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# The White House NEWS SUMMARY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

## TODAY'S HEADLINES

### \*NEWS BULLETIN\*

IRANIAN INVASION -- Iraqi forces repulsed a three-pronged ground offensive by Iranian forces along 12-miles of the central sector of the Persian Gulf war front, the state-run Iraqi news agency said. (UPI -- see page A7.)

### NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Lead in Polls Cut to 12 Points -- Walter Mondale has narrowed President Reagan's lead 12 points in the latest Washington Post-ABC News poll. (Washington Post)

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Soviet Bid is Greeted Cautiously -- The Reagan Administration welcomed the tone but reacted cautiously to the substance of Chernenko's statement Tuesday in an interview with The Washington Post that Soviet-American relations could be improved if the U.S. would demonstrate genuine interest in reaching agreement on at least one of four arms-control proposals. (Washington Post, Washington Times)

Jane's Reports SALT I Violations By Soviets -- The Soviet Union may be trying to hide new ICBMs among the medium-range SS-20 rockets it is stationing in Eastern bloc nations, Jane's Defense Weekly reported. (Washington Times)

### NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Wednesday Evening)

CHERNENKO -- The Soviet leader sounded his most conciliatory tone when he outlined what would be needed to bring the two countries back to the bargaining table.

CIA MANUAL -- The CIA document advises guerrillas on mob violence, kidnapping, blackmail and what is called "neutralizing" political enemies.

POLL -- The new ABC News- Washington Post poll indicates Mondale has gained some ground since the first debate.

YOUTH VOTE -- Polls show those that like President Reagan best are the youngest voters, ages 18-24.

NATIONAL NEWS.....	A-2
INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....	A-6
STATES NEWS.....	A-10
NETWORK NEWS.....	B-1
EDITORIALS.....	B-11

NATIONAL NEWS

## REAGAN LEAD IN POLLS CUT TO 12 POINTS

Walter Mondale has narrowed President Reagan's lead 12 points in the latest Washington Post-ABC News poll. The latest poll indicates that Mondale has made no significant gains on the tax-and-deficit issues or on the issue of Reagan's age. But as surveys taken immediately after the debate showed, Mondale did improve his own popularity and leadership image. The new poll suggests that the debate between Vice President Bush and Rep. Ferraro was essentially a standoff, with 36% picking Bush as the winner and 31% picking Ferraro.

(David Broder and Barry Sussman, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan Lead Over Mondale Cut By One-third in Post-Debate Poll

NEW YORK -- A new nationwide poll released Wednesday indicates Mondale is gaining on President Reagan. Mr. Reagan leads Mondale 54-42%, with 4% undecided, the poll said. (Note: The story does not give the name of the organization which conducted the poll.)

(Washington Times, A3)

## CAMPS NEARLY MUM ON CHERNENKO INTERVIEW

President Reagan and Walter Mondale, hit by several foreign policy developments four days before their second debate, were almost silent, concentrating instead on studying for the confrontation. Reagan avoided any discussion of the Chernenko interview during a Rose Garden appearance before a group of young would-be astronauts, leaving his response to Larry Speakes. "The United States stands ready to negotiate," Speakes said. "But we cannot concur in the apparent Soviet view that it is incumbent upon the United States to pay a price so that the Soviet Union will come back to the nuclear negotiating table." Mondale, who closeted himself in his Washington home to prepare for the debate, issued a statement that deferred to the President's authority. "We have only one President at a time and it is up to Mr. Reagan to explore this proposal seriously and determine its significance," Mondale said.

(David Lawsky, UPI)

## BUSH FIRES BACK AT MONDALE

SAN FRANCISCO -- Vice President Bush escalated his rhetorical war with Walter Mondale, saying he would "lay my record on any forum whatever it is on the manhood (question) up against his, I'll just leave it at that. See, that's what I do see as a little bit of desperation."

(Washington Post, A3)

## FERRARO, LOOKING TO DEBATE, HITS REAGAN ON FOREIGN POLICY

SEATTLE -- Geraldine Ferraro is using her campaign appearances the rest of the week to turn up the heat in her criticism of President Reagan's foreign policy and set the stage for Mondale's confrontation with Reagan on Sunday. Speeches at the University of Washington today and at the University of Massachusetts Saturday are aimed at appealing to young voters to back the Democratic ticket, but the emphasis is on Reagan's foreign policy, which the Democrats say has failed. (Cliff Haas, AP)

## REAGAN OPENS, BARELY, PROTECTIVE COCOON

In an effort to neutralize criticism from Mondale, President Reagan has been trying to open, just a bit, the cocoon to which he became accustomed during the first 3 1/2 years of his term. Reacting to criticism that Reagan is too isolated, his staff has tried to loosen up a bit as well by curbing its instinct to cut off questioning from reporters whenever it begins. (Maureen Santini, AP)

## DEMOCRATS SEE CALIFORNIA AS KEY TO ELECTION WIN

LOS ANGELES -- The dark-horse Democratic strategy for capturing the White House is built around a brash attempt at snaring President Reagan's home state of California. Mondale and Ferraro plan to spend a disproportionate share of their remaining campaign days in pursuit of California's 47 electoral votes, with Mondale scheduled to visit the state at least twice and Ferraro at least once, a three-day swing this week. Other evidence of the Democratic commitment here includes a stepped-up media strategy, and surrogate campaigning will be particularly heavy.

(Rick Atkinson and Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A3)

## ROCKFORD REPUBLICANS WORRY ABOUT INFLUENCE OF NEW RIGHT

ROCKFORD, Illinois -- Here in the territory where the Republicans were born, in a year in which they are resurgent and seeking a new majority status, lies a political paradox. On the evidence in Rockford, the Republicans more than the Democrats may be battling for the soul of their party after the election. Lifelong Republicans who regard themselves as moderates or conservatives say they are worried about the ideological direction of their party after 1984. They draw a sharp distinction between support for Reagan's economic or foreign policy positions and the New Right social agenda. Reagan runs far ahead of Mondale and his popularity strengthens Republican prospects down the line. But something else bears on Republican fortunes here: a striking agreement on support for Reagan personally but not necessarily for how he addresses major issues. Virtually without exception, the city's business and political leaders are worried about deficits, the strong U.S. dollar that hurts exports, and the prospect of another surge of high interest rates and renewed inflation. They don't give Reagan high marks for his handling of these issues. (Haynes Johnson, Washington Post, A4)

## REAGAN TO ATTEND DINNER

President Reagan travels to New York City to deliver remarks at the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Dinner, held this year in a swirl of controversy over whether the Catholic archbishop of New York declined to allow Ferraro to substitute for Mondale. (Washington Times, A3)

## ARCHBISHOP DENIES MONDALE OFFERED FERRARO AS STAND-IN

YONKERS -- Archbishop John O'Connor, head of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, said Mondale never asked that Ferraro take his place at the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Dinner Thursday night. O'Connor called reports depicting him as being furious with Mondale as "sheer nonsense" and added, "I'm not the slightest bit annoyed."

(Washington Post, A4)

## CARTER SPOKESMAN SAYS MONDALE DISAGREED ON POLICIES

Jody Powell says Walter Mondale opposed Jimmy Carter's grain embargo, and says he wishes President Reagan would stop suggesting otherwise. In a telephone interview, Powell said he resented Reagan's attempt "to use me" to knock down Mondale's claims that he had some policy differences with Carter. In a speech Tuesday at the College of DuPage, Reagan quoted Powell as saying of Mondale's resistance to some Carter policies: "I guess I was out of the room every time it happened." Powell did not deny uttering the words, but he said they were taken out of context insofar as they represented any blanket statement he might have made about having knowledge of Mondale disagreements with Carter. (Merrill Hartson, AP)

## DOCTOR SAYS MONDALE IS IN EXCELLENT HEALTH

Walter Mondale suffers from tennis elbow and moderately high blood pressure -- controlled by daily medication -- but is otherwise in excellent health, according to his doctor for 20 years, Milton Hurwitz. (Washington Post, A5)

## CENTRAL AMERICA FADING AS CONCERN OF U.S. VOTERS

Polling data show a drop in voter concern over Central America. In a New York Times-CBS poll taken in August, for example, no once cited Central America as the most important problem confronting the nation. This may help to explain Mondale's current de-emphasis of Central America. It may be, too, that he is simply closer to the center of the political spectrum. (Roger Fontaine, Washington Times, A1)

## WHISTLE STOPS AND WASTE DUMPS

Mr. Reagan is saying things are good, and they're going to get better under the Republicans. Mr. Mondale is saying things aren't nearly as good as Mr. Reagan says they are, and they're going to get a lot worse if he's reelected. Mr. Reagan is so good at saying things are good. Thematic material isn't Mr. Mondale's strong point. Sooner or later, he wades into his opponents, slashing and cutting. The voice rises; the face turns red. He becomes outraged by the Republican record. Partisans like that. On the road, Mr. Reagan is the clear winner. He seems to rise above the political clamor (although at heart he is a serious ideologue). he draws pretty pictures. At the age of 73, he is a very contemporary politician. At 56, Mondale is something of a throwback to the old politics. And in debate, he is a lot tougher than most Americans expected. It's why he's still in the race. (James Perry, Wall Street Journal, A64)

## U.S. IS FAULTED ON HEALTH CARE

A special citizens' committee on health care headed by Arthur Flemming, a former secretary of HEW, said 33 million Americans lack access to all public or private health insurance, and it opened a campaign for a universal national health care system. (Spencer Rich, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Elisabeth Bumiller's article, "Reagan's Ad Aces: the Tuesday Team, Making America Feel Good," appears on page D1 of The Washington Post (Style).

## LAWMAKERS ASSAIL REAGAN'S NLRB

According to a report of the House Government Operations subcommittee on manpower and housing, which was approved by Republican and Democratic members alike, a backlog of cases has grown from 535 cases in fiscal 1981 to 1,434 as of Sept. 1. The "most visible" reason has been the Reagan Administration's failure to fill vacancies promptly when members depart, the report said. But the subcommittee said an "equally significant" reason has been Reagan appointees' attempts to rewrite existing law. The Reagan board has asked appellate courts to return 17 cases that already had been decided by previous boards.

(Pete Earley, Washington Post, A19)

## AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT WANTS FARMERS' ADVANCE MONEY BACK

The Agriculture Department is cracking down on thousands of corn and sorghum farmers who own \$244.4M paid to them two years ago when they signed up in the 1983 feed grain program. Officials said that when farmers signed up two years ago they got advances totaling \$292.3M for corn and \$2.8M for sorghum. It turned out that none of the money was supposed to be advanced, and now USDA wants it all back.

(Don Kendall, AP)

## MAJOR INCREASES MAY BE REQUESTED FOR THE MILITARY

The Defense Department is putting the finishing touches on a new military budget that would push its financing up to levels sought earlier but rejected by Congress, Reagan Administration officials said. If the \$333.7B budget is approved, it would be 13.9% more than Congress appropriated for the military in the current fiscal year.

(Richard Halloran, New York Times, A1)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## SOVIET BID IS GREETED CAUTIOUSLY

The Reagan Administration welcomed the tone but reacted cautiously to the substance of Chernenko's statement Tuesday in an interview with The Washington Post that Soviet-American relations could be improved if the U.S. would demonstrate genuine interest in reaching agreement on at least one of four arms-control proposals. "To the extent the interview conveys a more positive tone, it provides a basis for hope," said Robert McFarlane. "From a substantive point of view, it provides nothing new." However, he added that Administration officials believe the Soviets are still "chewing over" ideas for improving superpower relations advanced by President Reagan in his meeting with Gromyko.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Chernenko Signal 'Positive,' Bush Says

SAN FRANCISCO -- Vice President Bush said the Chernenko statement is a positive sign, but it must be accepted cautiously.

(Don McLeod, Washington Times, A2)

White House Studying Chernenko Remarks

Larry Speakes said the White House agrees with Chernenko that there is no sound alternative to constructive development of relations between the Soviets Union and the U.S. However, Speakes said the U.S. cannot agree with Chernenko's version of recent history, referring to the leader's remarks in an interview in The Washington Post. Speakes said the President has repeatedly demonstrated the U.S. is ready for cooperation with the Soviet Union.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A3)

## JANE'S REPORTS SALT I VIOLATIONS BY SOVIETS

The Soviet Union may be trying to hide new ICBMs among the medium-range SS-20 rockets it is stationing in Eastern bloc nations, Jane's Defense Weekly reported. If the report in the highly respected publication is correct, it would mean the Soviets are defying the SALT I treaty, which the two nations agreed to abide by until they can work out a new one. Western defense analysts have been unable to confirm the Jane's story. Defense Department officials were aware of the report but would not discuss it, Pentagon spokesman John Woodhouse said. The report also contradicted Secretary Weinberger's contention that the Soviets are deploying new batteries of SS-20s in Eastern Europe by saying none have been deployed since January.

(John Holmes, Washington Times, A1)

## SOVIET OFFICIAL DENIES SAKHAROV REMARK

COPENHAGEN -- Soviet official Ivan Polyakhov, who was quoted as saying Sakharov was free to leave the Soviet Union, later denied the remark -- probably under orders from superiors, a Western diplomat said.

(UPI)

## IRANIAN INVASION

ABU DABI -- Iraqi forces repulsed a three-pronged ground offensive by Iranian forces along 12-miles of the central sector of the Persian Gulf war front, the state-run Iraqi news agency said. "Iraqi forces inflicted on the attacking forces heavy casualties in men and equipment," the agency said, quoting a military communique. The Iranian news agency said its forces turned back a separate Iraqi assault Wednesday and inflicted heavy casualties in a counterattack. (UPI)

## ISRAEL SETS ITS TERMS FOR LEBANON PULLOUT

JERUSALEM -- Israel made public what it said are its four conditions for a complete withdrawal from Lebanon, but left open the possibility of a partial pullback before all the conditions are met. Following a meeting with Secretary Weinberger, PM Peres' office issued a statement saying the conditions are 1) a Syrian commitment not to move troops into vacated areas, 2) a Syrian commitment to prevent guerrillas from infiltrating south toward Israel, 3) the continued deployment of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army in an undefined zone adjacent to the Israeli border, 4) a redeployment of U.N. troops to a zone north of the South Lebanon Army positions that would stretch from the Lebanese coast to the west of the Syrian border in the east. (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A1)

Lebanese Officials Consider Israeli Withdrawal Conditions

BEIRUT -- Lebanese officials mulled over a list of conditions set by Israel for removing its 10,000 occupation troops from southern Lebanon. Government sources confirmed reports Lebanon was ready to hold direct talks on a military level with Israel for a troop withdrawal. There was no immediate official Lebanese or Syrian reaction to the terms.

(Nayla Shalhub, UPI)

Lebanon Reportedly Agrees to Troop Withdrawal Talks

An Nahar, an authoritative daily newspaper, reported the Lebanese government has agreed to talks with Israel over troop withdrawal from the southern section of this war-weary nation. Lebanese government sources confirmed the report, although official government action on the matter has not been taken. (Washington Times, A6)

## JORDAN SAYS INTERNATIONAL MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE IMPORTANT

AMMAN -- Secretary Weinberger has ended a Mideast tour with a brief surprise visit to Jordan during which he and King Hussein discussed peace prospects in the region. Quoting a court spokesman, Jordanian state television said that during the meeting Wednesday Hussein explained his Middle East policy and stressed the importance of holding an intelligence conference on peace in the region. Hussein's continuing stress on the conference indicated he had spurned an apparent Israeli offer of direct peace talks with Jordan. (Ibrahim Noori, Reuter)

## U.S. HAD RELIABLE WARNINGS DIPLOMATS WERE BOMB TARGET

In the weeks before this September's terrorist bombing of the American Embassy annex in Beirut, the U.S. government had specific, reliable intelligence warnings that explosives had been shipped into Lebanon and were targeted against American Embassy personnel, according to informed intelligence sources. Reagan Administration officials who have reviewed the intelligence and the details of the attack have found that the failure to take more aggressive security precautions was even more unsatisfactory than first reported. (Bob Woodward, Washington Post, A1)

## MUBARAK SAYS LIBYANS PLANTED RED SEA MINES

CAIRO -- President Mubarak has made his strongest accusation yet that Libya was behind explosions in the Red Sea. He warned that Libya would have to face severe consequences for any similar act in the future. In an interview with the Kuwaiti daily al-Siyassah, Mubarak also said he refused a request by PM Peres for a meeting until Israel "moves positively." Mubarak also said the Soviet Union had resumed shipments of spare parts to Egyptian factories, suspended 12 years ago when Sadat expelled thousands of Soviet technicians. Asked about the U.S. presidential elections, Mubarak said "We will work with the American Administration whatever it is, but we hope President Reagan wins." (Reuter)

## HOPES DIM FOR ACCORD ON CENTRAL AMERICA

MADRID -- Objections by El Salvador and Honduras over verifying the withdrawal of foreign troops from Central America probably will delay a final draft of the Contadora peace treaty, Latin American diplomatic sources said. The sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said it would be difficult to overcome the objections by El Salvador and Honduras to the manner in which the proposed foreign troop withdrawal could be credibly supervised. (AP)

Latin Peace Plan Will Be Revised

MADRID -- The Contadora nations said they would revise their proposal to meet objections raised at the insistence of the U.S. Representatives of the Contadora nations said they were optimistic they could satisfy the objections, raised mostly by Honduras and El Salvador, and some by the more neutral Costa Rica. Some privately held out hope for a treaty by the end of the year. (Edward Schumacher, New York Times, A1)

## REBELS URGED TO 'REDOUBLE' WAR AGAINST DUARTE GOVERNMENT

SAN SALVADOR -- The rebel high command has urged leftist guerrillas to "redouble the fight" against Duarte's U.S.-backed government. The rebels also renewed their warning to begin a nationwide shutdown of transportation. It was the first official comment by the five rebel armies' leadership following Monday's historic peace talks. Despite the call for stepped-up fighting, the rebel statement said, "We have definitely decided to take advantage of the dialogue....In the La Palma meeting, we defeated some of the most demagogic proposals of Napoleon Duarte." (Michael Drudge, UPI)

## SALVADORAN PRELATE SEES PROGRESS

The guerrillas who met with Duarte to talk about launching a peace process in El Salvador are sincere, perhaps the most positive sign for that effort, the Roman Catholic archbishop, Roman Arietta, of San Jose said.

(Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A6)

## CIA MANUAL FOR GUERRILLAS DENOUNCED BY REP. BOLAND

A CIA document instructing Nicaraguan rebels in the techniques of political assassination and guerrilla warfare was denounced by the Rep. Boland (D.-Mass.) as "repugnant to a nation that condemns such acts by others." Boland said the 44-page document, "Psychological Operations in Guerrilla Warfare," is further proof of the dangers in the Reagan Administration's active sponsorship of the contras.

(John Goshko and Margaret Shapiro, Washington Post, A1)

CIA Guerrilla Primer Draws Fire from Capitol Hill

The CIA "how-to" guide on guerrilla warfare has prompted new charges on Capitol Hill that the Administration is illegally seeking to overthrow the Sandinista regime. Rep. Shannon (D.-Mass.) said, "The CIA primer instructing Nicaraguan contras on terrorism is inconsistent with the history and the values of the American people. For the sake of all who believe in freedom, President Reagan should dismiss CIA Director William Casey and unequivocally condemn this action by the CIA." Sen. Kennedy said in a statement that the "fundamental question" about the matter is, "Did President Reagan know about the CIA's role in the preparation of this reprehensible document? And if he didn't, what is he going to do about it?"

(Eliot Brenner, UPI)

Nicaraguan Manual Sparks New CIA Furor

The CIA is under scathing attack for producing the manual that says some leftist government officials can be "neutralized" with the "selective use of violence." Administration officials continued to refuse comment on the manual, and Sen. Moynihan demanded an explanation from the CIA by Friday. Adolfo Calero, head of the Honduran-based Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the largest U.S. supported rebel group, confirmed receiving the manual but denied it was from the CIA. He said it came from a supporter he would not name and added that some parts were ignored because "it talks about terrorism, which is something we haven't done."

(Robert Parry, AP)

## SHULTZ HAILS POST-INVASION GAIN

Secretary Shultz said Grenada has climbed out of the chaos of Soviet and Cuban suppression as it nears the first anniversary of the American-led invasion that overthrew the Marxist government. Shultz said a National Archives exhibit of documents seized in the invasion reflected nearly five years of "Marxist-Leninist militarism and repression."

(Washington Post, A30)

NEWS FROM THE STATES

## CUOMO SAYS MISSING SMITH DINNER WON'T HURT MONDALE

ALBANY, N.Y. (UPI) -- Gov. Mario Cuomo said today Walter Mondale's campaign will not be hurt by his decision to skip the Alfred E. Smith dinner in New York City so he can prepare for the next presidential debate. The governor, interviewed on public radio's "Capitol Connection," said he spoke with Archbishop John O'Connor by telephone this morning and added he was convinced there were no politics involved in the decision not to allow vice presidential nominee Geraldine Ferraro to speak in Mondale's place.

## BUSH PREDICTS GOP WIN IN CALIFORNIA

BRODERICK, Calif. (UPI) -- Vice President George Bush says President Reagan will defeat Walter Mondale in California although Democrats are "targeting" the president's home state for intensive campaigning. Bush made the prediction Tuesday to a 250-member audience of mostly Reagan-Bush supporters at Broderick, across the river from Sacramento.

Recent polls indicate Reagan's once seemingly insurmountable lead over his Democratic challenger has narrowed in California. Pollster Louis Harris reported Tuesday the former California governor's lead has dropped to 6 percentage points in California and 9 points nationally. The California Poll reported today it had found Reagan's lead has slipped from 16 points to 10 points in California.

## OREGON POLL

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- President Reagan and challenger Walter Mondale lost ground among committed Oregon voters after the Oct. 7 presidential debate, although the percentage leading toward Reagan increased, a newspaper poll reported today. Of the 401 voters interviewed by telephone statewide, 44 percent in the Oct. 12-13 survey said they would vote for Reagan and 36 percent for Mondale, according to a poll conducted for The Oregonian newspaper by Bardsley & Haslacher, an independent market research firm. Seven percent said they were leaning toward Reagan and 5 percent toward Mondale.

## SAGAN CRITICIZES REAGAN

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (UPI) -- Astronomer Carl Sagan told a Florida State University audience President Reagan doesn't understand the complexities of the nuclear age and is "light years" behind Democratic presidential contender Walter Mondale. Sagan, who was in the capital as part of FSU's Distinguished Lecture Series, had lunch at the Governor's Mansion with Gov. Bob Graham and the Cabinet earlier in the day and also held a press conference.

Sagan said the country needs to dramatically improve its teaching of science and math or face the real possibility that technological advances will come from Japan, Germany and the Soviet Union, not the United States.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

## WALLACE LEAVES DOUBT ABOUT HIS VOTE

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UPI) -- Gov. George Wallace says he is backing the Alabama Democratic ticket, but he has left some doubt about his feelings for Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale. In a telephone call to a rally in Dothan for Sen. Howell Heflin, D-Ala., Tuesday night, Wallace said he hopes "all those on the Alabama Democratic ticket will carry Alabama in the general election in November. As one who participated in the Democratic Primary and pledged to support those nominees, I want to say I will carry out that pledge I made when I voted in the Democratic Primary," Wallace said.

When reporters asked Wallace press secretary Billy Joe Camp if the governor was distinguishing between Alabama Democrats and the national Democratic ticket, Camp said he was not going to interpret Wallace's remarks. Camp said he did not know if Wallace, a Democrat, intends to vote a straight Democratic ticket on Nov. 6. "I've never asked him and I'm not going to guess," the Wallace aide said.

## WOMEN WORKING FOR MONDALE

HARTFORD, Conn. (UPI) -- A group called the Connecticut Steering Committee for Women's Vote '84 has been organized to get women in the state's six congressional districts out to vote for Walter Mondale for president. The group announced Tuesday has about 25 members, including leaders of labor unions and groups representing women, nurses, social workers, minorities and proponents of a freeze on nuclear weapons.

Although none is a registered Republican, committee members played down the politics of their effort, noting several of the groups backing Mondale have not endorsed candidates in the past.

## REAGAN PLANS STOP IN OREGON

PORTLAND, Ore. (UPI) -- President Reagan, who signed a timber contract relief bill Monday sought by the Pacific Northwest wood products industry, will make a trip to the Pacific Northwest next week to see if he gained any campaign points by his action. In Medford, Hugh Jennings, campaign chairman for Reagan-Bush in Jackson County, said, "We're going to give the president a southern Oregon welcome. "We're a small community, but we're important in his mind. There are many stars, but none shine as bright as Ronald Reagan."

## PRESIDENT HAS TENTATIVE PLANS FOR SEATTLE VISIT

SEATTLE (UPI) -- President Reagan has made tentative plans to visit Seattle for the first time since he won his party's renomination, his state campaign chairman said. "I think there's a good possibility at this time," state Reagan-Bush '84 chairman Grant Peterson of Spokane said Tuesday. "We should know within the next day or two if that is a firm situation." The plans are seen as further evidence that Washington is being targeted as a battleground state in the general election.

CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES

(UPI) -- Schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for the week ahead.

Walter Mondale:

Thursday, Oct. 18 through Saturday, Oct. 20: private time at home, Washington.

Geraldine Ferraro:

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

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

Saturday, Oct. 20: Morning, event in Amherst, Mass.  
Afternoon, event in Burlington, Vt.  
Evening, event in Bangor, Maine.

President Reagan:

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: 12:06 p.m. EDT delivers weekly paid radio address from Camp David.

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

Vice President George Bush:

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

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

## CHERNENKO INTERVIEW

CBS's Dan Rather: One of the central issues in this year's presidential election is the strained relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. Soviet leader Chernenko, in an interview published today, sounded his most conciliatory tone when he outlined what would be needed to bring the two countries back to the bargaining table. The Reagan Administration called Chernenko's remarks interesting.

CBS's Mark Phillips reports from Moscow that Chernenko listed four areas in which he said a desire by the United States to reach agreement would open the way for broader arms control talks. Chernenko's proposals: a ban on weapons in outer space, a freeze on nuclear weapons at present levels, a ratification of test ban treaties -- some dating back to the mid-70s -- and a no-first-use pledge by the United States to match the similar Soviet promise. The opening, if there is one, may lie in what Chernenko did not say. This time he did not demand the removal of the new U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles installed in Europe. But whether or not this is the sign of a new conciliatory mood in Moscow, many Western political observers believe that timing is significant. And the timing, they say, has to do with the upcoming U.S. presidential election debate on foreign policy. The official Soviet media were quick to proclaim Walter Mondale the winner of the first debate, and Soviet commentators have been quick to criticize President Reagan, if not always by name. For Chernenko, and interview given for foreign consumption is also an opportunity to show that he remains an active force in Soviet policy making, despite rumors of his failing health.

(CBS-Lead)

ABC's Walter Rogers says the Dusko Doder interview was without precedent. Even the American ambassador in Moscow has never met privately with the Chernenko, and the Soviet leader's interview shows clearly that he wanted to send the United States a conciliatory signal.

(ABC-Lead)

NBC's Steve Mallory plays excerpts of Radio Moscow readings from the interview, and says Soviet television showed a picture of Doder during the interview and read highlights of the talk. Political observers suggest that it's no coincidence Chernenko chose this particular time to be interviewed by an American correspondent. Not only does he want to dispel rumors about his ill health, but it is believed that Chernenko timed the interview to influence the debate on foreign affairs between President Reagan and Walter Mondale.

(NBC-Lead)

CBS's Bob Schieffer: (TV Coverage: President at Young Astronauts ceremony.) The President didn't mention Chernenko's interview during a brief appearance with a youth group on the White House lawn, but Administration aides took the line that, whatever the Soviet reasons for making the statement, it would be seen here as a positive

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

Schieffer (continued): sign. (Secretary Shultz: "Well, of course, we're always interested in statements that are made by the top of the Soviet hierarchy, and we study them carefully.") The White House, however, made clear there had been no U.S. policy changes. (Larry Speakes: "When the Soviet Union is prepared to move from public exchanges to private negotiations and concrete agreements, they will find us ready.") On the campaign trail, Vice President Bush also welcomed the Soviet words. (Vice President: "What is important in the Chernenko interview is the tone of his rhetoric. The tone was not confrontational, and there will be a balanced United States response to it.") Democratic challenger Walter Mondale returned to Washington early today from a campaign swing through California and said in a written statement it is up to the President to explore the proposal seriously. The development was a reminder of the policy differences between the President and Mondale on the points Chernenko raised. But they do agree on one thing: Like all previous U.S. presidents, neither will rule out first use of nuclear weapons if attacked. Administration officials say there is no way to know if the Soviet statement was an attempt to influence the coming presidential elections. But the White House political advisers are delighted. One said: Historically, this kind of thing always favors the incumbent, whoever it is. (CBS-2)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: The Reagan Administration moved quickly today to welcome the tone of the Chernenko interview, but just as quickly to make clear it won't change its policy in the way Chernenko suggested in order to get back to the bargaining table. In San Francisco, Vice President Bush noted the positive tone. (Vice President: "Mr. Chernenko indicated in that interview that relations between the United States and the Soviet Union could be improved, and that's a positive sign. What is important in the Chernenko interview is the tone of his rhetoric. The tone was not confrontational.") But if Bush was putting an official smile on the tone of Chernenko's interview, others at the White House were putting an official frown on the substance. Larry Speakes said the United States stands ready to negotiate, but -- (Larry Speakes: "But we cannot concur in the apparent Soviet view that it is incumbent on the United States to pay a price so the Soviet Union will come back to the nuclear negotiating table.") Specifically on space weapons. The U.S. will not agree to a moratorium on testing in advance of negotiations. On a mutual nuclear freeze, the U.S. thinks that would preserve an unstable balance and is probably unverifiable. On additional test ban treaty ratification, the U.S. believes improved verification must first be worked out. And on a no first use of nuclear weapons pledge, the U.S. will pledge not to use any weapons first, except in response to aggression. Administration officials are convinced the Chernenko interview was meant to put pressure on the President in the election campaign, and that's why they thought they had to respond quickly in a balanced way -- a smile for the tone, but a frown for the substance. (ABC-2)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

NBC's Marvin Kalb: The official reaction did not come from the President. It came from his top aides and it was carefully crafted for the cameras with domestic politics in mind. The tone was conciliatory. (Vice President: "Where it leads -- the new signs out of Chernenko and the discussions that I was privileged to sit in on with Gromyko -- I don't know. But there is a new tone and I think it's a very positive thing.") Privately, officials described the Chernenko interview as nothing new. Just well-timed propaganda aimed at influencing Sunday's debate -- an attitude that peeked through the spokesmen's well-chosen words. (Larry Speakes: "President Chernenko has stated that improvement in the U.S.-Soviet relationship depends on deeds, not words. We agree. When the Soviet Union is prepared to move from public exchanges to private negotiations and concrete agreements, they will find us ready.") The Chernenko interview with The Washington Post is remarkably similar to an Andropov interview last January 24 with Pravda, an almost word-for-word recitation of Soviet policy. And what's interesting, Tom, is that it produced an almost word-for-word Administration response, indicating that there's been really no progress on arms control from January till now.

NBC's Tom Brokaw: But, Marvin, if they had nothing new to offer, why did the Soviets go to all of this obvious trouble?

Kalb: Politics, on both sides. The Russians really wanted to make sure, as one official (in the State Department) told me, that they got their agenda, their question in in the Sunday debate, and the White House really could not dismiss what Chernenko said without giving Walter Mondale some additional political ammunition.

Brokaw: The Soviets are keeping the pressure on President Reagan by continually raising the prospects of talks or no talks.

Kalb: Well, they're keeping the pressure on, and what they're really doing I think is setting the agenda, the framework for arms control negotiating once the election is out of the way. And we are doing the same thing on our side. Both superpowers are setting the framework, hoping that their priority items are on the top of the list.  
(NBC-2)

## BEIRUT MARINE BOMBING

Rather: There was a report today that last October 18, five days before the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut, President Reagan presided over a National Security Council meeting that debated whether the U.S. troops should be withdrawn from Lebanon. Reportedly arguing for the withdrawal, according to the magazine The Nation, were Secretary Weinberger and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Arguing against were Secretary Shultz and National Security Adviser McFarlane. The magazine says that the CIA had what was called good quality intelligence that there would be terrorist attacks against the Marines. No action was taken at that White House meeting.  
(CBS-16)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

NBC's Andrea Mitchell: The charge that the President could have prevented last year's Beirut bombing came as he began rehearsing for Sunday's crucial foreign policy debate. The White House knows that Lebanon will be toughest issue he faces. According to The Nation magazine, Mr. Reagan ignored CIA warnings of increased threats against the Marines, including one five days before the bombing. The charge, from the author of the article. (Patrick Sloyan: "They did it with not just one report, but a number of reports that there were (unintelligible) there would be a terrorist attack against the Marines.") The denial, from the National Security Adviser, saying the threats were general, over a period of months. (Robert McFarlane: "But you never had, nor did we in this case, a specific threat of a specific attack against a specific location at a time.") Charge number two: that Defense Secretary Weinberger recommended on October 18 that the Marines be withdrawn, five days before their barracks were blown up. (Sloyan: "Before them, they had a recommendation from Mr. Weinberger, the Secretary of Defense, which was presented at the national security meeting of which the President chaired. And the recommendation was to withdraw the Marines from the airport.") The denial: there was no recommendation on that day -- direct, indirect, written or verbal. (McFarlane: "I am confident that there was no such recommendation and the implication here that there was division within the Administration in which a recommendation wasn't followed is simply untrue.") The magazine says McFarlane got Weinberger to back down during a break in the meeting so that the President would never have to rule on the recommendation. No one denies that Weinberger and the military command consistently opposed the Reagan policy of keeping the Marines at the Beirut airport once they had become military targets. At issue here is whether they recommended withdrawal at the October 18 meeting, five days before the bombing. Weinberger won't discuss it. Secret documents from that meeting show that Secretary of State Shultz said we should maintain our forces in Beirut and off shore. but he concentrated on the need for closer military ties with Israel, something Weinberger opposed. The President was warned beforehand to expect objections from Cap -- that is, Weinberger -- the CIA and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The charges, in a liberal magazine, do go over old ground. The problem for the President is that they've resurfaced three weeks before the elections and four days before the foreign policy debate. (NBC-3)

## AIRBORNE TERRORISM

ABC's John McWethy: U.S. intelligence sources say, in the last few months, Moslem fundamentalists, believed to be Iranian, have attempted to rent, buy and steal small planes in Cyprus, an island just 70 miles off the coast of Lebanon. Officials say as far as they know, none of the attempts has been successful, but the incidents underscore the continuing war against terrorism and the direction it may be heading next. It's a war in which terrorists could and probably will strike again at American targets in Lebanon, and U.S. officials say they are painfully aware the attack this time could come

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

McWethy (continued): from the air. Last year, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini began training some of his younger, more fanatic followers to fly small planes in apparent preparation for suicide missions. No such airborne attacks have yet occurred. Though ground security around U.S. embassies is getting tougher, American analysts admit they still have no adequate solutions for what to do about the airborne threat. They could mount anti-aircraft guns and radar on embassy rooftops, but that would make those facilities appear even more like armed fortresses. Officials say, at this point that is not an option they're willing to try. (ABC-3)

## CIA MANUAL

CBS's Robert Schackne: This document, prepared one year ago by the CIA, is a textbook for terrorism. It advises Nicaraguan guerrillas on the tactics of mob violence, kidnapping, blackmail and what is called neutralizing political enemies. The document was distributed to leaders of CIA-financed rebels in northern Nicaragua as a manual for psychological warfare. The congressional intelligence committee today confirmed its CIA origin. The document advises guerrillas to destroy police and military installations, to kidnap all officials or agents of the Sandinista government. It calls for equipping demonstrators clubs, iron rods and, if possible, small firearms in order to provoke a confrontation with the authorities which would create a martyr for the cause. If possible, the document says, professional criminals will be hired to carry out specific jobs. And the document says -- quote -- it is possible to neutralize carefully selected targets, such as judges, police and state security officials -- unquote. (Expert: "There would be no doubt in the minds of the CIA people who wrote it who know that in the minds of anybody who read it that the recommendation was that, in certain circumstances, people should be assassinated.") Rebel leaders say the document came to them from a collaborator whom they would not identify. But they say that in the manual distributed to the troops they edited out those pages that call for political terrorism. (Bata Matamoros: "We reject any form of assassination that is called a (unintelligible) of terrorism. And we condemn also any form of murder, whatever -- for political purposes.") If the CIA has in fact suggested political murder, that would violate Presidential executive orders banning assassinations. (Rep. Downey: "I do not want my government producing manuals that instruct people how to become martyrs, how to assassinate people, to hire criminals.") Public disclosure of the CIA document produced instant headlines in Nicaragua and an immediate angry response from the Sandinista government. (Saul Arana, Nicaraguan spokesman: "The document represents in the most way how much the CIA is involved in these activities against Nicaragua.") Meantime, the guerrilla war goes on. The rebels claim they set the fire over the weekend that destroyed three of Managua's major warehouses. In Washington, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee compared this latest revelation about the CIA to the mining of Nicaraguan harbors, and he called it a disaster for U.S. foreign policy. (CBS-4)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

ABC's Peter Jennings: There was a new call today for an investigation into a purported CIA manual used to instruct anti-government Nicaraguan forces in terrorist techniques. Sen. Moynihan, who is vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, has asked CIA officials to report by Friday what they know about the publication. The 44-page booklet is called, "Psychological Operations in Guerrilla Warfare," and among other things it explains how to kidnap and assassinate public officials, blow up public buildings and blackmail ordinary citizens. The CIA said it would cooperate with Moynihan's request. (ABC-4)

## POLL

ABC's Barry Serafin: The new ABC News-Washington Post poll indicates that Mondale has gained some ground since his debate a week and a half ago, but still trails President Reagan by a substantial margin. In September, Mr. Reagan led among registered voters by 16 points. In early October, that lead grew to 18 points. A few days after the presidential debate, it dropped to a 15 point margin. And our new poll indicates that Mr. Reagan's lead has now been whittled to 12 points: 54 percent for the President to 42 percent for Mondale, with only 4 percent undecided. Mondale's gain appears not to have come at Mr. Reagan's expense, but among undecided voters and Democrats who have been wavering. Still, Mondale aides insist that momentum is on the challenger's side. (James Johnson: "Mondale is the underdog in this race, make no mistake about that. We're behind. The point is, we're making up ground very quickly." Frank Fahrenkopf: "So we're seeing some movement in the polls. But we believe from our perspective, from the perspective of the Republican Party, that any change and movement that occurred in the last two weeks has stopped and we're satisfied with the position that we're in.") While Mondale's ratings have improved, more voters still have a favorable opinion of Mr. Reagan and more still see the incumbent as a strong leader. Two-thirds say the President's age does not matter. One-third say he will be too old for a second term. As to last week's vice presidential debate, those re-pollled now see it as about even, with 36 percent calling George Bush the winner, 31 percent Geraldine Ferraro. Nearly two-thirds of those who saw or heard about that debate say it showed that Ferraro is qualified to be vice president. (Qualified 62 percent, Unqualified 26) But the poll plays to next Sunday's presidential debate as important to both sides. Last week, more than half of those we surveyed said debates would not affect their vote at all. Now less than one-third say that. And nine out of every ten voters we questioned say they will be watching Sunday night. (ABC-5)

Jennings: In California, where Mr. Reagan served as governor for eight years, Walter Mondale is running even closer to the President. The Field poll, which is well thought of in this state, shows the Republican lead has slipped to ten points. (Reagan 50 percent, Mondale 40) The President's campaign advisers have decided he'll make another trip to California next week. (ABC-6)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

## YOUTH VOTE

NBC's Ken Bode: (TV Coverage: Commercial, in rock video format, for Gov. Orr.) Ladies and gentlemen, we bring boppin' Bobby Orr, the nation's oldest governor, in the first-ever political rock music video. Orr is the white haired fellow there, obviously making a pitch for the youth vote. The reason he points all the time is that pointing symbolizes the future. Orr is a Republican. His polls show that the people who like him best are the youngest voters, 18 to 24. With that age group, he beats his Democratic opponent 73 percent to 21. So the video says: Stay with me. The artist sums up the message. (Henry Lee Summer: "We are enjoying very prosperous times. Things are happening. People are happy. Why ruin a good thing? Why -- I mean, things are going good.") When they first suggested this production, Orr said he didn't know what a music video was. He's far more comfortable with the chamber of commerce crowd. (Orr: "Give me a moment to re-adjust from last night's activities.") Not just Orr, but Republicans all over the country are doing well with young voters. Ronald Reagan is way ahead with this age group. Why? Well, it seems that the only other president they personally remember was Jimmy Carter, and those memories are of inflation and economic hard times. Also, they're not old enough to remember the younger, more right wing Ronald Reagan. (President, in 1969: "-- to authorize a full and complete investigation into the instigators, the causes and the effects the violence on the campus which is no longer --) On campuses today, students aren't violent, they're satisfied. (Student: "Economically, I feel a lot better off than we did in the past." Student: "Brought the economy back to where it needs to go and he's helping us to get -- to become a stronger and a more sure country.") Will the rock video work? (Young man: "With just a simple message like stay with me people hear it, hear it over and over, and, you know, it doesn't go in one ear and out the other, I guess." Reporter: "That's what sells the political hamburger to college students these days?" Man: "Well this is first time we've ever done anything like this, so I think this will work." Robert Squier: "We can't say, you know, you liked Carter so you'll like Mondale. And we certainly can't say think of JFK because, to these people, JFK was something they studied in history.") Democratic consultant Bob Squier says that losing this generation would be the biggest loss of this election year. (Squier: "If we let them take this group in in this presidential election, I think we as Democrats will have a hard time pulling them back in future elections.") Democrats hope Reagan hurt himself with young voters in the first debate, when to some he appeared old and befuddled. That remains to be seen. Right now, Republicans all over the country are trying to connect up with these youngest voters. They hope that Ronald Reagan can do for this generation what Franklin Roosevelt did 50 years ago for Reagan's own generation -- namely to make their political loyalty to one party for the rest of their lives. (NBC-4)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

## PENNSYLVANIA VOTE

ABC's Sander Vanocur: When Walter Mondale came (to Philadelphia) after his debate with Ronald Reagan ten days ago, Mayor Wilson Goode gave him a pair of boxing gloves. He needed them. The polls showed him badly behind Ronald Reagan. (Geraldine Ferraro: "We want to win this election, and we're going to win it with Pennsylvania.") But since that debate, and because of it, Democrats say there's a new enthusiasm here about the Mondale-Ferraro ticket. (Lester Clore, steelworker: "There were some people that were undecided. But after the debates, they can see that Mondale is for the steelworkers and can help us more than Reagan ever did.") In 1980, the people who worked in these steel mills, traditional Democrats, deserted the Democratic Party and helped Ronald Reagan win the state. But since the debate, Democratic politicians insist that voters are taking a new look at Walter Mondale and are liking what they see. Political consultant Neil Oxman has polled a number of congressional districts in the state. (Oxman: "15 to 20 percent of the people who used to rate Mondale unfavorably have switched and now become favorable voters. His unfavorable vote has lessened so that, right now, Pennsylvanians see him in a much more favorable light than they saw him before, and the vote has switched.") In the wards and precincts of Philadelphia, another traditional Democratic bastion, there had been fear that Mondale would hurt local Democratic politicians. Not any more, says the mayor. (Mayor Goode: "I believe that a lot of people who had thought about going over to the Republican Party to vote this time -- not only for the top office but for others as well -- have come back home and will stay home." GOP phonebank worker: "If the election for president were held today, would you vote for Ronald Reagan or Walter Mondale?") In the traditionally Republican suburbs, the Reagan campaign is working hard to offset the gains the Democrats claim they're making in the city. And despite what the polls say, Republican leaders admit this will be a close race. (Rick Robb of the Reagan-Bush campaign: "No, I think that you will see in this election some Democratic vote come home. And you are seeing professional Democrats now find it more acceptable to support Walter Mondale than they did in the past.") Industrial states like Pennsylvania have become the last stronghold of Democratic Party. So there's a great deal riding on Walter Mondale's apparent resurgence here, not just his chances of becoming president but the future of the Democratic Party as well. (ABC-7)

## SECRETARY WEINBERGER

Rather: Secretary Weinberger, at the end of a two-day Israeli visit, announced that Israel would receive U.S. technology needed to build a new jet fighter. He also raised the possibility of providing Israel with U.S.-built submarines, and, most important to Israel, Weinberger said the U.S. would purchase \$100 million worth of Israeli military goods, a sale that would help Israel's trade deficit. (CBS-3)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

## HOUSING

Rather: The Commerce Dept. today reported that after two straight monthly declines, new home construction jumped 8.9 percent in September. Commerce Secretary Baldrige said lower mortgage rates suggest -- quote -- further gains in new home construction in the months ahead -- unquote. But other analysts said the one-month surge was not likely to become a trend. They noted that building permits, a sign of future activity, fell 3.7 percent in September, the fourth consecutive decline. (CBS-8, ABC-12)

## MEDICARE

CBS's Jane Bryant Quinn: In south Florida, there is no way for the elderly to escape it. (TV commercial: "If you want more care than Medicare at less cost, call me, Dr. Davis, at this toll-free number.") A media blitz pushing a new way to get cheaper medical care. (Another TV ad: "The IMC gold-plus plan for seniors gives you virtually free medical care.") Unless a cheaper way can be found to treat the elderly sick, Medicare will go broke by the end of the decade. The Reagan Administration thinks it has found a cheaper way. In Florida and 27 other locations around the country, it's been experimenting with health maintenance organizations, HMOs, directly funded by Medicare. These pre-paid health plans have been able to offer more coverage than Medicare and still cut government costs by five percent. By the end of the year, the program goes nationwide. (Secretary Heckler: "It's an innovation in health care, in price savings, and indeed I think in health policy for America.") But for the system to work, patients must give up their Medicare cards and their private doctors and rely entirely on treatment prescribed by the HMO. Critics say this provision has caused so many problems in Florida that the national program should be delayed. (Rep. Larry Smith: "It has all of the possibilities for major catastrophes. You're dealing with people's lives and people's healths.") At a public hearing, congressional investigators got an earfull about Medicare HMOs. Some members saying they approve of it, but others told hair-raising tales of breakdowns in medical treatment for the critically ill. (Witness: "I walked into this small bedroom, and this 80-year-old woman was laying naked on the floor, moaning.") The government pays an HMO a flat monthly fee for every Medicare patient enrolled. If the HMO can treat patients for less, it will make money. National studies of HMOs show that medical care has been good. But there are charges in Florida that some HMOs have been slow to authorize necessary treatment simply because it's expensive. The family of Louis Sposa says that's exactly what happened to him. (Helen Sposa, daughter-in-law: "It was just awful, and to think that the medical assistance was there. We just could not get to it.") Louis Sposa belonged to International Medical Centers, Florida's largest Medicare HMO. Last spring, Sposa became seriously ill. His HMO doctor ordered him admitted to Miami's Jackson Memorial Hospital for special treatment. IMC advertises that such a move can be made at no charge. But the move was delayed for several days, IMC agreeing to

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 17, 1984

Quinn (continued): it only after the family promised in writing to pay any extra costs. (Sposa: "We had to do something. I mean, we were at our wits end. Here we were negotiating over someone's life. I mean, it was appalling.") By the time Louis Sposa reached the hospital, it was too late. He died shortly after being admitted. (Dr. Jay Sanders, IMC: "If, for any reason, harm came to this patient on the basis of a problem within the system, then that's wrong, and that is certainly not our policy.") Investigations of the Florida HMOs are now under way by state and federal authorities. But the Reagan Administration insists they will not delay expansion of the Medicare HMO program. (Heckler: "It's unfair to hold back the regulations of a nationwide scope of such significance to older Americans and to the taxpayers while we deal with a situation Florida, which we will definitely deal with.") But south Florida is a warning that any promising new medical service is only as good as the promises it keeps. (CBS-14)

## BEIRUT TRIBUTE

NBC's Jack Perkins reports on Joe Crowley, a retired California man who has turned his tiny yard into a tribute to the Americans killed in Beirut. It started when he put up three small flags. Then, with flags given him by neighbors and people from around the country, including L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley and Speaker Tip O'Neill, as well as mementoes of Beirut given him, the display grew until it now fills his yard. (NBC-11)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

## PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Focus the Nuclear Debate -- "There are important differences between the Republican and Democratic approaches to arms control -- and they should not be obscured by election year rhetoric....Yet neither party nor pair of candidates has addressed the question of nuclear doctrine -- the precise military purpose that they believe nuclear weapons should serve....Surely our Presidential candidates owe us and our allies some discussion of this issue."  
(Jan H. Kalicki, New York Times, 10/16)

Voters Must Weigh Age, Health Issues -- "The idea that the current discussion of health and age is part of a news media plot designed to damage either candidate is just silly. The questions raised are legitimate. Voters need to know everything possible about the physical and mental health of these candidates. The more they know, the better. And the sooner they know it, better still. After all, the fate of the free world could depend upon what the voters know."  
(USA Today, 10/17)

Don't Insult Voters with These False Issues -- "A great hue and cry, primarily from the media, has gone across the country that age should be a political issue. The clamor against old age is senseless and unjust. ...Our Constitution set a lower age limit as a requirement for the presidency but no upper limit....It is an injustice and an insult to the electorate to focus on age and blood pressure as the issues of this campaign."  
(Tottie Ellis, USA Today, 10/17)

Mondale Less a Threat But Still Not a Winner -- "That litany of facts -- so important after four years of Democratic and press distortion -- seemed to rob him (Reagan) of his usual grace and forced him to lose a concentration a few times. It was the press-conference Reagan, not the Reagan of campaign speeches. In fact, it was more Dwight Eisenhower than Ronald Reagan....Methinks the President and his advisers will choose a different course in the next debate. Look for Reagan to be the one armed with quotes from Will Rogers and ready with the quick riposte at the sound of a familiar line....In the end, Reagan avoided the big mistake, while Mondale was unable to apply a hammerlock. In that sense -- the electoral sense -- Reagan won even though he may have disappointed some admirers who were after raw meat. Reagan was himself, the same Reagan we've seen for four years, even if he seems a bit more hesitant....No matter how hard Mondale tries now to be a leader, too many voters look at him and hear the Babel of the San Francisco Democrats and see the well-intentioned but failed policies of Carter-Mondale."  
(Dick Williams, Atlanta Journal, 10/9)

So, the Great Debate -- "In all of the sidewalk talk since the Reagan-Mondale debate, you hear little, if anything, of substance. Just whether Mondale might have been a little perkier as a trailing antagonist who had to get feisty or turn out the lights."  
(Felix McKnight, Dallas Times Herald, 10/10)