch -- "What one has to remember nonetheless about left-wing guerrillas is that they aren't guerrillas because they believe in the democratic process; rather they seek to substitute another kind of process entirely -- dictatorship....The U.S. Congress has agreed to keep aid flowing, and the Salvadoran army is increasingly assertive and successful. In which context, why not offer peace talks -- so long as the offer isn't made in starry-eyed expectation of instant peace."

(Dallas Morning News, 10/10)

El Salvador: Duarte's Shocker -- "President Duarte's startling offer to meet with opposition guerrillas to discuss 'details for their democracy' can only be seen as a major breakthrough, one that ultimately could lead to an end to the tiny nation's five-year-old civil war."

(Dallas Times Herald, 10/10)

Duarte's bold offer -- "Now, through his UN speech, Duarte has seized the initiative in important ways. The principle of political settlement has been endorsed. The Salvadoran church, long a proponent of 'dialogo,' has been invited to play a role as witness and, conceivably, act as mediator. Duarte has put himself out front."

(Boston Globe, 10/10)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)NICARAGUA

Dirty War in Nicaragua... -- "The U.S. is not at war with Nicaragua, and the distribution of (the CIA) manual is a warlike provocation. President Reagan's 1981 directive against assassination probably was written with such thoughts in mind. Is anyone at the White House checking to see whether the directive was violated by the CIA manual writers?"

(Hartford Courant, 10/16)

JIMMY CARTER/ARGENTINA

For Mr. Carter, Honor Deserved -- "Jimmy Carter richly deserved every accolade he received on his visit to Argentina the other day. Here at home the former president may be something less than honored these days, but in Buenos Aires he was hailed as the architect of a human rights policy that had saved countless lives during the Argentine travail of the 1970s."

(Washington Post, 10/13)

BUSH/FERRARO

The Bush-Ferraro Debate -- "Whatever they said, however they handled themselves, whatever their personalities, the overriding campaign issue is this: Mr. Bush stands with President Reagan to promote a program for firm military defense of the peace and security of the U.S with opposition to Communist expansion abroad, and for economic recovery through tax cuts and free enterprise at home. Rep. Ferraro stands with Mr. Mondale for a less resolute, even appeasing and surrendering foreign policy, coupled with a promise of higher taxes, bigger government and more handouts and payoffs to a wide variety of narrow pressure groups at home."

(Chattanooga News-Free Press, 10/12)

Ferraro's Flaw -- "On the most important issue -- which of the two is better prepared to assume the presidency should the need arise -- we think Mr. Bush scored a clear, and predictable, win....If Ferraro has thought long and carefully about any foreign policy-defense issues, she did not show it."

(San Diego Union, 10/13)

Questions Remain About Presidential Ability -- "Both candidates are smart. Both, in their own ways, are effective vice presidential candidates. Yet neither has satisfied the reasonable skeptics. Can George Bush be both a loyal cheerleader and substantial policymaker? Is Geraldine Ferraro strong enough to leap the additional hurdles (fair or not) placed by today's leadership tests? There's not much time left for them to convince us."

(Detroit Free-Press, 10/14)

REAGAN/MONDALE

Groan -- "Messrs. Mondale and Reagan have been actors on the nation's political stage for years. We know what they think. Mondale is not necessarily an inferior human being. He is, rather, a proponent of an inferior political ideology -- an ideology whose advocates have dwindled so much that they now are but a contentious barony. He personifies the practices and policies rejected overwhelmingly in 1980, a judgment Reagan -- and 'his' policies -- has vindicated during the past four years. That is why Mondale trails so miserably today...." (Richmond News Leader, 10/8)



The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

Candidates Trade Jibes -- Before dropping off the campaign trail to cram for Sunday's crucial debate, Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale used tough language about each other that hinted the televised clash will be less than amiable.
(Gannett, Baltimore Sun, Christian Science Monitor,
Washington Post, Washington Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

Prime Drops to 12.5%; Analysts Differ on Decline -- Most major banks joined the fall to a lower prime lending rate, but economic analysts say it isn't clear where the rate is going for the remainder of the year.
(Washington Times)

Factory Output Falls First Time Since Recession -- The nation's industrial production fell a substantial 0.6% last month, the first decline since the recession ended nearly two years ago.
(Washington Post)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CIA Primer Tells Nicaraguan Rebels How To Kill -- A CIA document that became public this week tells Nicaraguan rebels how to win popular support and gives advice on political assassination, blackmail and mob violence. The 44-page booklet is a primer on insurgency.
(New York Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

VP BUSH -- The Vice President conceded the record shows Mondale never actually said U.S. Marines died in shame in Lebanon, but he claims that is what Mondale meant. Mondale renewed his demand that the Vice President apologize.

TRIP -- President Reagan kept up his attack on Mondale on the subject of foreign policy.

BEIRUT BOMBING -- The Nation is reporting that President Reagan ignored a CIA warning and a Pentagon recommendation to withdraw Marines from Beirut five days before the attack in October, 1983.

TRIP NEWS.....A-2

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-3

INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....A-8

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

EDITORIALS.....B-8

This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff. For complete stories or information, please call ext. 2950

TRIP NEWS

CANDIDATES TRADE JIBES

President Reagan and Walter Mondale, warming up for Sunday's debate, traded some of the harshest rhetoric of the campaign, with Reagan claiming the U.S. had "unilaterally disarmed" under the Carter Administration and Mondale calling Reagan's approach to foreign policy "naive and primitive." (Washington Post, A1)

Before dropping off the campaign trail to cram for Sunday's crucial debate, Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale used tough language about each other that hinted the televised clash will be less than amiable. Mondale charged that President Reagan's record is "one of profound confusion" and described the President as an amiable man who simply isn't governing the nation. And Reagan accused the Carter-Mondale Administration of disarming the U.S. and of being "baffled" by the Soviet Union.

(Ann Devroy and John Omicinski, Gannett)

REAGAN: U.S. 'DISARMED'

GLEN ELLYN -- President Reagan said the U.S. had "unilaterally disarmed" in the face of a Soviet arms buildup before he took office, and he laid the responsibility on Mondale and the Carter Administration. In a preview of his expected lines of attack in Sunday's debate, Reagan also criticized Mondale for the Iranian hostage crisis, suggested Mondale was naive about the Sandinista revolution and said Mondale had "failed to repudiate" Jesse Jackson's sympathetic comments about Castro.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A5)

REAGAN USES INSULTS, SARCASM IN CAMPAIGN

GLEN ELLYN -- President Reagan continued his slashing attacks against the record of Walter Mondale, turning to bitter sarcasm and thinly disguised insults. The President, who seems to be warming up for a no-holds-barred approach in next Sunday's debate, said his opponent would jeopardize the security of the nation. Tuesday, Mr. Reagan came very close to likening the Democratic opposition to rodents. Mr. Reagan, sticking largely to statistics and politeness, is generally conceded to have lost the first debate. He is expected to come out fighting in Kansas City.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

DEMOCRAT SAID TO LEAVE LEGACY OF 'SOCIAL, INTERNATIONAL CHAOS'

GLEN ELLYN -- With the polls showing his lead narrowing, President Reagan pressed his effort to undermine Mondale's credibility as a leader, particularly in foreign policy, in advance of Sunday's crucial debate. Suggesting the former vice president's record offered insight into his abilities, Mr. Reagan cited a long list of domestic and foreign policy predictions and positions, and said with new sarcasm: "It occurred to me that maybe all we have to do to get the economy in absolutely perfect shape is to get my opponent to predict absolute disaster."

(Gilbert Lewthwaite, Baltimore Sun, A1)

REAGAN TOUGHENS STYLE: ATTACKS OPPONENT HEAD-ON

It started off as a dignified Oval Office campaign that kept President Reagan above the partisan fray. Now there is a visible change. With Mondale shaving the President's lead in the polls, anxious Reagan strategists have gone on the attack and altered the Reagan style, making for a more rough-and-tumble campaign.

(Charlotte Saikowski, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

NATIONAL NEWS

MONDALE: REAGAN NAIVE

PALO ALTO -- In response to Reagan's accusation that he is a threat to national security, Mondale said such attacks are in keeping with a 30-year record of "profound confusion" that had led Reagan to launch similar blasts at past presidents, Democratic and Republican. Reagan called President Kennedy weak for not taking "what he called the final step in Cuba," he called President Johnson weak for "not threatening the use of atomic bombs in Vietnam," he accused President Ford of "bowing and scrapping" before the Soviet Union, and he accused President Nixon of being weak for signing SALT I. (Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A6)

Mondale Cites Reagan 'Confusion' Over Foreign Policy

Walter Mondale and Ronald Reagan, their debate on foreign policy four days away, are searching into each other's political history to support their growingly bitter contentions that neither is fit to lead the country in the nuclear age. Reagan and Mondale campaigned with a vengeance Tuesday, getting in last-minute shots before exchanging speeches and fund-raising dinners for briefing books and rehearsals in preparation for their showdown in Kansas City. After the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, Mondale said, according to the President, "It just baffles me why the Soviets, these last few years, have behaved as they have." "Doesn't he know it's their nature?" Reagan asked a student audience who roared with laughter. "But then, there's so much that baffles him." The remark about the nature of the Soviets was a throwback for Reagan, who has been trying to distance himself from the tough anti-Soviet rhetoric that characterized much of his term. (David Lawsky, UPI)

Incumbent's 'Primitive Notion' of National Defense Draws Fire

Mondale, in one of his most forceful attacks on President Reagan's leadership, accused the President of having "a record of profound confusion" on defense and foreign policy and a "naive and primitive notion of national strength." Mondale took sharp aim at the President's competence, saying in Los Angeles he thought Mr. Reagan showed "an appalling lack of comprehension about what our (strategic) forces really are." (Nancy Schwerzler, Baltimore Sun, A1)

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MONDALE URGES FORMATION OF UNION OF DEMOCRACIES

PALO ALTO -- Walter Mondale, declaring President Reagan has a "naive and primitive notion of national strength," urged formation of "an Assembly for Democracies" to promote democratic values. In what was billed as a major statement on foreign affairs, Mondale said that, if elected, he would call a summit of the world's democratic leaders to establish an assembly to support development of free institutions. Among other things, the assembly would seek to advance democratic values such as human rights and would unite democracies in the struggle for peace and arms control, the nominee said. (Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A3)

BUSH DEFENDS REMARK

LOS ANGELES -- Vice President Bush sought to prove that Walter Mondale suggested that American Marines "died in shame" in Lebanon, producing statements in which Mondale said President Reagan's policies had "humiliated" the U.S. in the Middle East. Bush, who called a news conference to defend his debate charge against claims by Mondale that it was "libelous," referred reporters to the American Heritage Dictionary, which defines humiliation as "degradation, disgrace and shame." Asked if he was equating criticism of Reagan's foreign policy with criticism of the Marines, Bush responded: "Nobody had to say it's a tremendous 100,000% success....I hope I'm not so defensive that any criticism of the policy I would equate with humiliation." (Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A3)

Bush Renews 'Shame' Issue in California Appearances

Neither of the quotes by Mondale and Ferraro indicated shame on the part of the 241 Marines killed in the bombing of their barracks in Beirut last year, and both referred to humiliation suffered by the U.S. But Mr. Bush said it was the same as a slur on the dead Marines.

(Don McLeod, Washington Times, A2)

JABS CALLED 'PLANNED'

CLEVELAND -- Geraldine Ferraro said a recent string of derogatory comments about her by Vice President Bush, his wife and his press secretary were "planned." Ferraro also said President Reagan's age is "something to be considered" by voters on Nov. 6. Asked during a question-and-answer session about the "age" issue, she said, "That's not a judgment that I should make, with reference to the President's age. I think that that's something the American public has to take a close look at and consider, or not consider, whether it's important or not important."

(Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A3)

YOUTHS TIE JOB HOPES TO GOP, FERRARO SAYS

CLEVELAND -- Young people support the Reagan-Bush ticket because "they really believe Reagan can guarantee them a job," Rep. Ferraro said, and they don't have that same confidence in the Democratic ticket. "Unfortunately," she said of her unintended accolade for the Republican ticket, "it's not accurate....Any economist will tell you that if we don't do something about the deficits, we will slide back into a deep recession," she said.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A2)

FERRARO LEADS DEMOCRATIC ATTACK FOR REST OF WEEK

LOS ANGELES -- As Mondale bones up for his final debate with President Reagan, the day-to-day Democratic cause is in the hands of Geraldine Ferraro. At two rousing and heavily attended events in Cleveland and Illinois, she lashed out at Reagan and Vice President Bush in an attempt to build momentum for the final debate. She charged that personal attack on her by Bush, his wife and his chief spokesman were part of a "planned" maneuver by the Republicans. "The Bushes are not the type of people who accidentally let something like that slip out," she said. (John Cotter, Reuter)

HART SUGGESTS AGE TRIPPED REAGAN IN DEBATE

LOS ANGELES -- Gary Hart suggested that President Reagan's age was responsible for his occasionally halting performance in his debate. Chatting with reporters aboard Mondale's campaign jet, he said, however, that the problem was one of "competence and control," rather than Reagan's chronological age. (AP)

REAGAN'S AGE BECOMES ISSUE IN GREAT DEBATE TRADITION

Nobody said a word about President Reagan's age during his leadoff debate with Mondale -- but it became the issue. That is in keeping with the great tradition of the Great Debates. Over the 24 years since traditionally televised debates became a sometime part of presidential campaigning, the most telling issues they have generated have been matters of image, style, things that were not spoken, or were spoken by mistake. (News Analysis by Walter Mears, AP)

REAGAN, MONDALE START DEBATE PREPARATIONS

President Reagan and Walter Mondale retired temporarily from an increasingly combative presidential campaign to prepare for their debate. Both went into practice sessions. In major speeches, the two set out the main arguments they are expected to lay out in the debate, using some of the bluntest language in a campaign that has taken a bitter turn in the last few days. (Michael Battye, Reuter)

MONDALE STIRS UP NEW YORK POLITICS

Walter Mondale's decision to skip one of the highlights of New York City's election season, the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Dinner of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, created a political stir. Many politicians, including Mayor Koch, said they thought the candidate had made a mistake. But they also voiced the opinion that it would probably not do him much damage in the end (Michael Oreskes, New York Times, A1)

THE LATEST POLLS

President Reagan leads Walter Mondale 56-39% in a new national poll conducted by The Los Angeles Times. (Washington Post, A5)

SEN. KENNEDY FANS DEMOCRATIC FLAME

HARLINGEN, Texas -- Sen. Kennedy has hit the campaign trail as gatekeeper of his brother's legacy. "I'll travel across the country in this campaign to say," he roared here to a Mexican-American audience of more than 1,500, "that Ronald Wilson Reagan has no right to quote John Fitzgerald Kennedy." "As I remember -- and I do -- Ronald Reagan was a Democrat for Nixon in 1960....So I have a simple question: I wonder why Reagan doesn't quote Nixon now?" (Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A10)

REAGAN FACES LEGISLATION

President Reagan is considering more than 150 bills passed in the final days of the 98th Congress, including several that, in another session, would be likely candidates for veto. But some also are favorites of powerful interest groups, leaving the President with some hard choices with the election so near. A leading example grants an estimated \$400M to \$800M in relief to timber companies, mainly in the Pacific Northwest, by excusing them from old contracts to buy federal timber at what today seem high prices. Reagan signed it yesterday. A veto might have had unpleasant political repercussions in Oregon and Washington, where the President's lead over Mondale is not as large as in some other states. (Spencer Rich, Washington Post, A4)

GOP CHALLENGER CLOSING GAP IN ARKANSAS SENATORIAL RACE

LITTLE ROCK -- Sen. Pryor's Republican challenger contends the incumbent "is sinking like a stone" in his campaign for a second Senate term. Democrats say Pryor's head is still well above water. Both candidates have polls to buttress their arguments. A Lance Tarrance poll, taken in August for Rep. Bethune, showed a Pryor advantage of 52.6 to 36.4%. That's not good for an incumbent. But a Pryor poll, taken in September, gives him an edge of 63-30%. (Bill Kling, Washington Times, A1)

N.C. GOV. HUNT HITS 'RADICAL RIGHT'

RALEIGH -- "I don't want North Carolina to be known as the home for radical right-wing politicians," said Hunt. "I don't want North Carolina to be known for narrow, intolerant leaders who claim that God is on their side." Sen. Helms replied by pointing out that in 1981 Hunt had called President Reagan's economic recovery program "radical." Helms said he concluded the governor used the word "radical" for everything that is not liberal. (Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A1)

SENATE RACE IN IOWA IS A SEESAW

Sen. Jepsen, though battered, remains very much alive -- locked in a seesawing race with Rep. Harkin. It's a linchpin contest, top priority for both parties, and one that illustrates the powerful crosscurrents running through politics this fall. A Des Moines Register poll published Sunday found Rep. Harkin leading 46-41%, reversing an earlier 50-41% Jepsen advantage. But many Democratic and GOP professionals see this race as too tight and too volatile to call.

(Dennis Farney, Wall Street Journal, A64)

PRIME DROPS TO 12.5%; ANALYSTS DIFFER ON DECLINE

Most major banks joined the fall to a lower prime lending rate, but economic analysts say it isn't clear where the rate is going for the remainder of the year. There's nothing political about the drop, said Marlin Fitzwater. "They're just responding to the economic forces at work." Analysts said that, for now at least, low private credit demand and an easier credit policy by the Federal Reserve are offsetting the deficit's pressures. Other analysts said the prime rate drop may prove to be just a temporary phenomenon. David Wyss, chief financial economist for Data Resources Inc., of Lexington, Mass., consulting firm, said heavy Treasury borrowing virtually assures higher rates by year-end.

(Steven Beckner, Washington Times, A1)

FACTORY OUTPUT FALLS FIRST TIME SINCE RECESSION

The nation's industrial production fell a substantial 0.6% last month, the first decline since the recession ended nearly two years ago, the Federal Reserve Board reported. Part of the drop was a result of the brief strike against GM, and most forecasters are confident that no new recession is beginning. Nevertheless, the drop in output at the nation's factories, mines and utilities was larger than analysts had been expecting.

(John Berry, Washington Post, A1)

REAGAN INITIATIVES ON EDUCATION DEPRIVE DEMOCRATS OF KEY ISSUE

Today, much of the public perceives President Reagan as being good for education. One pollster this spring found only 6 to 8% of the populace uncomfortable with Mr. Reagan's education policies. "There's no question the President took the education issue away from the Democrats," said Rep. Goodling (R.-Pa.), "because their approach has been to just come up with another new program, and throw more money at it."

(Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

PANEL PROPOSES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

A citizens committee whose members include three former Cabinet secretaries recommended adoption of national health insurance as a more efficient and fair method of providing health care to all Americans. The National Citizens' Board of Inquiry into Health in America released a two-volume report that proposed, for the interim, expansion of Medicare coverage and health insurance for unemployed workers. The report focused on making the case for a universal comprehensive national health care plan similar to those in Canada, Great Britain and other industrial nations.

(Betty Anne Williams, AP)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHERNENKO SAYS U.S. HOLDS KEY TO ARMS TALKS

MOSCOW -- President Chernenko said in an interview that Soviet-American relations could be improved if the U.S. would demonstrate a genuine interest in reaching an equitable agreement "at least on one of the essential questions" of arms control. He singled out four such issues and made it clear a resolution of "at least some of them" would open the way for the resumption of negotiations on nuclear arms. The four issues included Moscow's proposal to prevent the militarization of outer space, a mutual freeze on nuclear weapons, ratification by the U.S. of test ban treaties and a pledge by the U.S. not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A1)

Move Linked to Campaign

Advisers to President Reagan and Walter Mondale said Chernenko's overtures to the U.S. on arms control may be aimed at pushing the issue to the forefront of the U.S. election campaign in advance of Sunday's debate. Advisers to both candidates also said Chernenko's proposals were worth careful study to see if they represent an opportunity to break the stalemate.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

FIT-LOOKING LEADER JOKES IN INNER SANCTUM

MOSCOW -- To an observer who has watched him from a distance during infrequent public appearances, the Soviet leader appeared fit and in good health. His complexion was ruddy, his handshake extraordinarily firm and his gait steady. His delivery was far better than in his public speeches. Chernenko's breathing was short and shallow, although less so than in public appearances.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A1)

SALVADORANS DID NOT DISCUSS MAJOR ISSUES

SAN SALVADOR -- Both President Duarte and his rebel opponents have assessed the historic peace talks as a success, but statements made Monday night and Tuesday by each side indicated their positions on how to end the war remain far apart. Most of the public statements so far have been positive. Both sides interpreted the decision to set up a joint committee to hold a round of further talks beginning next month as an important step toward ending the war.

(Loren Jenkins, Washington Post, A1)

Duarte Says He'd Talk Peace to Anyone; D'Aubuisson Blasts Talks

SAN SALVADOR -- President Duarte said he is "ready to talk to anyone" to end this nation's civil war, but added his meeting with rebel leaders was not official recognition of the guerrillas. Meanwhile, Roberto D'Aubuisson held a news conference and called the La Palma meeting "buffoonery." He said rebel Guillermo Ungo and Duarte were allies in the Christian Democratic Party and were intent on turning the nation to socialism.

(Arthur Allen, AP)

Duarte said he has a "timetable" for peace and hopes leftist guerrillas can take part in March elections. "I am demonstrating with actions that this government will do whatever has to be done to achieve peace," Duarte said.

(Michael Drudge, UPI)

Salvadoran Left Says Fighting to Continue

SAN SALVADOR -- Shortly after the meeting in La Palma, the members of the guerrilla delegation invited several reporters and independent observers to return with them to their mountain hideout. There, the guerrilla leaders made clear in a wide-ranging interview their continuing doubts about the rule of Duarte and their determination to pursue their military goals. (Alma Guillermoprieto, Washington Post, A22)

U.S. Reaction

Duarte's peace bid drew expressions of warm praise from President Reagan and Secretary Shultz, but State Department officials said it was still unclear whether serious negotiation with leftist rebels would be possible. Reagan sent Duarte a message saying that the U.S. shares his hopes and prayers that "this courageous initiative is the first step in a process that will bring a lasting peace through democracy to your nation." Meanwhile, the State Department disclosed that Shultz, on an official visit to Canada, sent a message to Duarte describing the meeting at La Palma as a "success" and saying he shares Duarte's "well earned feelings of triumph." Privately, State Department officials said the meeting was more serious than they had expected. (George Gedda, AP)

Military Weakness of Salvador Rebels Key to Negotiations

SAN SALVADOR -- Whether peace can actually be achieved will depend primarily on the military strength of the guerrillas. Many observers here believe the reason the guerrillas agreed to Monday's talk with Duarte's government was that the military situation has been significantly improving in favor of the army. More and more Salvadoran soldiers are being trained by U.S. instructors, and more and more weapons and equipment are arriving from America. The guerrillas, on the other hand, lack food and ammunition and are suffering from continuing desertions. (Jay Mallin, Washington Times, A1)

Duarte Hails 'Conquest' -- Rebels Question Motives

Duarte is billing his agreement on peace talks "a conquest," but a rebel leader who met with Duarte says the government does not really want peace. Guillermo Ungo, who led rebel negotiations, returned to Panama and told a Colombian radio station Duarte is not serious about peace because he turned down the rebels' proposed ceasefire. "The answer of the government was to refuse our proposal," Ungo said in the interview. "They flatly ruled it out, which indicates that the government itself wants us to keep killing each other," said Ungo. (Michael Drudge, UPI)

CIA PRIMER TELLS NICARAGUAN REBELS HOW TO KILL

A CIA document that became public this week tells Nicaraguan rebels how to win popular support and gives advice on political assassination, blackmail and mob violence. The 44-page booklet is a primer on insurgency. Most activity of this sort in Nicaragua has been paid for by the U.S. through the CIA. The primer explains how to kidnap and kill officials, blow up public buildings and blackmail ordinary citizens. The White House had no comment on the document. But at least one member of Congress, Rep. Downey, was calling for an investigation.

(Joel Brinkley, New York Times, A1)

GRENADA BEGINS TRIAL OF 19 REVOLUTIONARIES ON MURDER CHARGE

ST. GEORGE'S -- Nineteen islanders went on trial for the murder of PM Bishop last year. All 19 refused to plead guilty or not guilty, calling themselves prisoners of war and questioning the court's authority under "foreign occupation" to organize the trial.

(Edward Cody, Washington Post, A17)

CLARK, SHULTZ PLEDGE COOPERATION DESPITE ACID-RAIN DIFFERENCES

TORONTO -- Secretary Shultz said Canadian FM Clark gave him a "hard time" on the controversial issue of acid rain pollution from U.S. factories. But Shultz, repeating Reagan Administration policy, said the U.S. would continue studying the problem before deciding whether to order what he said would be a costly cleanup program to reduce high-sulfur emissions from Midwestern coal-burning industries.

(James Morrison, Washington Times, A6)

U.S. AGREES TO BUY MORE FROM ISRAEL

TEL AVIV -- Secretary Weinberger agreed the U.S. will buy \$100M worth of Israeli products in the last three months of this year to help offset Israeli purchases of U.S. military equipment, U.S. and Israeli sources said.

(Fred Hiatt, Washington Post, A17)

U.S. DENIES IT MADE NEW DEBT CONCESSION

The Reagan Administration, seeking to clarify an apparent misunderstanding, said it did not agree to new concessions on \$500M owed by Israel to the U.S. but reminded the Israelis they already have the right to postpone payment at the price of additional interest. Israeli diplomatic sources, backing away from claims in Israel that there had been a specific agreement, said Secretary Shultz mentioned to PM Peres last week that postponing the debt payment would be one way of easing Israel's problems. However, the Israeli sources disputed reports from Israel that the Peres government has decided on such a step.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A17)

WIENBERGER TO HAVE UNSCHEDULED TALKS WITH HUSSEIN

TEL AVIV -- Secretary Weinberger winds up a two-day visit to Israel and flies to neighboring Jordan for brief meetings with King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders. No reason was given for the sudden decision to visit Jordan. But there was speculation that the recent resumption of diplomatic ties between Jordan and Egypt would be among the topics discussed. Israeli officials expressed satisfaction with the results of the Secretary's visit, although they declined to discuss details.

(Robert Gary, Reuter)

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LEBANON'S PARLIAMENT ELECTS HARDLINER

BEIRUT -- The Lebanese Parliament elected as its speaker an anti-Israeli hardliner, Hussein Husseini, replacing the moderate Kamel Assad, who held the post 12 years. Husseini immediately pledged to make "the liberation of south Lebanon from Israeli occupation" the objective of his one-year term. He called for increasing government support for the "heroic national resistance" -- a term generally used for guerrilla attacks against Israeli troops in the southern part of the country.

(Washington Times, A5)

ARMY AND MILITIA FIGHT IN HILLS NEAR BEIRUT

BEIRUT -- Moslem impatience with the pace of political reforms spilled over into artillery duels between Lebanese army regulars and militiamen in the hills overlooking Beirut. Radio reports in the capital said Moslem Druze militiamen and army regulars traded shells late Tuesday night between the villages of Aitat and Keyfoun and the key army position at nearby Souk al Gharb. There were no reliable reports of casualties.

(Hala Khoury, UPI)

IRAQ SEEKING TO BUY 45 U.S. HELICOPTERS

Iraq is holding talks with a Texas firm about the purchase of up to 45 commercial helicopters that were developed initially as military transports, sources say. State Department officials said no licenses would be required if the helicopters do not carry munitions equipment.

(Barry Schweid, AP)

CHERNENKO, ASSAD DISCUSS MIDEAST

MOSCOW -- President Chernenko and President Assad met in the Kremlin as part of the Soviets's latest diplomatic effort in the Middle East. Tass said the two leaders attacked U.S. and Israeli policies and stressed the strong ties between the Soviet Union and Syria, its primary ally in the Mideast. Tass said they also reiterated demands that Israel withdraw from southern Lebanon and that a Palestinian state be created on the West Bank of the Jordan River.

(Washington Times, A6)

U.S. SKEPTICAL THAT SAKHAROV GIVEN EXIT VISA

COPENHAGEN -- A U.S. official says a statement by a Soviet leader that dissident Andrei Sakharov had been given an exit visa but does not want to leave the Soviet Union "can't be trusted." Ivan Polyakov, vice chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and member of the central committee, told a group of 10 Danish parliamentarians that Sakharov could leave his internal exile in Gorky for the West any time. The U.S. State Department was skeptical of Polyakov's remarks.

(UPI)

TAIWAN MINISTER CALLS FOR MORE SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS

TAIPEI -- Taiwan's foreign minister Chu Fu-Sung has called on the U.S. to sell the island more sophisticated weapons to meet what he called an "increasing threat" from China. Chu told the parliament's Foreign Relations Committee that Taiwan's military purchases from Washington were expected to reach \$760M this year, compared with \$780M last year. But he said Taiwan still lacked sophisticated weapons to counter military modernization by China.

(Reuter)

NEWS FROM THE STATES

COOK COUNTY CHAIRMAN HARSH ATTACK ON REAGAN

CHICAGO -- Cook County Democratic chairman Edward Vrdolyak has launched a new "Punch 10" straight-ticket voting campaign with a harsh attack on President Reagan. Vrdolyak's \$12,000 in radio commercials blame Reagan for the bombings of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The Chicago alderman is using his own 10th Ward campaign chest to finance the commercials.

HAIRDRESSER POLL FAVORS REAGAN

ST. LOUIS (UPI) -- Americans who frequent the nation's beauty salons prefer Ronald Reagan over Democratic challenger Walter Mondale in a presidential poll released Tuesday. About 10,000 salon clients, both male and female, filled out ballots declaring their preferences in the Nov. 6 election. The Reagan-Bush ticket was favored by 58.8 percent of the clients while Mondale-Ferraro was selected by 38.6 percent.

CELESTE PRAISES FERRARO

CLEVELAND (UPI) -- Gov. Richard F. Celeste Tuesday applauded vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro's criticisms of federal deficits, saying deficits will rob Ohio of jobs. "I think it was an excellent speech," said Celeste, a Democrat. "She articulated a couple of points about the deficit and how the deficit is going to take jobs from Ohio and Cleveland."

CITY COUNCIL ASKS R-B CAMPAIGN TO PAY FOR SECURITY

CUPERTINO, Calif. (UPI) -- The City Council, irked over a \$17,000 bill for security at President Reagan's Labor Day rally at De Anza College, has asked the city attorney to look into the legality of spending tax money on political events. The council's 5-0 vote Monday night came in response to a letter from the Reagan-Bush campaign declining to reimburse the city for the money it spent during the Sept. 3 rally. The city, which does not have its own police department, billed officials at the Reagan-Bush campaign headquarters in Washington, D.C., \$16,812.72 for extra deputies provided by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department. Campaign officials responded that there had been no prior agreement to reimburse the city, so they would not pay. City Manager Robert Quinlan wrote campaign officials for the reimbursement because he claimed the event had been a campaign visit and not a presidential one.

REPORTER EXPECTS DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN NICARAGUA
IF REAGAN IS RE-ELECTED

FRESNO (UPI) -- Nicaragua will become another Vietnam for the United States if President Reagan is re-elected, a reporter who spent two years studying the situation in the Latin American country said Monday. Karl Grossman, whose book "Nicaragua: America's Next Vietnam?" was published last spring, made the prediction in a talk at Fresno State University. He said he expects direct military involvement in the Nicaraguan revolution if Reagan wins a second term.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

PRESIDENT MAY CAMPAIGN IN CALIFORNIA AGAIN

SACRAMENTO (UPI) -- President Reagan may make another campaign trip -- possibly next week -- to California where private polls show his lead over former Vice President Walter Mondale is slipping. The polls taken by both political parties showed Monday the president's lead in his home state has narrowed to between six and 10 points.

REAGAN URGED TO SIGN TIMBER RELIEF BILL SOON

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- State Reagan-Bush campaign officials and Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale urged President Reagan Tuesday to sign the timber contract relief legislation passed by Congress recently. John Gram, a co-chairman of the Reagan-Bush campaign in Oregon, said he has not been informed whether the President will sign the measure, but added, "We hope he does. I really kind of think he will." Gram said passage of the measure could only improve Reagan's chances in the state because it would help the employment picture all over the Northwest as well as aiding small and mid-sized timber companies with federal contracts. Walter Mondale, in a statement released Tuesday by his campaign office, urged Reagan to sign the legislation, which he called critical to the Northwest timber economy. "Ronald Reagan's policies have devastated the timber industry and the Northwest economy," said Mondale. "I call on President Reagan today to take one small step to aid the Northwest and sign the bipartisan timber contract measure before him." Senator Hatfield said the President may wait until Wednesday to sign the bill because Vice President George Bush is scheduled to visit Portland that day. U.S. Budget Director Stockman has said he is against the bill and Hatfield said that position stems "basically from a lack of understanding."

MONDALE MOVING IN ON REAGAN IN KENTUCKY

FRANKFORT, Ky. (UPI) -- The momentum that began a week ago in Louisville has pushed Democratic Walter Mondale up in the polls at least 10 percentage points in Kentucky, a Democratic pollster said Monday. Harrison Hickman, the campaign pollster for U.S. Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, said Mondale had cut Reagan's reported 25-point margin "about in half" since the Oct. 7 presidential debate. Hickman would not release specific numbers from a poll he took in Kentucky last Wednesday and Thursday, but he said Mondale was between 10 and 15 points behind Reagan, compared with the 25 points reported from mid-September polling. "If anyone thinks that's positive, they're whistling by the graveyard," said Republican national committeeman Larry Forgy, who chairs the Reagan campaign in Kentucky.

DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATOR AMONG REAGAN BACKERS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- Rep. Jimmie Don McKissack, D-Star City, a Democratic officeholder for nearly 18 years, is included on a list of members of the Democrats for Reagan-Bush Committee. "The national Democratic Party has changed a lot in the last few years; it has moved away from conservative Democrats," McKissack, who is not seeking re-election from District 91, said in an interview Friday.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

HART HITS HAZARDOUS WASTE

SACRAMENTO (UPI) -- Speaking from outside the barb-topped fence of an Air Force base hazardous waste dumping ground, Colorado Sen. Gary Hart has accused President Reagan of rewarding instead of punishing polluters. Hart, fulfilling a promise to campaign for one-time rival Walter Mondale, made the comments to reporters Monday outside McClellan AFB, one of the country's worst toxic sites. He said Reagan "has done about everything he can to reverse" environmental commitments of the 1970s and "failed to acknowledge the environmental needs of the '80s." California, where a Mondale tracking poll shows Reagan's lead has narrowed to 6 percentage points, could swing the election, said Hart. He suggested the 73-year-old president's age will be a factor among voters. One resident, Kathy Paiz, chastized Hart for making cleanup of toxic waste dumps "a political issue" and said the situation also was "crummy" under the Carter administration.

SIERRA CLUB CRITICIZES REAGAN

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club Monday criticized the Reagan administration's failure to support a bill that would have accelerated the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. "The disturbing thing is that the Reagan administration failed to get behind this bill despite the strong bipartisan support it had in the U.S. House," said Byron Brewer, Sierra Club legislative chairman.

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION LAGS ON TOXIC CLEANUP:
WISCONSIN ACTION COALITION

MADISON, Wis. (UPI) -- The Wisconsin Action Coalition makes it clear it does not like the way the Reagan Administration is handling the cleanup of toxic waste sites. And the coalition -- Wisconsin's largest alliance of consumer groups -- has a point. The state has 23 sites that were picked by the U.S. Environmental Agency for priority cleanup under the 3½-year-old Superfund program. The record, nationally and in America's Dairyland, is dismal, according to the Coalition, which did a study of the program.

BUSH, FERRARO COMING TO OREGON

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- Both major-party vice presidential candidates plan campaign journeys to Oregon in the next 10 days as the election battle heats up. Democratic vice presidential nominee Geraldine Ferraro will appear at a \$100-a-ticket fundraiser Oct. 26 at the Portland Hilton, campaign officials said Monday. Vice President George Bush arrives in Oregon Wednesday, which prompted Rep. AuCoin to state Monday that "it's time to bring us some good news on the timber bill."

BUSH TO VISIT SPOKANE THURSDAY

SPOKANE, Wash. (UPI) -- Vice President George Bush will attend a noon rally at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane Thursday. The visit could be the last of a series of visits by Republican and Democratic officials trying to woo northwest voters into their respective folds for the Nov. 6 election. So far, Nancy and Maureen Reagan and Joan Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro have made appearances or held rallies in Spokane.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

POLL SHOWS MONDALE GAIN

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- A coalition of women's groups supporting the Mondale-Ferraro ticket reacted with glee Tuesday to a new presidential election poll showing Mondale gaining on President Reagan. State Treasurer Ann Richards, a key participant in a statewide effort to register women voters, cited a new Lou Harris poll indicating Mondale was within nine percentage points of Reagan nationwide and within seven percentage points in the 11 largest states. She also repeated a claim by Mondale's Texas coordinator, Dwyane Holman, that the former vice president will carry Texas "comfortably" if he is down by only six to eight points on the Friday before the Nov. 6 election. Both Richards and Holman base that claim on their belief that current polls do not reflect minorities and newly registered voters -- particularly women.

REPORT BLAMES REAGAN ADMINISTRATION FOR HUNGER PROBLEMS

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) -- A legislative study outlined Tuesday in conjunction with World Food Day indicates the number of hungry Texans has tripled since 1980 and blames the problem on Reagan administration policies. "Hunger is a growing problem in Texas and evidence of its incidence has increased dramatically since the first policies and cutbacks imposed by the Reagan administration in 1981," committee chairman Hugh Parmer, D-Fort Worth, said in the Austin leg of a national teleconference to discuss world hunger. He said the demand for emergency food assistance grew 300 percent in Texas since 1980 with more than 2 million Texans now facing "the threat of hunger." Parmer predicted the number would rise to nearly 3 million in 1985 with as many as 20 percent of the state's residents going hungry within the next few years.

POLL ON CHURCH AND POLITICS

BOSTON (UPI) -- A majority of Catholics in Massachusetts, even those opposed to abortion, believes the church should not be involved in politics, a new poll shows. Sixty-one percent of Catholics, and 58 percent of those against abortion, said the church should keep away from political issues, according to the poll published Sunday in the Boston Herald.

COLLEGE CAMPUSES TURNING CONSERVATIVE

(UPI) -- Young people on college campuses across North Carolina are switching from liberal to conservative activism because "they see the need for a job," says a leader of one of the state's 15 Youth for Reagan-Bush chapters. Young Republican organizations have sprouted by the dozens on North Carolina's campuses, once hotbeds of support for liberal causes, officials said Monday. The shift started during President Carter's administration and mushroomed after President Reagan's election, students said.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

REAGAN, O'NEILL HAGGLE IN SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL JOURNAL

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (UPI) -- Two nationally known authors -- President Reagan and House Speaker Tip O'Neill -- use a special magazine printed to honor the U.S. Constitution's bicentennial to argue over the proposed line-item veto, the editor said Monday. The Republican president and the Democratic speaker struggle for power with the words of articles they wrote for "Toward the Bicentennial of the Constitution," said editor Dr. Stephen White. "Who is to say that this group, this Congress, should bow to the wishes of any one individual, no matter who that individual may be," O'Neill, D-Mass., said in his article, "Congress: The First 200 Years."

"The people have grown to expect leadership from the president not only in executing the laws but also in presenting a legislative program to Congress for consideration," Reagan replied in his article, "The Presidency: Roles and Responsibilities."

TWO MEN CHARGED WITH THREATENING REAGAN'S LIFE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI) -- A federal prosecutor Tuesday said he would ask that one of two area men charged with threatening the life of the president undergo a psychiatric examination. John Osgood, Assistant U.S. Attorney, said Tuesday he would file a motion asking Gunner Lee Bond, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., be sent to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners in Springfield, Mo., for a psychiatric examination to determine whether he is competent to stand trial. The Secret Service and police Monday arrested Bond, also known as Deicoul Ibbaka, after Gov. Christopher S. Bond received a tape recording containing the threat against Reagan. The envelope containing the tape had the suspect's return address on it, authorities said. Gunner Lee Bond was being held on \$25,000 bond.

DOLE AT FUND-RAISER

TOPEKA, Kan. (UPI) -- Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., spoke at a fund-raising breakfast for Jim Van Slyke Monday, saying 2nd District voters who support President Reagan must vote for Van Slyke. "Your support for Ronald Reagan is very important," Dole said to about 150 people. "But what's more important is to give him someone who will vote for his programs in the Congress. That's just how simple it is." Dole said Reagan's programs are being undermined by Democrats and the importance of the Van Slyke candidacy is to replace Democratic incumbent Jim Slattery with a Republican from the 2nd congressional district.

BROWN KNOCKS REAGAN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, D-Ky., received some re-election campaign help Monday night from his primary election rival, former Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. Brown, addressing a Huddleston campaign rally, criticized President Reagan's handling of the federal deficit, saying the administration was "unraveling the financial structure of America" and "selling out the future of our children." And, Brown added about the deficit, "What President Reagan has done is shameful." On the other hand, Brown said Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale had the courage to propose a solution to the deficit question.

-end of News from the States-

CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES

(UPI) -- Schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for Wednesday, Oct. 17, and tentative schedules for the week ahead.

Walter Mondale:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 7:10 a.m. EDT arrives Washington National Airport from Los Angeles. 7:20 a.m. departs for Washington residence; no public schedule for balance of day.

Thursday, Oct. 18-Saturday, Oct. 20: private time at home, Wash.

Sunday, Oct. 21: Participates in debate with President Reagan, K.C., Mo.

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Geraldine Ferraro:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 8 a.m. PDT departs Beverly Hilton Hotel for Scottish Rite Masonic Temple, 4357 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. 8:20 a.m. addresses California Coalition of Women, Masonic Temple. 9 a.m. departs for Los Angeles International Airport. 9:30 a.m. private time, airport. 10:15 a.m. departs for Sacramento, Calif. 11:25 a.m. arrives Sacramento. 12:05 p.m. rally, Library Quad, Sacramento State University. 1 p.m. private time, Sacramento State University. 2:15 p.m. departs for Sacramento airport. 3 p.m. departs for Seattle, Wash. 4:40 p.m. arrives Boeing Field, Seattle. 4:55 p.m. private time, airport. 5:40 p.m. attends closed dinner, no location given, Seattle. 6:05 p.m. departs dinner. 6:25 p.m. attends private reception, no location given. 6:45 p.m. departs reception. 6:55 p.m. private time, Madison Hotel, 5115 Madison St., Seattle. 7:55 p.m. departs for KOMO-TV studio, Seattle. 8:05 p.m. arrives KOMO-TV to tape segment of ABC's "Nightline." 9 p.m. departs for hotel. 9:10 p.m. arrives Madison Hotel for overnight.

Thursday, Oct. 18: Morning events, Seattle. Afternoon departs for New York City with a refueling stop in Columbia, Mo. Evening arrives New York and motorcades to home in Queens, N.Y., for overnight.

Friday, Oct. 19: Private time, Queens residence.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Morning event, Amhurst, Mass.; afternoon event, Burlington, Vt.; evening event, Bangor, Maine.

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President Reagan:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: Washington; prepares for candidates debate.

Thursday, Oct. 18: Appears at Al Smith dinner in New York, returning to Washington for overnight.

Friday, Oct. 19: Prepares for debate, Washington; flies to Camp David.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Delivers weekly paid radio address from Camp David.

Sunday, Oct. 21: Returns to White House and departs for Kansas City, Mo., for presidential candidates debate with Mondale.

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Vice President George Bush:

Wednesday, Oct. 17: 10 a.m. tours San Francisco China Town's business district. 12:20 p.m. foreign affairs address to the Commonwealth Club, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. Late afternoon goes to Portland, Ore., for community forum and overnight.

Thursday, Oct. 18: 12:30 p.m. rally, Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Wash. Early evening forum, no location, Seattle, Wash. Overnights Seattle.

Friday, Oct. 19: Early morning, maritime industry tour, Seattle. 2:55 p.m. CDT rally, a high school in Council Bluffs, Iowa. 4:30 p.m. press availability, Club 64 Restaurant, Council Bluffs. 5:10 p.m. closed fund-raiser, Club 64. 6:20 p.m. departs for Washington.

-end of A-Section-

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VICE PRESIDENT BUSH

CBS's Dan Rather: Vice President Bush conceded today that the record shows Walter Mondale never actually said U.S. Marines died in shame in Lebanon. But Bush claims two dictionaries indicate that's what Mondale meant, and Bush still refuses to apologize. Bush's counterpart, Geraldine Ferraro tread on sensitive ground too today, talking about President Reagan's age as an election.

CBS's David Dow: Vice President Bush today struggled and failed to get rid of an issue that has ignited Democratic tempers and promises to land squarely in Sunday's presidential debate. The battle broke out after Bush's statement in his own debate last Thursday concerning the bombing of American Marines in Lebanon. (Vice President, in debate: "For somebody to suggest, as our two opponents have, that these men died in shame -- they better not tell the parents of those young Marines.") Bush now concedes his opponents never said the Marines died in shame, though he has insisted in two appearances they suggested the same thing by saying the U.S. was humiliated in Lebanon. His defense rested on two dictionaries -- one last night, another today. (Vice President, at appearance in L.A.: "Let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International, where humiliation is defined as: degradation, disgrace and shame." Vice President at press conference: "That came, I said, from Webster's. It's the American Heritage dictionary. Webster's, which I cited last night, equates humiliation with debase. And you see debase as deep shame.") But the defense and refusal to apologize only served to stir up Democrats even more. (Speaker O'Neill: "We have to tell the American public. And when I said he lied -- it's a word that I hate to use with regards to any person, but particularly a high official of the government. But you've got to get the truth over to the people.") There's no clear sign yet that the shame debate is having any impact on voters. But as Bush campaigned through California's farm belt today, he conceded -- quote -- we're in a close race. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings: Most of the attention is still locked on the presidential election. With exactly three weeks to go, the campaign is taking on a different tone, a bitter tone.

ABC's Carol Simpson: Before a glittering crowd of wealthy California Republicans last night, Vice President Bush defended his assertion in last week's debate that Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro suggested U.S. Marines killed in Beirut died in shame. Bush cited a Mondale quote from an old newspaper article saying President Reagan let Middle East terrorists humiliate us. (Vice President: "At the risk of being called patronizing, let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International, where humiliation is defined as: degradation, disgrace and shame.") Bush apparently could not find any direct quotes from Mondale and Ferraro saying the Marines died in shame. So in a news conference today, all he could produce as proof of his charge were more dictionary definitions and more old

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Simpson (continued): newspaper quotes, including some from Ferraro saying the Marines died on a mission without purpose. (Vice President: "Mr. Mondale and Mrs. Ferraro can argue all they want. They can demand apologies every day. But the fact of the matter is that accusing young men of dying without a purpose and for no reason is, in the lexicon of the American people, a shame.") Vice President Bush also accused Mondale and Ferraro of being guilty of what he called rhetorical excess. He said the Democrats have made serious errors in judgment when discussing national security and foreign affairs. For all those reasons, said Bush, he will not apologize. (ABC-2)

NBC's John Severson: There are signs that somebody is worried about George Bush's campaign. (TV Coverage: Lyn Nofzinger watching Vice Presidential news conference.) For the first time, Republican troubleshooter Lyn Nofzinger is traveling on the Bush plane. As of today, Bush will no longer be as accessible to the national press corps as he was before the slip ups started. Reagan-Bush campaign director Ed Rollins watched as Bush tried to joke about his and Barbara Bush's off-color campaign rhetoric. (Vice President: "Barbara and I almost didn't make it tonight. We were up in our room, washing our mouths out with soap.") But the most serious controversy which continues to dog the campaign is the Bush charge that his opponents said the Marines in Lebanon died in shame, a charge Mondale denies. (Vice President: "Well, let me quote him on that subject.") Bush quoted Mondale as saying the U.S. had been humiliated in Lebanon, but he was unable to quote Mondale or Ferraro as saying that the Marines died in shame, even with the help of a dictionary. (Vice President: "Let me direct Mr. Mondale's attention to Webster's International ... disgrace and shame.") But he quoted from the wrong dictionary, and later said it should have been the American Heritage dictionary. (Vice President: "Let's just go by this dictionary, then. Let's go by this dictionary. Humiliation --") Instead of apologizing to Mondale, Bush attacked Ferraro. (Vice President: "Is Mrs. Ferraro too determined always to blame the President first, too determined to make partisan points, too busy to take the time to learn the facts?") And Mondale leveled his most personal attack on Bush. (Mondale: "The American people see somebody who's sort of like a political hit-and-run driver. Well, he's hit us with a false charge. He doesn't have an answer, and he doesn't have the manhood to apologize.") With only three weeks until the election, and with the polls tightening, Bush can't risk any more mistakes. His new strategy is to attack and avoid questions.

(NBC-4)

WALTER MONDALE

ABC's Brit Hume: When Walter Mondale heard in California this morning that George Bush was still refusing to apologize, he renewed the demand in the strongest terms yet. (Mondale: "There is no way that Mr. Bush can avoid the fact that he made a vicious charge. It is dead wrong. He should apologize. So, let me give him this

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Hume (continued): advice: George, apologize. Get it over with. Stop embarrassing yourself this way. You'll feel better the next day.") But when he was asked if Bush still refused -- (Mondale: "Well, I think the last five days, he's paid a big price already. The American people see somebody sort of like a political hit-and-run driver. And he's hit us with a false charge. He doesn't have an answer, and he doesn't have the manhood to apologize.") The main event today was a campus rally and speech on foreign policy, in which Mondale answered Mr. Reagan's charge of yesterday that he is confused on the subject. (Mondale: "For 30 years, Mr. Reagan has had a naive and primitive notion of national strength." (Cheers) "Mr. President, if you want this campaign to turn on who's out of touch with reality, you will have that debate and it begins this morning on the Stanford campus.") Mondale also called for creation of a permanent assembly of the world's democratic nations, a proposal that like everything else today seemed aimed at raising the interest and the stakes in Sunday's foreign policy debate with the President. (ABC-3)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Arms control and nuclear war will be two of the big topics at Sunday's debate between Walter Mondale and President Reagan. Today Mondale warmed up with some hardballs aimed directly at the President. He was speaking to a friendly student audience at Stanford University in California. (Mondale: "He called John Kennedy weak and blasted him for not taking what he called the final step in the Cuban crisis. (Boos) He called Lyndon Johnson weak, and attacked him for not threatening the use of atomic weapons in Vietnam. (Boos) For 30 years, Mr. Reagan has had a naive and primitive notion of national strength. (Cheers)) (NBC-2)

REP. FERRARO

CBS's Phil Jones: Ferraro appeared to be taking this advice today as she accused the Administration of walking away from responsibility for the deaths of Marines in Beirut. As for Ferraro, she walked right into the controversy over whether President Reagan's age should be a campaign issue. She had been sidestepping the question, saying it was up to voters. But today, she said that and more at a Cleveland news conference. (Ferraro: "However people want to deal with the age issue is up to them, if they want to deal with it at all. But I believe it should be one of the factors considered along with everything else. There are lots of things you should take into consideration, and age is one of them just like health -- down the line.") And the President himself could not get away from the issue today, when asked by a student if he felt his age would have any effect on his upholding another term. (President: "All I know is that I feel fine. I have a little gym there in the White House. I work out every day, except when they put me out on the road this way. The doctors all say -- well, the way I put it is I'm not really this old, they mixed up the babies in the hospital." (Laughter)) And so, if you think all of this is heavy political combat, just stop and think. We still have three weeks to go before election day. (CBS-2)

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ABC's Lynn Sherr: Geraldine Ferraro agreed to an unusual airport press conference today to respond to George Bush's charges on the Beirut bombing. (Ferraro: "This Administration does, first of all, distort very frequently the things that either I or Fritz Mondale say or have voted or have stood for. And then, secondly, has -- you know -- done this type of thing again -- of backing off, trying to save face, almost. That's the thing that bothers me.") Earlier, at a rally at the Illinois State Capitol, one eager supporter carried a reminder of that other remark Bush made about kicking ass at the debates. (TV Coverage: Sign in crowd reading: Illinois Voters Will Kick Bush's Behind Nov. 6.) Ferraro dealt with that one at a stop in Cleveland, saying it, along with suggestions by his wife and press secretary that Ferraro is either a witch or bitchy were not accidental. (Ferraro: "Let me say that I think that those comments were planned. The Bushes are not the type of people who will accidentally let something like that slip out.") Ferraro also took a swipe at the top of the ticket, gently suggesting for the first time that the President's age is a legitimate issue for voting. (Ferraro: "-- make the determination. I think that that's something they have to decide. What effect age, if any, will have upon his ability as President of the United States. It might have none.") Ferraro's staff says her remarks are not part of any stepped up attack on the Republicans, that she's simply saying what she believes. But they believe the rhetoric on both sides will heat up as the sides get closer in the polls. (ABC-4)

PRESIDENT REAGAN

Jennings: Well, while Mr. Bush and the two Democratic candidates continue to tangle, President Reagan has been campaigning in Illinois. That is a state where the race appears to have tightened up since the first presidential debate. The two dominant themes of the President's campaign today were foreign policy and the President's age.

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan at a rally in a Chicago suburb kept up his attack on Walter Mondale on the subject of foreign policy. (President: "My opponent failed to repudiate the Rev. Jesse Jackson when he went to Havana, stood with Fidel Castro and cried, 'Long live Cuba. Long live Castro. Long live Che Guevara.'") But if the President seemed confident in his attacks on Mondale, it was another matter during a tour of a local career center science lab, when the subject of his own age. (Student: "Do you feel that your age will have any effects on you upholding another term in the office if you were re-elected." President: "Upholding?" Student: "Another term in the office if you were re-elected?" President: "Ah -- this must with be in regard to some of the things about my health and age and so forth. No, I feel fine.") To demonstrate how fine he's feeling, the President has been walking a lot in public recently. For the first time since the attempt on his life three-and-a-half years ago. How come? (President, walking from helicopter: "Well, because the gentlemen who are in charge of security have said that I can do it these last few places.") Asked why security was less of a problem

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Donaldson (continued): now than it had been, no one answered. But by day's end, such defensive subjects had been put aside, overwritten by the enthusiastic applause of the President's party. Well, that's it for today. As a matter of fact, except for Thursday night's Al Smith dinner, that's it for the week. The big thing now is to prepare for the Sunday night debate with a lot of practice and a lot of rest. (ABC-5)

Jennings: That Al Smith dinner is going to be held in New York. Mr. Mondale was also supposed to be at the dinner, but decided not to attend in order to prepare for the debate. He suggested that Ms. Ferraro attend in his place. The Roman Catholic archdiocese of New York, which sponsors the dinner, said no, and a spokesman says the decision was based on precedent, not on Ms. Ferraro's views on abortion. Ms. Ferraro said today that she is disappointed. (ABC-6)

Brokaw: In President Reagan's campaign, very little is left to chance. It's generally agreed among Republicans and Democrats alike that the packaging of Ronald Reagan is the most effective in the long history of American presidential campaigns. Tonight, White House correspondent Chris Wallace takes us backstage for a Reagan tour.

NBC's Chris Wallace: (TV Coverage: Chicago rally) The President campaigning among young people today in suburban Chicago, trying to show he has a plan for the future. One more in a remarkable series of appearances this fall in which the President's men have used stagecraft to get their message out. A campaign that even Hollywood would envy. Decisions on where to go are made by a tight circle of White House and campaign officials. Director of advance Bill Henkel, who did the same job for Richard Nixon, decided just how the President would spend four hours in Illinois. (Henkel: "I'm looking for imagery and symbols. We are in fact producing a mini-play. We are in fact producing something that in fact will be interpreted by a much larger audience than is actually witnessing it.") Advance man Jim Kuhn then led a team of 50 Washington staffers, who spent a week assuring that everything would go on cue. (Advance man: "We need everybody to go. All we need is bodies at this point.") Thousands of phone calls were made. Local Republicans were recruited. All part of the advance man's motto: no surprises. (Kuhn: "If you take every stone and turn it over and look at it three or four times, basically you can eliminate 99 percent of those problems or surprises. And that's what we do in a five or six day period.") One objective was to have students ask the President questions to show Reagan can think on his feet. Some students said they were coached. (Student: "We were not to say anything stupid or highly sophisticated so the President understands. Just to make everything run smoothly.") The visual extravaganza was to be a big rally. But Kuhn had a problem. (Advance man: "We can't do a balloon drop because the ceiling is too low, as you know.") He decided to dramatize what the President called the new patriotism with lots of flags and six choruses. (TV Coverage: Scenes from the rally.) The point of all this: to make the events look good on

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Wallace (continued): television. The audience would largely be extras on a stage. (Ed Murnane: "We know that this is going to be -- that there's a good response. We know that it's going to be a good event for the news media to cover.") To have everything in place, aides estimated, cost the campaign about \$50,000 and taxpayers more than twice that, for security and communications. Despite all the planning, there were surprises. One student asked whether the President was too old to serve another term. Aides seemed disturbed, but Reagan didn't. (President: "Well, the way I put it is: I'm not really this old, they mixed up the babies in the hospital.") The well-rehearsed rally was the usual show-stopper. The only problem: banners that were supposed to stretch across the ceiling got tangled. Still, the Reagan team did its job again, creating the images and symbols that seemed to have a powerful effect on voters. (TV Coverage: Woman crying in rally audience.) (NBC-5)

CAMPAIGN COMMENTARY

George Will comments that the campaign is unusually petty. It all started when the Bushes and their press secretary said some rather sophmoric and silly things about Ms. Ferraro. Now Ms. Ferraro has said something almost as silly when she says it was planned. In fact, Ms. Ferraro's been around national politics long enough to know that you can explain most things, particularly dumb things, either in terms of fatigue, confusion or plain dumbness. We have a kind of indignation industry in Washington right now. And also, we've lost our sense of humor. (ABC-7)

BEIRUT BOMBING

Brokaw: Tonight, The Nation magazine is reporting that President Reagan ignored a CIA warning and a Pentagon recommendation to withdraw American Marines from Beirut five days before the terrorist attack on the Marine headquarters. 241 Americans were killed at the time. According to the magazine, the CIA warning and a recommendation from Secretary Weinberger to pull back the Marines -- those recommendations were delivered at a White House meeting. But then, The Nation reports, Weinberger was persuaded to rescind his recommendation, and tonight National Security Adviser McFarlane told Andrea Mitchel of NBC News: I do not recall any such recommendation. (NBC-3)

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Jennings reports the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a man who, in terms of raw numbers, can be said to represent the majority of South Africans because he is black. The Nobel committee chose Tutu, as the committee put it, because he represents the non-violent struggle for change in South Africa. (ABC-Lead and 9, NBC-6)

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Rather interviews Archbishop Tutu. He asked him about the Reagan Administration's policy towards South Africa's white minority government, a policy called "constructive engagement."

Tutu: Constructive engagement has not worked. Far from working to change the situation in South Africa in the right direction, as I've tried to indicate, things have deteriorated and deteriorated badly. It seems to me that this Administration is saying that blacks are expendable. The name of the United States in the black community in South Africa, very sadly, is mud.

Rather: Why is that?

Tutu: Because you -- your country, it seems, is collaborating with, supporting a system that is bringing too much unnecessary and untold misery on children of God's children. And that you are supporting an unjust, a repressive regime. (CBS-5)

PRIME RATE

Rather: Several major banks today lowered their prime lending rate by a quarter of a point to 12½ percent. Yesterday, Bankers Trust reduced its prime to 12¼ percent. (CBS-7, ABC-12)

EL SALVADOR

CBS's Richard Wagner reports that, although the guerrillas are already back in La Palma, and the army is back on patrol a few miles away, it's increasingly apparent this is a country so weary of war that peace, after five years of killing, indeed has a chance. It's evident both sides deeply want to end a war neither can win. It's far less evident how much either is willing to compromise to bring that about. (CBS-9)

NBC's Mike Boettcher says, the morning after the La Palma talks, the guerrillas cleaned their M-16s, sang revolutionary songs and convinced themselves it would be a long time before they could stop fighting and hiding in the mountains. Roberto d'Aubuisson doesn't trust the guerrillas. I hope Duarte wasn't putting on a show for a foreign power, d'Aubuisson said. He meant the United States. But Duarte's peace effort was playing well at home. (NBC-8)

N.C. SENATE RACE

The race between Jesse Helms and Jim Hunt for South Carolina's contested Senate seat is one of the hottest, down-and-dirtiest of all of this year's Senate battles. The charges and money are flying in all directions. (CBS-11, ABC-8)

AFGHANISTAN

NBC shows new footage brought back by a West German photographer of the fighting in Afghanistan. (NBC-11)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTSEL SALVADOR

Next Monday at La Palma -- "Whether the hard right, which has not by a long shot lost all connections in the armed forces, will stand still for a dialogue is no less a question than whether the Marxists in the guerrilla leadership will dare submit their political fate to the new elections Mr. Duarte has in mind. The wrong kind of signal from either side's foreign patrons could easily upset whatever process may conceivably get under way. It is a moment of great uncertainty, but of great promise too."

(Washington Post, 10/10)

Duarte's offer -- "The way to peace in El Salvador, however, is through political settlement: This is a conflict that will not be settled solely through military action, despite the Duarte government's recent successes. The Duarte initiative of peace talks should be supportive. At the same time expectations ought to be kept within bounds.....The current Duarte offer, and the tentative response of rebel leaders, are part of the ongoing political process on both sides."

(Christian Science Monitor, 10/10)

Surprise in El Salvador -- "The test for the rebels will be whether they are willing to lay down their arms not for just one meeting but for the long negotiations that will be needed to bring justice to El Salvador without violence. The bigger question, in the short term, is whether the Salvadoran military will cooperate with Duarte's peace initiative."

(Los Angeles Times, 10/10)

Peace Powwow in El Salvador -- "The fact is the guerrillas had little choice in the matter; they've been calling for unconditional talks ever since launching their insurgency five years ago. Even so, while the prospects for a peaceful settlement appear brighter, there is no assurance President Duarte's initiative will lead to serious negotiations."

(Washington Times, 10/12)

The Olive Branch -- "What one has to remember nonetheless about left-wing guerrillas is that they aren't guerrillas because they believe in the democratic process; rather they seek to substitute another kind of process entirely -- dictatorship....The U.S. Congress has agreed to keep aid flowing, and the Salvadoran army is increasingly assertive and successful. In which context, why not offer peace talks -- so long as the offer isn't made in starry-eyed expectation of instant peace."

(Dallas Morning News, 10/10)

El Salvador: Duarte's Shocker -- "President Duarte's startling offer to meet with opposition guerrillas to discuss 'details for their democracy' can only be seen as a major breakthrough, one that ultimately could lead to an end to the tiny nation's five-year-old civil war."

(Dallas Times Herald, 10/10)

Duarte's bold offer -- "Now, through his UN speech, Duarte has seized the initiative in important ways. The principle of political settlement has been endorsed. The Salvadoran church, long a proponent of 'dialogo,' has been invited to play a role as witness and, conceivably, act as mediator. Duarte has put himself out front."

(Boston Globe, 10/10)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)NICARAGUA

Dirty War in Nicaragua... -- "The U.S. is not at war with Nicaragua, and the distribution of (the CIA) manual is a warlike provocation. President Reagan's 1981 directive against assassination probably was written with such thoughts in mind. Is anyone at the White House checking to see whether the directive was violated by the CIA manual writers?"

(Hartford Courant, 10/16)

JIMMY CARTER/ARGENTINA

For Mr. Carter, Honor Deserved -- "Jimmy Carter richly deserved every accolade he received on his visit to Argentina the other day. Here at home the former president may be something less than honored these days, but in Buenos Aires he was hailed as the architect of a human rights policy that had saved countless lives during the Argentine travail of the 1970s."

(Washington Post, 10/13)

BUSH/FERRARO

The Bush-Ferraro Debate -- "Whatever they said, however they handled themselves, whatever their personalities, the overriding campaign issue is this: Mr. Bush stands with President Reagan to promote a program for firm military defense of the peace and security of the U.S with opposition to Communist expansion abroad, and for economic recovery through tax cuts and free enterprise at home. Rep. Ferraro stands with Mr. Mondale for a less resolute, even appeasing and surrendering foreign policy, coupled with a promise of higher taxes, bigger government and more handouts and payoffs to a wide variety of narrow pressure groups at home."

(Chattanooga News-Free Press, 10/12)

Ferraro's Flaw -- "On the most important issue -- which of the two is better prepared to assume the presidency should the need arise -- we think Mr. Bush scored a clear, and predictable, win....If Ferraro has thought long and carefully about any foreign policy-defense issues, she did not show it."

(San Diego Union, 10/13)

Questions Remain About Presidential Ability -- "Both candidates are smart. Both, in their own ways, are effective vice presidential candidates. Yet neither has satisfied the reasonable skeptics. Can George Bush be both a loyal cheerleader and substantial policymaker? Is Geraldine Ferraro strong enough to leap the additional hurdles (fair or not) placed by today's leadership tests? There's not much time left for them to convince us."

(Detroit Free-Press, 10/14)

REAGAN/MONDALE

Groan -- "Messrs. Mondale and Reagan have been actors on the nation's political stage for years. We know what they think. Mondale is not necessarily an inferior human being. He is, rather, a proponent of an inferior political ideology -- an ideology whose advocates have dwindled so much that they now are but a contentious barony. He personifies the practices and policies rejected overwhelmingly in 1980, a judgment Reagan -- and 'his' policies -- has vindicated during the past four years. That is why Mondale trails so miserably today...." (Richmond News Leader, 10/8)